

FOR PSA MEMBERS: **PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SECTORAL
BARGAINING CHAMBER (PHSDSBC) - EASTERN CAPE**

04-07-2023

Feedback - Special PHSDSBC Chamber meeting – 29 June 2023

Members will recall from the previous edition of the *Informus* that a special meeting was planned for 29 June 2023. The following items were discussed:

Report: Closure or partial closure of certain offices in Social Development owing to non-compliance with Occupational Health and Standard (OHS)

The employer reported that the following offices of the Department of Social Development (DSD) were closed owing to the safety of members:

- Mqanduli, Mthatha, and Cathcart offices are closed because of snakes that were seen in the offices. In alleviating the danger, the employer reported that employees work half day.
- Port St Johns office closed owing to floods and employees are working from home.
- Ngqamakhwe office closed owing to sewer problems and employees are working periodical.
- Great Kei closed owing to unknown gas smell.

The report was rejected by labour as it lacks details and labour demanded a comprehensive report from the employer. The Chamber established a task team to investigate the report, visit affected institutions, and submit a report in the next Chamber meeting.

Disappointingly, the following draft policies could not be discussed since the employer failed to circulate these to Chamber members on time:

- Draft revised bursary policy
- Policy on acting appointments and payment of acting allowance
- Remunerative work outside public service
- Draft special leave policy

Labour expressed discontent with the employer for this failure and resolved that the policies will be presented in the next Chamber meeting. The PSA seeks inputs from members on the above-mentioned policies to allow smooth discussions when these policies are finally presented at the Chamber.

The PSA values members' safety and will address OHS non-compliance. Members can contact the PSA on (047) 501 2500 or email Samkelo Mzuku at Samkelo.Mzuku@psa.co.za for any clarity required.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit website www.psa.co.za or contact the PSA Organising/Marketing Officer at kenneth.qikani@psa.co.za.

GENERAL MANAGER