

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA exposes Northern Cape hospital health disaster: Patients pay price of unchecked maladministration and systemic collapse
DATE	14 November 2025
EMBARGO	None
ENQUIRIES	communication@psa.co.za

The Public Servants Association (PSA) warns that the Northern Cape's public-health system is in catastrophic decline, as confirmed by the 2024/25 Auditor-General of South Africa report.

The report exposes systemic mismanagement, massive financial losses, and a leadership vacuum that puts patients' lives at risk and overburdens healthcare workers. Hospitals are operating without maintenance plans, critical medical equipment remains broken, and outdated manual systems continue to compromise efficiency. Patients experience delayed surgeries, medicine shortages, and unsafe conditions, whilst healthcare professionals are overburdened owing to unfilled posts for doctors, nurses, and support staff. This is a direct violation of section 27 of the South African Constitution, which guarantees every citizen the right to healthcare.

The Northern Cape Government has failed its people. Millions have been mismanaged as per the Auditor-General report, hospitals are collapsing, and patients are dying owing to institutional negligence. Officials responsible must be held accountable immediately.

The PSA demands urgent action. All vacant healthcare positions must be filled without delay. Digital health systems must replace inefficient manual processes. Hospital infrastructure must be upgraded and maintained, and strict consequence management must be applied against officials responsible for financial and operational failures. Transparency in budget allocation and expenditure is essential to ensure funds reach frontline services.

The PSA calls on the Northern Cape Premier, the MEC for Health, and the National Health Department to immediately convene a provincial crisis task team. Failure to act decisively will deepen the humanitarian crisis facing Northern Cape residents. The PSA will monitor progress and mobilise members and communities to ensure accountability and tangible results. The residents of the Northern Cape cannot continue to suffer whilst billions vanish and hospitals crumble.

END