

# MEC Thabitha Mohlala locks late staff out

FRANK MAPONYA | 16 November, 2011 01:07

## **Limpopo MEC for public works Thabitha Mohlala has taken a stand against tardiness when she locked her employees out of the department's building.**

Almost the entire staff component could not work yesterday after Mohlala took the surprise decision to lock them out for being late.

Even those who arrived at the department's offices a minute after the MEC's arrival at 7.30am found themselves frustrated as she had allegedly instructed the security guards to lock the doors.

This was apparently Mohlala's way of instilling discipline in her staff after a culture of arriving after the 7.30am starting time - and then leaving early - had developed.

When reporters arrived at about 10am, the workers were chanting freedom songs outside the building to voice their frustration.

They accused Mohlala of taking her anger out on them for the fact that she hasn't featured on any of the lists, currently circulating, of the preferred candidates in the leadership of the ANC in the province.

The ANC will hold its conference at the University of Limpopo from December 17 to December 20.

Approached for comment yesterday, Mohlala said her decision had nothing to do with the upcoming ANC conference.

"If those workers believe my decision has anything to do with the ANC conference, then so be it," she said before referring the reporter to her spokesman, Nthabiseng Boya, for further comment.

Boya said yesterday's exercise was to remind people that it was important to come to work on time.

The human resources department will now decide whether the staff who were late will have to apply for a day's leave or forfeit one day's salary.

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