

MEDIA RELEASE **North-West Department of Social Development: PSA calls for intervention**

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) has noted with disappointment the continued impasse in management at the Department of Social Development in the North-West Province.

The PSA has been inundated with reports that the Head of Department (HOD) no longer works at the premises, which is hampering service delivery and the efficient functioning of the Department. The situation is compounded by the lack of decisive intervention by the MEC of the Department who must play an oversight role. The situation has furthermore affected the efficiency of the Bargaining Chamber as the Department is unable to provide important reports on issues affecting employees.

Reports on tender irregularities are also worrisome and the lack of accountability by the MEC and HOD by not dealing with the issues is alarming. The PSA requested full implementation of the risk report on irregular tenders to ensure that all culprits are brought to book and matters be dealt with decisively and speedily.

The PSA reiterates its stance on good governance and accountability in ensuring that public funds are spent efficiently. The Union therefore urges that these issues at the Department of Social Development be escalated to the Special Investigating Unit to investigate all tenders that have been awarded by the current leadership.

The PSA further calls for decisive action by government to address the lack of accountable leadership. In addition, National Treasury should intervene and halt all advertised tenders and review all tenders before being awarded to ensure that corruption allegations are dealt with.

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