

FOR PSA MEMBERS: **EASTERN CAPE**

22-03-2024

Poor working conditions at DRDAR offices

As previously reported to members, employers committed to comply with the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* to repair the DRDAR offices of the Ntsikayethu. The Occupational Health and Safety Committee has been established to contribute to the efficient operation of the department. The PSA is fully represented in the committee.

Ncorha Office

Two employees at this office are working from Qamata office because the building belongs to the Chief and no repairs could be done to the office. The department is still looking for a suitable office to accommodate the officials and the clients visiting the office.

Tsomo Office

Security personnel have been appointed for the safety of staff and to protect the offices. Water has also been restored to the building. The employer committed to replace the locks by mid-April because the available funds were used for the appointment of the security personnel. The employer reported that engineers from the municipality will be requested to investigate the reticulation. The employer also promised to investigate the matter of the bad smelling office mat with the possibility of removing it or replacing it with a new carpet.

Qamata Office

The office has been renovated but there is no furniture in the offices for employees to be able to perform their daily duties. It was reported that the contractor removed doors and door handles from some offices that need to be replaced to complete the renovations. Funds are available for the procurement of water tanks.

Cofimvaba Office

Advertisement for the procurement of the accommodation will close on 14 March 2024. Briefing of bidders has been concluded and the potential bidder will start the renovations as soon as the appointment documents are signed. The appointed bidder will be given two months to complete the work. A task team has been appointed to monitor the progress by the department to ensure a safe working environment and that all the offices comply with the *OHS Act*.

Members will be kept informed of the developments on the above issues.

Employees who wish to join the PSA can contact Zingisile.mgxaji@psa.co.za.

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