

Park Rynie labour office 'a mess'

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THE offices of the Department of Labour in Park Rynie are in a "bad state" with complaints of no electricity, unflushable toilets, general uncleanness and slow service, this according to local resident Sue Hefferman Laubscher. She said the situation was "demotivating".

"The conditions are appalling. There is always filth everywhere and people are constantly turned away when seeking assistance because apparently they only assist five people a day," said Hefferman Laubscher.

Ward councillor for the area, Ed Baptie, said in his attempts to resolve the issue has been sent back and forth between the Department of

Public Works and the Department of Labour, with "no one wanting to take responsibility".

"According to the Department of Public Works the building is owned by them but they have leased it out to the Department of Labour and therefore they are responsible for maintenance of the building," said Baptie.

"The Department of Labour tells me it is Public Works that is responsible and unfortunately, I have not been able to obtain a copy of the lease agreement between the two to give clarity on the matter.

I have, however, escalated the matter to provincial level and will continue knocking on every door until we get results because this has been going on for too long," said Baptie.

Spokesperson for the Department of Labour Lungelo Mkamba said they were "engaging" with the Department of Public Works.

"The electricity bill has been settled and power should resume.

We are currently in the process of procuring cleaning services to ensure that the workplace is clean and tidy," said Mkamba.

"Questions about the state of the building or its maintenance thereof, should be sent to the Department of Public Works which is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of government buildings. We have already engaged them in this regard to assist us," said Mkamba.

The Department of Public Works did not respond to requests for comment at the time of going to print.



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

The inside of the Park Rynie Department of Labour offices.