

MEDIA RELEASE PSA welcomes closure of unsafe Thaba Mofutsanyane Education District Office

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) welcomes the closure of the Thaba Mofutsanyane Education District Office buildings following a Prohibition Notice issued by the Department of Employment and Labour (DEL) on 15 July 2026.

The closure follows persistent efforts by the PSA to protect employees from unsafe and unhealthy working conditions. Despite the DEL issuing a Direction Notice and Prohibition Notice in November 2025, the Free State Department of Education failed to adequately address serious health and safety concerns identified during inspections.

Following continued reports by employees and PSA shop stewards, the PSA requested a follow-up inspection, which confirmed that the risks remained unresolved. As a result, the DEL prohibited access to the buildings until declared safe for occupation.

Whilst the PSA regrets the disruption this will cause to district operations and service delivery, this situation could have been avoided had the employer acted decisively when concerns were first raised. Employees should never be expected to work in conditions that compromise their health and safety.

The PSA calls on the Free State Department of Education to urgently remedy all identified shortcomings and implement alternative arrangements to ensure uninterrupted services whilst safeguarding employees and the members of the public.

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