

Feedback: DoT Special Departmental Chamber meeting: 15 April 2025

Occupational health and safety (OHS)

Members are aware that the employer failed to report on the status of OHS compliance owing to the unavailability of the appropriate component responsible for health and safety. Subsequently, parties agreed to convene the special Departmental Chamber meeting due to deal with the said matter. During the special Chamber meeting on 15 April 2025, the employer reported that the appointment of SHERQ Committee members has been completed, and appointment letters have been issued in compliance with section 19 of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*. It was also reported that the appointment of First Aiders has been completed, and training will be arranged. Training of Fire Marshals will take place as soon as sufficient names have been submitted. The following assessments have been finalised:

- Hazardous Biological Agents Assessment
- Ergonomic Assessment
- Illumination Assessment

The Noise Level Risk Assessment and Air Quality Assessment are still in progress. A comprehensive report will be submitted once the assessment is complete.

The air conditioning system on the second floor is not functional. The employer reported that a proposal to purchase mini ventilators has been submitted to the Finance Department. Larger ventilators that are in place make excessive noise, disturbing activities, and it was decided to go with smaller ones. The employer is awaiting feedback from Finance. The employer committed to providing feedback at the next Departmental Chamber meeting. The PSA noted the report and encouraged the employer to fast track the ventilator procurement procedure or look at other work arrangements, as the existing noise levels have a major influence on members' capacity to fulfill their duties. Members will be kept informed.

Cellphone and Data Policy

Members will recall that the PSA invoked Clause 17 of GPSSBC Resolution 1/2012 (Governance Rule), resulting in a facilitation session held on 3 April 2025. During the facilitation process, parties agreed to defer the policy back to the DBC for consultation. The Cellphone Policy was presented at the special

Departmental Chamber meeting on 15 April 2025, and the employer highlighted the proposed amendments, including the comparative schedule indicating the amounts of data and voice allowance that were approved in 2013 and proposals for 2025. Members are encouraged to review the draft policy. Inputs and comments can still be sent to emakhubela@tourism.gov.za or patricia.hamese@psa.co.za on or before **9 May 2025**.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit the PSA's website or contact PSA Provincial Offices.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER