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FOR PSA MEMBERS: LIMPOPO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

20-11-2023

Poor working conditions at Dilokong Hospital

The PSA visited Dilokong Hospital, Driekop in Limpopo on 17 November 2023 as part of regular visiting and servicing of members, during which the PSA also had an open day. The PSA discovered that the Hospital has similar challenges as with other health institutions pertaining to staff shortages, which impact on service delivery. It is a norm that when employees exit the system or get promoted, they are not replaced, forcing remaining employees to extend their services to cover their scope.

It is now the rainy season, resulting in the Hospital's garden being overgrown and making it possible for snakes and other reptiles to hide, thus posing danger to employees and patients. Infrastructure maintenance is also an issue as there are broken doors and windows that are neglected. It was reported that the official responsible for maintenance was never replaced since he retired three years ago. The Hospital also has leaking pipes and broken tiles that must be repaired. The PSA will engage the employer to ensure compliance with the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*, which places a legal obligation on the employer to provide a workplace that is safe and without risk to employees. The PSA will continue to ensure that the safety of employees is prioritised.

Members will be informed of developments.

Members and shop stewards are urged to constantly observe and assess their workplaces for safety and compliance and urgently report any non-compliance to Mrs Seema at queen.seema@psa.co.za or call the PSA Provincial Office on (015) 290 0500.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER