



From left: Veterinary surgeon Dr Cameron Kutwana explains the vaccination process to Themba Mthembu, the KZN Agriculture and Rural Development MEC.

R60m to fight rabies

By MBALI DLUNGWANA

RESIDENTS who own dogs and cats are urged to take their animals for vaccination.

This was the call by Themba Mthembu, KZN Agriculture and Rural Development MEC.

Mthembu led the vaccination programme on rabies day at Burlington Community Hall in Shallcross, Durban on Thursday.

Mthembu told *Daily Sun* rabies is dangerous and people can die from rabid dog bites.

"We've therefore put aside an additional R60 million to fight the spread of rabies.

"We also have a truck going around KZN so that animals in rural areas can be vaccinated," he said.

The MEC said animal own-

ers can call the department to vaccinate their animals if the truck has not been to their area.

"Areas such as Eshowe and Ndwedwe have been declared red zones for rabies."

He said other cases have been reported in Durban areas such as Inanda, Ballito and Shallcross.

"This has forced the department to set aside the additional budget to curb the spread of rabies in the province."

Siphiwe Cele (45), a dog owner from Inanda, Durban, said: "It's good to hear that we can call the department to come and vaccinate our dogs.

"I'll make sure I call them because my dogs have not been vaccinated."