

FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DALRRD)

15-08-2023

Feedback: Special Departmental Bargaining Chamber (DBC) meeting- 14 August 2023

Relocation of employees to new DALRRD offices

Following the acquisition of the new DALRRD building, various employees from different offices in the Pretoria CBD were identified to be relocated. Labour was not consulted about the envisaged relocation process. The PSA advised members not to participate in the process until proper consultation took place. The Deeds Office was the first to be relocated after its management closed the old office. Parties agreed to continue with engagements at the DBC meeting for other directorates. The following challenges were outlined and prompted the special DBC meeting on 14 August 2023:

- Transport allocation for employees at Finpark and Agriculture Place was not properly implemented.
- Minor children of employees were not allowed access to the office after school or creche.
- That the employer failed to provide aftercare facilities for minor children of employees after school and creche.
- Employees of the Department who work in other buildings were not given access to the new building whilst performing their duties. Most of these employees did not have access cards to consult with the finance, HR, and supply chain sections.
- Relocated employees experienced parking challenges. Most of them are expected to use visitor parking and struggled to acquire signatures of security officers.
- The building is not suitable for people living with disabilities. The doors are heavy and not user-friendly. The PSA requested the employer to place these employees at the ground floor offices.
- The PSA requested that the overall consultation on the relocation must be discussed in detail since engagements were stopped owing to the urgent relocation of the Deeds Office.

The employer noted all the concerns raised by the PSA and proposed that a list of all concerns raised be reduced in writing. The employer will consult business partners to solicit inputs and responses to the concerns raised. Parties agreed that a follow-up special DBC will be convened on 24 of August 2023.

GENERAL MANAGER