



FOR PSA MEMBERS: **DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS - EASTERN CAPE (GQEBERHA AREA)**

24-11-2025

PSA calls for urgent OHS intervention at Home Affairs - Maletswai

The PSA, representing the majority of employees at the Department of Home Affairs, conducted an urgent visit to the Maletswai (Aliwal North) Office following concerns raised by members regarding non-compliance with the *Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA)* and severe staff shortages. During the visit, the following challenges were observed – whilst the building itself is structurally sound, it is poorly maintained:

OHS concerns identified

- Office untidiness owing to the absence of cleaning staff.
- Dusty carpets, visible patches under desks, and cracked tiles in client waiting area.
- Critical shortage of staff impacting service delivery.
- Poor entrance-control measures, with only one female security guard on duty.
- Lack of metal detectors and other security equipment needed to ensure staff and client safety.
- No fire extinguishers placed at critical points.
- Poor toilet conditions: Male staff are unable to use staff toilets and are forced to use public facilities.

This matter has been formally reported to the Provincial Manager and Regional Managers of the Department of Home Affairs. The Department has been given 14 days to respond. In addition, the PSA has reported the conditions to the Department of Employment and Labour in Maletswai and requested an official OHS inspection. The PSA calls on the Department of Home Affairs to ensure that cleaning services are included as part of the building lease agreement should the Department be unable to employ cleaners directly.

Members requiring assistance or wishing to report further concerns may contact Mxolisi Nyandu on 082 880 8968 / mxolisi.nyandu@psa.co.za. The PSA is committed to championing members' rights, benefits, and safety in the workplace. To join the PSA, please use the above contact details.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER