



FOR PSA MEMBERS: **KWAZULU-NATAL – DURBAN AREA**

16-02-2026

Government Employees Medical Scheme (GEMS) protest action

The PSA notes with grave concern that, despite continuous engagement and objections raised by the Union as communicated in previous *Informus* updates, GEMS has proceeded to implement a revised 9.5% membership fee increase for 2026, effective February 2026. This unilateral action was taken without the agreement of organised labour and in clear disregard of members' concerns regarding affordability, fairness, and justification. In line with the provisions of the *Regulation of Gatherings Act*, the PSA Durban Office will be leading a peaceful demonstration at the open parking area of Berea Centre, where the GEMS Regional Office is located (**Shop G18, Entrance 1, 249 King Dinuzulu Road South, Berea**).

A memorandum will be handed to a GEMS representative, calling for:

- Reconsideration of the imposed fee increase; and
- Affirmation and protection of members' rights and interests.

Details of the gathering

- **Date:** Saturday, 21 February 2026
- **Time:** 09:00 – 12:00
- **Venue:** Open car park, Berea Centre (GEMS Regional Office)

The PSA has made provision for 600 members. T-shirts will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis on the day. PSA Marshals, together with the Metro Police and SAPS, will ensure compliance with all safety, legal, and crowd management requirements.

Member registration

Members wishing to participate are required to submit their names via their shop stewards or directly to the PSA Organising and Marketing Officers below, no later than **17 February 2026**:

- Xolani Dlamini – 073 813 9646
- Nkosinathi Thwala – 082 880 8953
- Zinhle Manyoni – 082 673 0050

These officers will also be available to assist with enquiries and logistical coordination. Members from outside Durban are welcome to attend at their own cost.

Instructions for members

- Assemble at the designated venue by **09:00**.
- Adhere strictly to directions from PSA Marshals.
- Maintain peace, discipline, and order at all times.
- Observe all safety precautions, including staying hydrated in hot weather.
- Collect T-shirts early due to limited quantities.

Your participation is essential to ensure that members' concerns are clearly and effectively communicated to GEMS. The PSA relies on the cooperation of all attendees to ensure a lawful, safe, and impactful demonstration.

Employees who wish to join a union that actively protects members' rights, advocates for fair and equitable medical aid practices, and prioritises members' health interests are encouraged to take this opportunity to become part of the PSA.

Reuben Maleka

GENERAL MANAGER