



GAUTENG PROVINCE

HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

WEDNESDAY, 19 APRIL 2023

INADEQUATE STEAM SUPPLY IMPACTS ON SERVICES AT STEVE BIKO HOSPITAL AND SURROUNDING FACILITIES

The Gauteng Department of Health (GDoH) would like to inform the public that it is giving urgent attention to the restoration of steam power to Steve Biko Academic Hospital (SBAH) and surrounding institutions.

Due to inadequate steam supply at SBAH owing to a breakdown of the steam generating boilers, some of the steam-dependent services at the hospital and nearby facilities are impacted.

The SBAH's boiler infrastructure supplies steam power to a number of health facilities within the hospital complex - Tshwane District Hospital, Pretoria Oral and Dental Hospital, Tshwane Rehabilitation Hospital, Pretoria Forensic Pathology Mortuary, Tshwane Health District's Crisis Centre, Pretoria Hospital School, and SG Lourens Nursing Campus.

The steam is used within the operational environment for various purposes such as the central air-conditioning (cooling) and air heaters, cooking, hot water, autoclaving, refrigeration and freezers amongst other services.

SBAH has three boilers which are used interchangeably to supply it and the surrounding institutions with steam. Two of the boilers are coal powered while the third one is a dual or hybrid gas/light fuel/diesel powered. One boiler has been undergoing statutory preparation and is expected to be back on line during May 2023. The second boiler collapsed on 17 April and is now off-line pending repair. The Department expecting the third boiler to be on line within the next couple of days so that SBAH can have a functional boiler.

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Issued by the Gauteng Department of Health

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