

MEDIA RELEASE **PSA: demands urgent action on hazardous Doctors Quarters**

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EMBARGO None

ENQUIRIES communication@psa.co.za

The Public Servants Association (PSA), is dismayed at the unsafe and filthy work environment, which the doctors are subjected to in their living quarters at Rob Ferreira Hospital and demand that the situation be corrected on or before 30 June 2020.

On 12 June 2020, the PSA received complaints from members of a waterpipe bursting on 26 May 2020 and management is reluctant to fix it, as a results some units are flooded with water that also causes structural damage. On 15 June, the PSA went to the Doctors Quarters to investigate the allegation. This was confirmed and over-and-above the damaged roof, the leakages are everywhere, the whole building is hazardous and needs maintenance. The PSA sent correspondence to the CEO demanding that the Doctors Quarters be urgently repaired. The employer has also been reminded that the province has shortage of doctors and the PSA cannot afford to lose them due to the negligence of the employer. Doctors must be respected and maintaining healthy and safe environment is also part of retention strategy and employer has an obligation to ensure safety and health conditions of employees.

Should the employer fail to fix the Doctors Quarters within 7 days after receiving the letter, the PSA will have no option but to involve the Department of Employment and Labour for their intervention and to ensure that management of the hospital adheres to the provision outline in the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* that requires the employer to provide and maintain a conducive environment, which is safe and risk free to health of employees.

The PSA will remain unwavering in fighting for healthy working environment for members.

END

