

MEDIA RELEASE PSA demands urgent interventions to address crisis as Weskoppies Hospital

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is extremely concerned about the shocking and deteriorating state of Weskoppies Psychiatric Hospital in Gauteng.

The PSA is appalled and outraged by the deplorable conditions at a facility entrusted with caring for some of the most vulnerable members of society. Instead of receiving treatment in a safe and dignified environment, patients and employees are subjected to conditions that pose immediate threats to their health, safety, and psychological wellbeing.

The situation at Weskoppies Hospital has reached crisis level. Ceilings are collapsing, live electrical cables are exposed, buildings are structurally compromised, and raw sewage is spilling into patient areas. This is more than neglect and is a looming humanitarian and occupational disaster. The PSA condemns the Gauteng Department of Health for this blatant disregard for the well-being of patients and employees. Despite numerous attempts by the PSA to raise these concerns with the Hospital's management and the Department of Health, no meaningful action has been taken.

The PSA escalated the matter by requesting an urgent inspection by the Department of Employment and Labour (DEL). Shockingly, no response has been received from the Labour Inspectorate. This continued inaction is unacceptable. The PSA therefore demands immediate intervention by the DEL to conduct a full inspection and enforce compliance with health and safety regulations. Urgent action is required from the Minister of Health to ensure that Weskoppies Psychiatric Hospital is restored to acceptable and lawful standards. There should be accountability from officials and management whose negligence has allowed conditions to deteriorate to this extent.

The PSA will not remain silent whilst patients and employees are exposed to danger. The PSA calls on all relevant authorities to act with urgency, responsibility, and integrity. Immediate decisive action is required to restore safety, dignity, and accountability at Weskoppies Psychiatric Hospital.

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