

## Lack of security services: DEL Northern Cape

Owing to a serious concern raised with the Provincial Officer of the Department of Employment and Labour in the Northern Cape regarding the complete lack of security at all offices, an incident has now sparked further concerns for the safety of all employees in said offices. On 20 February 2026, an email was addressed to the CDPO of the Province as the Provincial Head, expressing concern but also seeking confirmation and clarity about the fact that it was reported that no office of the DEL in the Northern Cape had any security as seen in other departments. This email has not been responded to.

### Incident: 10 March 2026 - Kuruman DEL

Members of the public entered the premises of the DEL in Kuruman, demanding that all employees vacate the premises with immediate effect. Employees were then barred from leaving the premises and were held hostage inside the yard of the Kuruman offices. These actions from the public stem from another incident where the Client Service division of the building burned down in September of 2025. Renovations to the building have not yet been completed and members of the public were being serviced at Gasegonayna Municipal Hall. In March 2025, the Department was evicted from the town hall owing to non-payment. Clients were then referred to the visiting points around the JTG District. This led to angry and frustrated clients removing officials who attending to back-office work from their respective offices. Officials were finalising UIF claims and doing other administrative work in parts of the building that were cleaned after the arson.

### Negligence by DEL

Of greater concern for the PSA is the fact that it was allowed for all offices to be without adequate security, which would prevent this kind of safety breach for employees. That PSA had raised a concern beforehand that was not responded to and adds to the overall concern for members' safety in workplaces of the DEL in the Province. The nature of work conducted by members on a daily basis is direct interaction with the public, meaning that having trained security is not optional.

### SAPS intervention

The facility manager requested assistance from the SA Police Service in the region and though this has led to a diffusion of the risks, it by no means ensures the complete safety of employees in the workplace

at Kurman and any offices of the DEL in the Northern Cape. The CDPO has been alerted regarding the incident but also that security measures needed are more imperative than before.

The PSA will further demand a response from the CDPO and get a commitment to address this serious shortcoming that endangers the lives of all employees. Failure to respond within seven days will result in escalation of the concern directly to the Minister.

Reuben Maleka  
GENERAL MANAGER