

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY THIRD ASSEMBLY- (THIRD SESSION) COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

No. 44 of 2024

COMMUNICATION AS RELATES TO EX-GRATIA ASSISTANCE. POLICY.

Honourable Members,

As you may be aware, the County Assembly has continually sought to improve the welfare of both the Members of County Assembly and Service, particularly concerning matters of health and well-being. To this effect, the Assembly has a comprehensive medical cover to cater to your healthcare needs. However, there are instances where medical bills may exceed the limits provided for under this cover, leaving individuals in need of additional support.

Honourable Members,

In recognition of these exceptional cases, I wish to bring to your attention that the County Assembly Service Board (CASB) approved a Medical Ex-Gratia Policy on 8th October, 2024 to handle unforeseen circumstances, foster compassion, and demonstrate Corporate Social Responsibility. This policy has been formulated to provide a financial safety net for Members of the County Assembly and the Service who find themselves in need of medical assistance beyond the coverage of the standard medical scheme.

Honourable Members,

The Ex-Gratia Policy allows for applications to be made by Members and the Service who have exhausted the benefits provided under the Assembly's medical cover. These applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis, subject to the availability of funds and the merits of each case. It is important to note that the Ex-Gratia payments are discretionary and are aimed at providing relief in instances of genuine medical hardship.

Honourable Members,

The application process is straightforward. A formal request should be submitted to the Medical Ex Gratia Committee for consideration. The Committee is expected to assess the application and determine the level of financial assistance to be extended, if approved by the Board and the National Treasury. The application should be supported by the necessary medical documentation and proof of exhaustion of the medical cover.

The Medical Ex-Gratia Committee Consists of;

- i. An External Board Member as the Chairperson;
- ii. The Deputy Clerk of Assembly as the Vice Chairperson;
- iii. The Principal Human Resource Officer as the Secretary;
- iv. The Payroll Accountant as a Member; and
- v. A Senior Administrative Officer as a Member.

The Board, through the Office of the Clerk, will then forward the approved Ex-Gratia assistance to the National Treasury for consideration and final approval, in accordance with Section D6 of the Public Service Human Resource Policies and Procedure Manual, 2016 on Medical Ex-Gratia assistance.

Honourable Members,

This policy underscores our commitment to ensuring that Members of County Assembly and the Service can access the necessary healthcare services without undue financial strain, particularly in times of dire medical need.

I urge all Members and the Service to familiarize themselves with the details of the policy and to feel free to reach out to the Office of the Clerk for further information or clarification.

Thank you.

HON. KEVIN KINENGO KATISYA

SPEAKER, COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI

WEDNESDAY, 16TH OCTOBER, 2024.