

Update: Health and safety of employees

Thabazimbi EMS Station

Members will recall that Limpopo recently experienced heavy rains across the province, which exposed the poor working conditions experienced by employees owing to old, dilapidated, and non-maintained infrastructure. Thabazimbi EMS Station was one of the buildings wherein poor workmanship on the roof resulted in a leak that caused the ceiling to fall. Fortunately no one was injured. Subsequently, the PSA as the Union that prioritises the safety of employees, engaged management on the matter and demanded that direction must be provided on how the matter will be addressed but without success. It was clear that management (district and province) had no plan to address the problem, except requesting assistance from the fire department to extract water from the ceiling. The PSA was concerned as members' safety was threatened and the Department of Employment and Labour (DEL) was contacted. Although the DEL could not immediately assist, it promised to visit the workstation before the end of the week. Members are advised to be careful when entering the building until the inspection is conducted to determine the safety of occupying.

Polokwane Hospital

Upon alert by frustrated members at the Polokwane Hospital that fire equipment, including hoses and extinguishers, were not serviced, the PSA swiftly attended the matter and wrote a letter to the CEO for intervention. It was established that fire equipment was due for service in September 2021 even though it was not serviced towards mid-November. The PSA is happy to report that the intervention yielded results as the fire equipment was serviced on 27 November 2021.

Shop stewards and members are advised to ensure that all non-compliant buildings, poor working conditions, and work-related problems are timeously reported to the PSA Office. The Provincial Office can be contacted on (015) 295 0500, queen.seema@psa.co.za or Whatsapp on 082 880 8995.

The health and safety of members remains the PSA's priority.

GENERAL MANAGER