

## Feedback: COVID-19 Health and Safety Committee Meeting

A virtual meeting was held on 7 January 2021 and the following issues were discussed:

### Return-to-work plan level 3

Although the plan is yet to be signed off by the acting HOD and submitted to the DPSA, there was consensus that remote work must continue as part of the strategy to contain infections. Issues of supervision and management of work must be agreed to between supervisors and subordinates. A circular on plans to return to work for alert level 3 will be issued after considering inputs from stakeholders. It was also indicated that screeners are needed to screen members of the public and that an electronic recording system will be functioning by 1 February 2021. Preparations for schools are underway and at the level of the CEM for approval.

### Psychosocial support to Educators

The Department is still struggling to provide the required support services to educators as the Social Development service is not able to provide continuous service to the Department although some districts are using own initiatives such as partnering with the University of Limpopo. Mr Mhlongo reported that the Department has employed three Social Workers in each District and they will alleviate the problem.

### Reports

No reports from other districts, except Capricorn South, Waterberg and Vhembe West were received. Capricorn South reported no COVID-19 infections, PPE is needed for learners when schools reopen as some would be lost or damaged. Waterberg district reported four deaths, three educators in isolation, and rotation work implemented. Vhembe West reported no cases, that the plan is ready and awaiting approval by the district director, and is expecting PPE from the Province.

GENERAL MANAGER