

FOR PSA MEMBERS: **GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

20-04-2023

## Update: PSA meets with Gauteng Premier to address urgent issues

The PSA met with the Gauteng Premier on 19 April 2023 to address long-outstanding issues in the Gauteng Department of Health.

### Renewal of EPWP contracts

The PSA raised grave concern regarding the fixed-term contracts that have a negative impact on the wellbeing of the youth of Gauteng. EPWPs were having fixed-term contracts that were extended several times, creating a reasonable expectation for contract renewal of all EPWPs. EPWP contracts expired on 31 March 2023 and the EPWP contracts were not renewed by the Gauteng Department of Health. The decision also puts employees under enormous pressure as the Department is already understaffed, resulting in long queues and complaints at health facilities. The Gauteng Premier committed that EPWP contracts will be renewed for 12 months. The Premier stated that he cannot commit to permanent appointments of EPWPs however there is equally same number of vacant posts to that of the number of EPWPs. EPWPs will sign new contracts on Monday, 24 April 2023.

### Renewal of contracts: COVID-contract employees

The PSA raised concern regarding COVID-19 fixed-term contract employees who were terminated on 31 March 2023. The Premier committed to reinstate the fixed-term contracts of COVID-19 contract employees for a period of 12 months. Permanent appointments will only be considered in vacant, funded posts that will be advertised by the Department of Health during the 2023/24-financial year.

### Finalisation of Security insourcing

The PSA raised a long-outstanding matter of Security insourcing, which has been under discussion between the PSA and the Gauteng Department of Health for more than four years. The Gauteng Department of Health has been stalling this matter for a long time. Currently, private security companies are failing to pay their employees on time, and they have been exploited for a very long time by their employers. The Premier noted the PSA's concerns regarding security insourcing and made a commitment that this matter will be resolved within three months.

GENERAL MANAGER