



Economic development workers have urged the department to move them to new offices. Photo by Boitumelo Tshehle

Our building's a death trap!

By BOITUMELO TSHEHLE

GATVOL workers boycotted work yesterday.

They demanded a safer work environment and for management to find them a new building to work from.

Economic development workers in Mahikeng, North West, said there was a horrible smell and the plumbing system didn't work.

They said the building was a death trap and had cracks everywhere.

Nehawu spokesman Lawrence Lenyora said the building didn't comply with the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

"We can't risk the lives of our workers. It's either they find us a new building or we stay outside," he said.

Lenyora said the Department of Public Works assessed the

building in 2017 and submitted its recommendations.

"We feel the department had enough time to fix the building. We can't work in such a building," he said.

He threatened to delay services to communities if management didn't act fast.

"We're not going to work in a building that's not safe," said Lenyora.

"Service delivery will be affected and it's the employer's responsibility to make sure we give people services while working in a safe place."

The workers also complained about low salaries and unpaid performance bonuses.

Economic development spokeswoman Dumisa Sechabela refused to comment.

"We're not talking to the media at this moment," said Sechabela.