



**MEDIA RELEASE** PSA commends intervention by Department of Employment and Labour at Theunissen Clinics in Free State

**DATE** 17 January 2024

**EMBARGO** None

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) commends the intervention by the Department of Employment and Labour (DEL), after the PSA raised concerns regarding the water crisis at Theunissen Clinics in the Free State.

On 15 January 2024, the Lusaka Clinic was visited by the Department and a prohibition notice was issued owing to the lack of water and essential cleaning supplies. After the arrival of a water truck, the Clinic was conditionally opened on the same day, with one water tank being filled. The acting Clinic Manager has agreed to ensure that pipes are repaired and connected by 19 January 2024 and that the water tank is continually filled. An Inspector will again visit the Clinic on 22 January 2024 to monitor progress.

The Masilo Clinic also faced a prohibition notice on the same day owing to the lack of water and sanitisers. It was, however, conditionally opened on 15 January 2024, with the commitment from the Manager to ensure that the water tanks are continually filled and the necessary repairs to water pipes are completed by 19 January 2024. An inspection is scheduled for 22 January 2024 to assess the situation.

The PSA acknowledges the efforts of the Clinic Managers and other management parties in addressing these issues and is hopeful that the necessary measures will be implemented within the agreed timelines for the well-being of patients and employees. The PSA will closely monitor the situation and provide any support deemed necessary.

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