

FOR PSA MEMBERS: GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (GDOH)

02-07-2025

Update: GDOH Forensic Medical Services Multilateral

Danger allowance for support staff

The PSA has consistently raised the matter of a danger allowance for support staff at several multilateral forum meetings. Following persistent lobbying by the PSA together with organised labour, the employer has acknowledged the need and approved the implementation of a danger allowance for support staff. However, organised labour has further requested that the allowance be backdated to 2017 to ensure fairness and full recognition of the risks endured by support personnel over the years. A joint written submission was formally submitted to the employer. The matter will be escalated to the Head of Department (HOD) for further consideration. The outcome of this submission will be shared in the next multilateral forum meeting. Members will be updated on developments.

Re-establishment: Forensic Pathology Learning Programme

The employer has announced plans to re-establish the Forensic Pathology Services Learning Programme, which was previously in place when the services fell under the Department of Police. The restructured programme aims to accredit both short-term (six-month) courses and long-term qualifications, including a three-year diploma. A committee will be formed to guide this process, and PSA representatives will form part of it alongside representatives from other unions. Forensic Officers who are interested in participating in this committee are encouraged to submit their names to mbusi.shibe@psa.co.za.

Uniform: Forensic Medical Services support staff

The PSA together with organised labour raised serious concerns regarding the lack of uniform provision for support staff in Forensic Medical Services. In response, the employer indicated that procurement was being managed at national level and that a service-provider contract will be concluded by 1 July 2025. Full details and timelines will be shared during the next multilateral forum meeting.

Parking and workplace safety concerns

Following the relocation of employees from 11 Diagonal Building, which was deemed non-compliant with occupational health and safety standards, employees were instructed to report to the Central Office at 45 Commissioner Street. However, parking is located more than 2 km away, forcing members to walk significant distances, thus compromising their safety.

In response, organised labour submitted a formal request, asking the employer to permit affected employees to work from home or be placed at facilities closer to their residences. This submission is under review and will be escalated to the HOD for a decision. Members will be informed of developments as soon as feedback is received.

The PSA is committed to ensuring a safe, fair, and respectful working environment for all public servants. Members are urged to remain informed and engaged as the PSA continues to advocate for their interests at every level.

Reuben Maleka GENERAL MANAGER