

FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR (DEL) NORTH WEST

06-06-2025

## Feedback: DEL alternative accommodation following closure of PC Pelser building

## Municipal offices used as interim accommodation

On 2 June 2025, employees from the Department of Employment and Labour expressed serious concerns regarding the continued use of alternative office accommodation following the closure of the PC Pelser building owing to non-compliance with occupational health and safety (OHS) standards. Some of these employees, particularly those providing direct services to the public, were relocated to a municipal facility. However, the alternative site suffers from poor ventilation, inadequate ablution facilities, and overall substandard safety conditions, posing significant health and safety risks, especially for female employees. Despite numerous complaints, provincial management failed to address these issues. The same concerns were raised during the Deputy Minister of the Department's visit in February 2025, yet no tangible progress has been made.

As a result of employees' refusal to continue working under these hazardous conditions, urgent consultative engagements were held between organised labour and centre management. The PSA intervened and proposed a temporary solution that would see affected employees operating from the Potchefstroom Labour Centre and the Wolmaransstad Pay Point. The employer has committed to covering all associated travel and accommodation expenses. Following these discussions, the employer agreed to implement temporary alternative placements for Thursday and Friday (5 and 6 June 2025), pending a conclusive meeting with all trade unions scheduled for 9 June 2025.

Reuben Maleka GENERAL MANAGER