

**MEDIA RELEASE**      Hazyview Police Station, Mpumalanga: PSA issues urgent structural safety warning

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**EMBARGO**                 None

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is extremely concerned about the dangerous situation at the Hazyview Police Station in Mpumalanga where the main entrance of the building faces possible structural collapse owing to severe termite damage and prolonged neglect.

Recent observations at the Police Station showed weakened structural beams and visible deterioration at the main entrance. Temporary measures, using wood and wire, now hold parts of the structure in place. These conditions expose police officers, administrative workers, and members of the public to danger when entering the building. These conditions violate the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*, which places a clear duty on employers to provide and maintain a workplace free from risk to the health and safety of employees.

The Hazyview Police Station, tasked with protecting the community, has a serious infrastructure management problem. The PSA has also noted public statements, suggesting a lack of technical expertise in Mpumalanga to address the structural problem. According to reports, the matter has been escalated to Head Office in Pretoria for intervention. The PSA warns that bureaucratic delays in responding to a potentially collapsing structure place lives at risk. Essential public infrastructure must receive urgent maintenance and oversight.

The PSA calls on the Provincial Commissioner of Police to conduct an emergency site inspection at the Police Station and allocate immediate resources to stabilise the structure whilst permanent repairs are arranged. The PSA further calls on the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure to urgently deploy structural engineers to assess the building and implement the necessary repairs or reconstruction. Inspectors from the Department of Employment and Labour must conduct an immediate occupational health and safety inspection and issue a prohibition notice should the building fail to comply with safety standards.

The Hazyview Police Station plays a strategic role as a gateway to the internationally renowned Kruger National Park. Allowing the Police Station to collapse or remain in a state of disrepair undermines the safety of employees and the public, whilst tarnishing the image of a major South African tourism hub. Worker safety is critical, and the PSA will advise the Union's members to withdraw from unsafe working conditions should authorities fail to act with urgency.

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