



MEDIA RELEASE PSA condemns lack of action by Department of Employment and Labour at PC Pelser Building in North West

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is shocked by the Department of Employment and Labour's lack of consideration of the implementation of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA)* and delay in execution of a prohibition notice at the PC Pelser building in Klerksdorp.

The prohibition notice was issued more than three months ago against the building that is occupied by four government departments, including the Department of Employment and Labour.

The PSA is extremely concerned about the uncondusive working conditions that employees are forced to work in at the municipality banquet hall. The hall is extremely cold without proper air conditioning and exposes employees to harsh conditions, which would affect their health, especially considering the Department of Health's warning on an extreme variant of influenza this winter. The temporary accommodation is affecting service delivery as there are no tools of trade such as copier machines, which affects the turnaround time of unemployment claims.

It is disturbing that the Department of Employment and Labour is not moving swiftly to address this challenge, especially as it provides vital services to vulnerable members of society and puts employees at risk when dealing with frustrated clients. The PSA calls for speedy intervention by the Department's management and further urges the Department to prioritise the creation of safe and healthy work environment for employees.

END

