

MEDIA RELEASE

NO EMBARGO

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SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BRINGING AN END TO THE UNPROTECTED STRIKE BY SAMWU AND ITS MEMBERS

Under the auspices of the CCMA, SAMWU, Pikitup and the City of Johannesburg reached an agreement yesterday to end the unprotected strike which commenced on 9 March 2016.

Employees will return to work immediately and there will be an end to all acts of intimidation and violence, victimization and harassment.

Pikitup will make a once-off payment of R 750 to all Grade A and B workers and this will be taken into account in the further negotiations which will commence on 11 April and conclude on 13 April 2016, under the auspices of the CCMA.

In the event that agreement cannot be reached the parties will consider referring the dispute to mutual interest arbitration or, alternatively, the parties will advise each other of the steps they will pursue in exercising their rights, taking into consideration the extent of the agreement.

The no work no pay rule will apply with 50% of the deduction being deferred and the remaining two tranches of 25% deducted in May and June. The immediate return to work will be taken into account in mitigation of the sanctions in the disciplinary hearings.

The negotiations on salary benchmarking will be based on the principle of a salary scale, a common grading system and salary progression based on tenure and job performance.

It was further agreed that the parties will embark on a relationship building exercise to restore relationships.

Finally it has been agreed to allow the parallel and ongoing deployment of contracted resources to ensure that the backlog of uncollected waste (domestic, illegally dumped, putrefied or otherwise) is recovered. The City has set up a Joint Operations Centre to ensure that the backlog of uncollected waste is cleared by 30 April 2016, which SAMWU will support. This will see workers resuming their function as early as tonight, Sunday 10 April 2016.

ENDS