

**PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO: 2219**

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**QUESTION PAPER NO: 22**

**Ms T Bodlani (DA) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:**

What (a) are the details of the post offices that are and/or were closed to date in Gauteng, (b) informed the decision to close the specified outlets and (c) has she found had been the impact of the closures to the communities?

**NW2523E**

**REPLY:**

**I have been advised by the South African Post Office (SAPO) as follows:**

1. (24) Twenty-four Post Office branches have been permanently closed in Gauteng for which official approvals have been granted. Another (66) sixty-six branches have been closed awaiting official approval for the closure. The closure of these branches relate to landlord disputes, lockouts due to rental arrears, electricity arrears, while others have been looted and vandalised. See details hereunder. The lists hereunder details affected branches but is fluid given the changing circumstances and issues at any point in time.
2. Some have been permanently closed due to optimization of the SAPO branch network as well as forced closures by landlords as a result of rental arrears.
3. Communities have been referred to the nearest alternative branches which are in a radius of +-5km. This does not affect the street delivery of mail in these areas. Where private boxes are to be moved, renters retain their PO Box numbers once transferred to the closest open Post Office.

**Official approval granted for permanent closure:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Office**  | **Province** | **When Closed** | **Reason** |
| **Approval granted for closure during April 2021** |
| 1. | Linden | Gauteng | Apr 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices. |
| 2. | Jukskeipark | Gauteng | Apr 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices. |
| 3. | Thokoza | Gauteng | Apr 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices. |
| 4. | Fontainebleu | Gauteng | Feb 2021 | Forced closure by landlord |
| 5. | De Deur | Gauteng | May 2020 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices. |
| 6. | Fairland | Gauteng | Aug 2020 | Forced closure by landlord |
| **Approval granted for closure during May 2021** |
| 7. | Glenharvie | Gauteng | Mar 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices. |
| 8. | Sonlanpark | Gauteng | Nov 2020 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices. |
| 9. | Monumentpark | Gauteng | Feb 2021 | Forced closure by landlord. |
| 10. | Henbly | Gauteng | Mar 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices. |
| 11. | Strubensvallei | Gauteng | May 2021 | Forced closure by landlord. |
| 12. | Van Dyk Park | Gauteng | May 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices. |
| 13. | Brenthurst | Gauteng | May 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices. |
| 14. | Bakerton | Gauteng | May 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices. |
| 15. | Edenpark | Gauteng | May 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices. |
| 16. | Dunnottar | Gauteng | May 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices. |
| **Approval granted for closure during June 2021** |
| 17. | Wendywood | Gauteng | Feb 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices |
| 18. | Boipatong | Gauteng | Jun 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices |
| 19. | Kagiso | Gauteng | Sept 2020 | Forced closure by landlord |
| 20. | Welobie | Gauteng | May 2021 | Forced closure by landlord |
| 21. | Woodhill | Gauteng | Sept 2020 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices |
| **Approval granted for closure during July 2021** |
| 22. | Khumalo | Gauteng | Feb 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices |
| **Approval granted for closure during August 2021** |
| 23. | Dower Glen | Gauteng | May 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices |
| 24 | The Tramshed | Gauteng | Aug 2021 | Optimization and amalgamation with the surrounding offices |

**Branches closed awaiting official approval, locked out by landlords due to rental arrears, electricity arrears, looted and vandalised branches:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Office** | **Province** | **Reason** |
| 1  | Alexandra South  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 2  | Aston Manor  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 3 | Atlasville  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 4  | Benoni North  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 5  | Bertsham  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 6  | Boitumelo  | Gauteng  | Electricity account arrears  |
| 7  | Bramley  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 8  | Cleveland  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 9  | Dersley  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 10  | Doornpoort  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 11  | Dunnottar  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 12  | Dunswart  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 13  | East Lynn  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 14  | Ebony Park  | Gauteng  | Looting and vandalised  |
| 15  | Elardus Park  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 16  | Elspark  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 17  | Evaton  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 18  | Faerie Glen  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 19  | Fararmere  | Gauteng  | Electricity account arrears  |
| 20  | Florida Hills  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 21  | Fourways North  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 22  | Heidelberg  | Gauteng  | Electricity account arrears  |
| 23  | Highveld Park  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 24  | Ifafi  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 25  | Isando  | Gauteng  | Burglary. Equipment stolen  |
| 26  | Kaalfontein  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord and vandalised by looters  |
| 27  | Kagiso East  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 28  | Katlehong  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 29  | Khumalo  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 30  | Kliptown  | Gauteng  | Looting and vandalised  |
| 31  | KwaXuma  | Gauteng  | Looting and vandalised  |
| 32  | Kyalami  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 33  | Lambton  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 34  | Laudium  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 35  | Leondale  | Gauteng  | Looting and vandalised  |
| 36  | Lynnwood Ridge  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 37  | Masoheng  | Gauteng  | Looting and vandalised  |
| 38  | Montana  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 39  | Noordheuwel  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 40  | Oliefantsfontein  | Gauteng  | Blocked sewerage drain  |
| 41  | Orange Farm  | Gauteng  | Looting and vandalised  |
| 42  | Paardekraal  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 43  | Pierre Van Ryneveld  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 44  | Protea Gardens  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 45  | Quagga  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 46  | Randhart  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 47  | Randpark Ridge  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 48  | Rant en Dal  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 49  | Raslouw  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 50  | Rensburg  | Gauteng  | Electricity account arrears  |
| 51  | Ruimsig  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 52  | Rusloo  | Gauteng  | Electricity account arrears  |
| 53  | Rynfield  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 54  | Sandringham  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 55  | Silverton  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 56  | Sinoville  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 57  | Stretford  | Gauteng  | Looting and vandalised  |
| 58  | Strubenvale  | Gauteng  | Electricity account arrears  |
| 59  | Sunward Park  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 60  | Tembisa South  | Gauteng  | Looting and vandalised  |
| 61  | Three Rivers  | Gauteng  | Locked out by landlord  |
| 62  | Tiegerpoort  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 63  | Turffontein  | Gauteng  | Closed, awaiting official approval  |
| 64  | Vosloorus  | Gauteng  | Electricity account arrears  |
| 65  | Westonaria  | Gauteng  | Electricity account arrears  |
| 66  | Zola  | Gauteng  | Looting and vandalised  |