

INFORMUS

SERVICE EXCELLENCE

FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES (DCS)

10-09-2024

What is happening at DCS?

Re-employment of ex-officials' arbitration

In the previous *Informus* (copy can be obtained on the PSA's website www.psa.co.za or from PSA Provincial Offices), members were informed that the PSA is actively pursuing a dispute to ensure that members re-employed since 2019 are placed on the correct salary levels. The issue arose because members who were re-employed were not placed on salary notches that took their previous work experience into account.

The matter was referred to the General Public Service Sectoral Bargaining Council (GPSSBC) for conciliation, but the dispute could not be resolved during this process. As a result, it was escalated to arbitration. A hearing before a Commissioner was set for March 2024. During the hearing, the employer raised a point *in limine*, arguing that the GPSSBC did not have jurisdiction to hear the matter. Both parties were given the opportunity to submit written arguments, and the Commissioner ruled that the GPSSBC did have jurisdiction.

Following this ruling, the PSA immediately requested a new set-down date for the arbitration. The PSA was informed that the matter would be heard before a Commissioner on 9 September 2024. Unfortunately, the employer has since lodged another point *in limine*, again attempting to prevent the matter from being heard by the GPSSBC. Given this, the PSA required time to prepare a response to the employer's new point *in limine*, and the Commissioner will need time to consider the arguments. As a result, the arbitration has been rescheduled for 2 December 2024.

Members will be updated on developments.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit the PSA's website (www.psa.co.za), send an email to ask@psa.co.za, or contact PSA Provincial Offices.

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