

MEDIA RELEASE PSA raises urgent concerns regarding unsafe conditions at Moretele Office Park in Makapanstad, North West

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is extremely concerned about the status of the Moretele Office Park in North West owing to not being compliant with the *Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA)*.

This situation is a clear indication that the Department of Public Works management does not care about the well-being of employees. The PSA alerted the Department to non-compliance with the occupational health and safety standards. This included leaking pipes and toilets, cracked walls, poor ventilation, exposed electric wires, leaking ceilings, and broken office doors. Shockingly, the Department sees nothing wrong in housing employees in such an unsafe building. On this basis, the Department failed to comply with the *OHSA*, which provides that the employer must provide a workplace that is safe and without risk to employees.

The PSA criticizes the Department's uncaring attitude towards employees. The PSA calls on the Department to find alternative accommodation for employees or to equip them with the necessary tools that will enable them to work from home.

The PSA urges the MEC of the Department of Public Works to apply consequence management for the responsible officials who neglected their responsibilities. The PSA views this situation as gross negligence, which threatens the work lives of employees. The Department's failure to comply with the *OHSA* clearly displays its disregard for its employees. The PSA will not stand by whilst members working conditions are not conducive and will continue to advance the rights and interests of public servants.

END