

FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS

03-02-2020

Publication: Extension of working hours

It came to the PSA's attention that the Department of Home Affairs issued a publication informing members of the public about the extension of working hours at various offices in Gauteng, which excluded the Carletonville, Tembisa and Mabopane offices. The aim is for the Department to fast track the issuing of smart ID to the citizens of South Africa.

On 6 December 2019, the PSA and Nehawu met with the Minister of Home Affairs to discuss this issue that affects employees of the Department. The Minister committed that the Department would engage constantly with labour on issues that affect employees' conditions of service. Working hours was one of the issues identified to be critical and was going to be consulted with labour from the beginning of 2020.

The PSA will continue to support the initiatives of the Department to fast track service delivery processes to issue smart cards to the citizens of South Africa. However, the PSA remains unhappy about the Department's decision to implement the extension of working hours without engaging labour. The PSA maintains that employees in affected offices must be paid overtime in terms of the *BCEA* of 1997. Should the employer act contrary to the *Act*, the PSA will not hesitate to apply appropriate measures at its disposal to protect members.

Members should report any omissions and dissatisfaction pertaining to the implementation of the mentioned project to the respective PSA Provincial Offices.

GENERAL MANAGER