

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA outraged by Gauteng Provincial Government's R1.8 billion under-spending whilst public services suffer
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is outraged and dismayed following revelations that the Gauteng Provincial Government underspent its 2023/24 budget by a staggering R1.8 billion, a gross dereliction of duty that has now been brought before the Legislature.

This under-spending is not merely a financial discrepancy. It is a damning indictment of the provincial administration's failure to execute its constitutional mandate of delivering essential services to the people of Gauteng. Whilst hospitals face medicine shortages, schools remain overcrowded and under-resourced, and critical infrastructure crumbles, the provincial government has failed to use funds that could have alleviated the suffering of millions of people. This fiscal mismanagement is unacceptable in a province grappling with unemployment, inequality, and dire service-delivery backlogs.

The PSA, representing thousands of dedicated public servants who work tirelessly under often dire conditions, demands full transparency and accountability from the Gauteng Provincial Government. The MEC for Finance must immediately explain how such a vast underspend occurred, and what steps are being taken to ensure budgeted funds are used effectively and ethically in the future.

The PSA regards this matter as a betrayal of public trust. Every rand not spent is a missed opportunity to improve lives, strengthen institutions, and build a more equitable society. The PSA therefore calls for an urgent inquiry into the causes of the underspending with consequence management for those responsible. A clear, time-bound plan to prevent such failures in future financial years is required. Frontline service delivery in future allocations and spending must be prioritised. The people of Gauteng deserve better. The PSA will continue to advocate responsible governance and the rights of public servants and the communities they serve.

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