

FOR PSA MEMBERS: **FREE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC, SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM, AND ENVIROMENTAL AFFAIRS (DESTEА)**

23-07-2024

Feedback: DESTEА Departmental Task Team meeting

A meeting convened to discuss President Ramaphosa's directive on transferring Environmental Affairs from the Free State Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DESTEА) to the Free State Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) and the implications for employees.

Transfer of employees

The employer reported that approximately 300 employees from DESTEА's Program 2 (Environmental Affairs) would undergo lateral transfer to the DARD. It further assured that no job losses were anticipated, and all employees would retain their current benefits during the transition.

Financial arrangements

DESTEА confirmed that all Performance Development Management Systems (PDMS) payments will be disbursed prior to the transfer. Leave and bursary arrangements will also be transferred to the DARD as part of this process.

Establishment of task team

A dedicated task team, comprising management representatives from both DESTEА and DARD, has been formed to oversee the transition. Mr Masilo Ntjoboko (DESTEА) and Mr Neo Mathlatsane (DARD) will represent the PSA on this team.

Process status

The employer previously reported that the initial stages of the transfer process have commenced, and the new structure involve DESTEА and Agriculture. The employer highlighted the need for registration with the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA), pending necessary approvals and directives.

Member engagement

The PSA encourages members to stay informed about developments. For any concerns or queries, please contact: Mr Masilo Ntjoboko (DESTEА), Mr Neo Mathlatsane (DARD), or Ms Mpho Tlhatlogi (PSA Provincial Office).

This meeting set the stage for the steps needed to ensure the successful transfer of employees under the new directive. The collaborative approach between DESTEA and DARD aims to maintain employee welfare throughout the transition process. The meeting marked a pivotal step in ensuring a smooth transition of employees under the new directive. The collaborative efforts between DESTEA and DARD aim to safeguard employee welfare throughout this process.

Members will be updated.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER