

## STAKEHOLDER NOTICE

Dear Valued Stakeholders,

**RE: DELAY IN SMME VOUCHER ACTIVATION**

The W&RSETA is committed to supporting the growth of small businesses, particularly to non-levy paying companies, through development and support programmes that the SETA funds through its discretionary grants. Such support includes grants that entrepreneurs can invest into their businesses.

It is with regret that the W&RSETA informs beneficiaries of business support grants about the delay in the activation of the vouchers that have been issued for redemption due to an urgent requirement for the SETA to finalise its financial reports that are due for submission to the Auditor-General of South Africa by **31 May 2024**. This submission is one of the key legal requirements that the SETA must comply with and requires the full attention of the Finance department to meet the rigorous requirements to ensure that the SETA submits an accurate report that accounts for the use of public funds.

It is important to note that the activation of vouchers demands the dedication of the Finance department's resources to deal with challenges associated with this process that are caused by damaged cards, lost cards and/or PINs and delays in signing of the relevant documents by the beneficiaries which result in lengthy delays.

The W&RSETA extends an unreserved apology to the affected beneficiaries for the delay and understands that the funds are anticipated to assist with business operations. To this end, the SETA commits to activate all vouchers by **7 June 2024**.

Related queries can be directed to the relevant provincial offices.

Yours in skills development,

W&RSETA