

<b>MEDIA RELEASE</b>	PSA calls for implementation of lifestyle audits for board members across state entities to restore public confidence and eliminate corruption
<b>DATE</b>	15 April 2025
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) welcomes the recent announcement by the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, recommending lifestyle audits for the board members of the Independent Development Trust (IDT).

This move is a significant step towards enhancing transparency and accountability at public entities. The IDT has been in the news based on serious allegations of mismanagement and corruption concerning a R836 million oxygen-plant project. The matter is currently under investigation by *PricewaterhouseCoopers* and the Hawks.

Corruption and maladministration pertaining to procurement of services are major problems at many entities and departments, costing South Africa country billions of Rands annually. The implementation of lifestyle audits will assist in ensuring that board members are held to the highest standards and ethical conduct.

Lifestyle audits are already being implemented in the public service. Extending these to board members across all entities is a logical step as it cannot be assumed that corruption is only practiced at employee level. Such a move will promote transparency, enhance accountability, and restore public trust. Government has repeatedly announced the intention to eliminate rampant corruption, and this move will demonstrate a tangible commitment to ethical governance.

The PSA calls on all Ministers and MECs to follow suit and ensure that comprehensive lifestyle audits are implemented for board members to assist in ridding entities of corruption and restore public confidence and ensure that public funds are used responsibly.

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