



MEDIA RELEASE	Correctional Services Brandvlei Management Area fire: PSA requests investigation
DATE	7 February 2024
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The Public Servants Association (PSA), representing thousands of Department of Correctional Services employees, remains concerned about employees of Brandvlei Management Area, following a devastating fire that wreaked havoc over the past few days.

The uncontrolled fire, which had been burning in the mountains surrounding the Brandvlei Management Area, outside Worcester, reached the facility on 5 February 2024. The PSA appreciates the protocols that were followed by the Department to evacuate inmates to ensure their safety. Dedicated Correctional Officers responded swiftly to the situation, exhibiting diligence in performing their duties. Employees residing in accommodation on the premises were also evacuated safely.

Fire services were summoned to the scene to contain the fire and provide the assistance and are still on the scene. The PSA is grateful for the swift response and support during this challenging time and assisted with refreshments for the firefighters.

The PSA remains committed to ensure the health and safety of the Union's members employed at correctional facilities. In the aftermath of the incident, the PSA thus requests a thorough investigation to assist the Department in implementing preventive measures and mitigate the risk of such incidents occurring in the future.

END

