

FOR PSA MEMBERS: GAUTENG PROVINCE

10-08-2022

Feedback: GPSSBC (General Public Service Sectoral Bargaining Chamber) - Special Chamber

Labour and the employer reached a deadlock on 24 June 2022 on the process followed with agenda items to the Chamber and Departmental Standing Committees.

Members will recall that an agreement was reached around six years ago that Departmental Standing Committees (DSC) will be created in Departments that will report to the Chamber and get their mandates from the Chamber. The purpose with this was an attempt to speed up consultations on agenda items. The Chamber was to oversee consultation processes. This was unique in Gauteng and no other province had any provisions for such structures.

It has unfortunately over the years become problematic when Gauteng employers dealt directly with the DSC, ignoring the Chamber. The PSA, on many occasions, argued with the employers that the DSC is simply an extended committee of the Chamber and that all items must start and end at the Chamber. Owing to the constant difference between the PSA (the majority union in the Gauteng GPSSBC) and the employer, the issue was referred to the GPSSBC Secretariat for facilitation. During the facilitation process, parties agreed that the DCS will be disbanded and, in future, all consultations be discussed at the Gauteng GPSSBC Chamber.

PSA shop stewards at departmental levels must please take note of this and take care not to be bullied into consultative forums at departmental levels that are not mandated by the Chamber. The PSA Provincial Office must be informed immediately should any department try and consult with shop stewards at departmental level.

GENERAL MANAGER