



INFORMUS

SINCE 1920
all others
SERVICE EXCELLENCE

FOR PSA MEMBERS: **MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

14-04-2023

Update: Mpumalanga Department of Education - Ermelo

Members at the District Office notified the PSA on 12 March 2023 of the health-hazardous work environment. It was evident that the employer was expecting members to operate in an extremely non-conductive environment.

The PSA learnt that the building's infrastructure is dilapidated and the employer is currently busy with repairs and renovating the premises. Although the renovations are an effective effort, they pose a risk to members who are expected to operate from the same offices that are being repaired without being barricaded. It has also been reported that the premises are without water and the ablution system is non-operational.

This non-compliance with the *Occupation Health and Safety Act* was reported by the PSA to the Department of Employment and Labour (DEL) on the same day. The PSA applauds the swift response by the DEL by dispatching an Inspector who immediately issued a Prohibition Notice.

The Department of Education District Office is currently closed and is expected to provide a report to the DEL wherein it is to indicate a response plan for the provision of water and attendance to renovations before allowing employees onto the premises.

The PSA welcomes the Prohibition Notice, which makes it evident that the employer was in contravention of the *OHS Act*. The PSA will closely monitor the Department's compliance and will ensure that members' health and safety remain a priority. Members are encouraged to report any non-compliance with the *OHS Act* to the PSA Provincial Office.

Employees who wish to join the PSA can contact Thandiwe Mziyako on 060 9628512, Sylvia Watkins on 082 880 8941 or the PSA Provincial Office on (013) 741 7500.

GENERAL MANAGER