REPORT NO. 03 OF 2016 PUBLIC SERVICE CO-ORDINATING BARGAINING COUNCIL (PSCBC) 5 April 2016

The Public Service Co-ordinating Bargaining Council (PSCBC) engaged on the following matters at its last meeting held on 31 March 2016:

Annual Salary Adjustments

Even though we expected the employer to formally declare the projected Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the financial year 2016/2017, this had not been done. As agreed, this should have taken place through National Treasury during February or March 2016 in preparation for the Public Service annual salary adjustments. When the Health & Other Service Personnel Trade Union of South Africa (Hospersa) queried this, the employer advised that Treasury was approached but still had to respond with regards to the annual salary adjustment indicators. It was subsequently agreed that the matter would have to be addressed at a special sitting to be held before 7 April 2016. Hospersa requested that this matter is prioritised as Public Servants are expecting their salary increases in terms of the agreement. Hospersa members will recall that last year some unions wanted to side with the employer to fix a 7% wage adjustment for three years. However, being wellaware of the dire economic outlook of our country at that stage, Hospersa insisted on protecting our members from unnecessary risk by linking future increases to a trusted

indicator like the CPI. Now we know we were right as everybody can see how inflation is sky-rocketing! Members can rest assured that Hospersa will ensure that this matter is finalised as soon as possible and that any late implementation actions will result in back-payments of the monies due to them.

Pension Redress Programme

Hospersa received a brief status report on the Pension Redress Programme. It was subsequently agreed that the PSCBC secretariat will draft an agreement for the engagement and approval of parties so that the matter can be laid to rest.

GEMS

A task team was established in terms of Resolution 03 of 2015 and its mandate included reviewing the Government Employee Medical Scheme (GEMS). This task team, consisting of representatives from both the employer and labour, has made progress but has requested extension to finalise its work.

GEHS

In terms of Resolution 07 of 2015 it was agreed to establish a Government Employee Housing Scheme (GEHS) and a task team was established to oversee the implementation of this resolution. This task team has finalised its terms of reference and will now continue with its work on the scheduled dates.

For more information visit <u>www.hospersa.co.za</u> or contact your Provincial Office (see details below)