## Non-compliance with occupational health and safety (OHS) standards and operational challenges

The PSA was alerted to the shocking non-compliance with occupational health and safety at Nompozolo Clinic in Willowvale on 7 November 2022 when members spotted a snake at their workplace. Employees killed the snake, thus putting their lives at risk, with concerns that more snakes could be hiding in the building. The building is dilapidated and not conducive for habitation owing to a lack of maintenance and compromising employees' safety in all aspects.

The PSA contacted the acting district manager for intervention who acknowledged the hazardous working conditions. She undertook to request that the grass be cut by 8 November 2022. The PSA reminded the employer of its obligation to ensure employee safety at the employer's premises. The employer advised that it lacked power to direct members to work from home or move to a safer building but failed to demonstrate attempts made to obtain approval from higher authorities. The PSA secured an appointment with the acting district manager for 14 November 2022 at 13:00 at Idutywa Sub-District Office. Whilst awaiting the meeting, attempts to contact the Department of Employment and Labour for inspection are underway.

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The PSA's Organising Marketing Officers can be contacted for more information on what the PSA offers in terms of member representation in grievances, misconduct (disciplinary action), arbitration, and Labour Court matters. Contact Zandi Nompetsheni (082 8808959 / zandi.nompetsheni@psa.co.za), Kenneth Qikani (082 8802936 / kenneth.qikani@psa.co.za. PSA Labour Relations Officers can be contacted on Samkelo.mzuku@psa.co.za (072 625 9021) or Gilbert.seakamela@psa.co.za (082 903 6804).

