

FOR PSA MEMBERS: **STATISTICS SOUTH AFRICA (STATS SA)**

29-06-2023

Update: Office closure and Relocation Task Team meeting - 27 June 2023

Johannesburg Office relocation

The Corporate Services Manager reported that employees were initially housed at the old JSE office in 2012 and were evicted after the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) failed to pay rent. Employees were moved to Midrand and later to Roodeport when the lease agreement expired. The office was found to be in contravention of OHS regulations and employees were requested to report at various regional offices in Gauteng until 2021. The DPWI managed to secure alternative office accommodation in Braamfontein, Johannesburg. A five-year lease agreement was signed between the landlord and the DPWI to occupy the offices by 1 July 2023. Employees are expected to report for duty on 3 July 2023.

Labour noted the report and raised concerns that the employer failed to consult about the procurement of the new office accommodation in Braamfontein. The OHS Committee was also not consulted and no comprehensive project plan was presented. Labour requested an inspection of the office accommodation before employees could occupy the building to ensure that it complies with OHS regulations. Parties proposed the date of 7 July 2023. Labour further requested that employees should continue to report at regional offices until the inspection process is completed.

The employer noted the request from labour and will seek a mandate from its principals regarding the date of relocation. Concerns regarding cost implications for employees from Randburg and Roodeport offices will be escalated to management for guidance.

Closure of Calvinia Office

Management at the Calvinia Office reported that the Office was closed in March 2023 after the lease agreement expired and was not renewed as the Office has only two employees, with one working from home and the other one reporting at the Springbok Office, 400 km from the Calvinia Office. Parties requested Head Office to assist the provincial office to place the two employees in the nearest offices to the Calvinia Office.

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