



**APRAV BRIEFING WEEK 3, DAY 2 ON 22 OCTOBER 2025  
ON THE SCOPA INVESTIGATION INTO THE RAF**

**THE TRAVESTY OF THE CLOSURE OF SUNSHINE HOSPITAL**

The only witness of the day was Mr. Kenneth Ford, the former managing director of Sunshine Hospital, that was established in 2002 (although it was a functioning hospital pre-2002 with 200 beds). The day unpacked the relationship between Sunshine Hospital and the Road Accident Fund, highlighting financial disputes and hospital closure. The hospital provided care to Road Accident Fund (RAF) patients, especially those without medical aid. Sunshine Hospital maintained reasonable tariffs accepted by RAF, which were lower than published RAF rates.

RAF requested Sunshine Hospital's assistance for MVA victims due to state hospital challenges. Sunshine Hospital treated patients without advance payment, reducing costs for RAF. Claims were submitted using the legally required RAF 2° form, with payments promised within 30 days.

A Co-operation Agreement was signed in 2007, but payments remained inconsistent. Consolidated claims were submitted to streamline the process, but payments were still erratic. Sunshine Hospital continued to treat MVA victims despite ongoing payment issues. Non-payment issues escalated dramatically, leading to 6,285 summonses against RAF for over R300 million. 647 judgments totalling R180,412,038.08 were obtained against RAF, with significant legal costs incurred.

The Co-operation Agreement was unilaterally terminated by RAF in July 2018, but services continued. Payments ceased in April 2020 due to an internal investigation by RAF into alleged irregularities. Sunshine Hospital sought court intervention for unpaid invoices, resulting in a court order for monthly payments. RAF ceased payments in May 2022, leading to a writ of execution and further legal actions.

An internal investigation found no evidence of wrongdoing by Sunshine Hospital. Recommendations were made to lift the moratorium on payments, but RAF failed to comply. Sunshine Hospital closed in March 2023 due to non-payment and rising litigation costs. Payments resumed after a court ruling, but the hospital ultimately closed permanently in May 2025.

Urgent action is needed to uphold the rule of law and ensure payments to Sunshine Hospital. The ongoing non-payment violates constitutional rights and contributes to wasteful expenditure. However, it is yet again the Claimants needed medical assistance that is totally and utterly failed by the RAF and its unlawful actions and total disregard for the public's constitutional rights.

This is not only the illegal non-payment of a very crucial servicer provider but is disadvantaging the most vulnerable road crash victims.

