

Feedback: Departmental Bargaining Chamber - 30 May 2023

Parking allocation

As previously reported to members, the PSA urged the employer to conduct regular audits on the allocation of parking spaces as this remains a huge challenge in the Department. The employer acceded to the request and the first audit was conducted by a joint team of employer and labour representatives. The findings of the audit were as follows:

- Some vehicle registrations do not correspond with the registrations on allocation records.
- Some disability parking spaces are not marked.
- Some Departmental vehicles are parked in no-parking zones.

The auditing team recommended that the employer should issue communication to employees to submit updated information of their vehicles in cases where they changed car registrations or use more than one vehicle. It was further recommended that all parking spaces be properly marked, especially the ones for people with disabilities. Furthermore, the communication to employees and the updating of the allocation list be finalised by the end of June 2023. A follow-up audit will be conducted before the next Departmental Bargaining Chamber meeting in August 2023.

OHS compliance

The Department of Employment and Labour (DEL) visited the Department of Tourism building to assess the level of compliance with occupational health and safety standards. Several findings were made against the NDT, which resulted in the issuing of Contravention and Improvement Notices. The Notices included lighting challenges in lifts, air conditioning in machine rooms and drainage of water from the pit to prevent water in lift components. There were also issues around obstruction of the distribution board and firefighting equipment as well as the low level of cleanliness of the building. In the Contravention Notice, the Inspector made findings against the low level of maintenance on facilities, poor occupational hygiene, inaccessibility of first-aid boxes, lack of visibility of first aiders in the building, unlabeled hazardous chemical agents in the storeroom, defective luminaries and lamps, and the obscuring of emergency exit doors with objects, as well as poor and limited natural ventilation. The employer addressed all the issues that needed to be addressed as per the Notices and an inspection *in loco* was conducted with the PSA to confirm that indeed the issues were addressed. The DEL is expected to pay the Department a follow-up visits to verify compliance.

Members will be informed of developments.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit the PSA's website (www.psa.co.za), send an email to ask@psa.co.za or contact PSA Provincial Offices.

GENERAL MANAGER