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FOR PSA MEMBERS: NORTH WEST - DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DARD)

28-05-2024

Update: Ditsobotla State Veterinary office

PSA members from Ditsobotla State Veterinary office raised concerns about the intention of the department to relocate them to a new office building. They indicated that the new office is not in compliance with Occupational Health and Safety regulations. The members highlighted that the current office space caters for their needs and is safe as there is enough office space for all officials, enough storerooms, a reception area, a boardroom, a kitchen and four bathrooms. They further stated that their current office is enclosed with an electric fence and an alarm. The members indicated that they have three safety gates using remotes and sufficient parking for their clients. They also mentioned that the current office has new carpets, working air conditioners, new tiles, and a toilet for disabled clients while the new office needs partitioning, ventilation, lighting, and electricity. Furthermore, the new office is in Burger Street and according to a police report presented by Colonel W Bekker, the station Commander at Lichtenburg SAPS, the area is one of the top crime hotspots in town.

Upon receipt of these concerns from members, the PSA addressed all these concerns in a letter to the department requesting its intervention. The PSA received feedback from the Head of Department indicating that an investigation is currently underway, and a response will be provided as soon as the process is completed.

The PSA would like to thank the department for taking the concerns raised by the Unions members in a serious light.

Member will be informed of the progress made.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER