

# INFORMUS



FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICE

24-03-2020

## Whats happening in DCS?

### Update on Covid-19

Members informed the PSA that despite the current state of disaster, several Correctional Centers still do not have the required personal protective equipment (PPE). During a bi-lateral meeting with the employer on 23 March 2020 the employer indicated that they did experience challenges with the sourcing of gloves, masks and sanitizers but these problems are now resolved and all centers should have the required PPE in the next day or two.

Members are requested to inform the PSA immediately should they not receive the required PPE by Thursday, 26 March.

The employer further reported that they are looking at the following measures to assist employees:

- Appointing nurses and wellness officials at centers.
- Each region will ensure that labour is consulted through regular meetings on safety aspects
- All employees to receive training on preventative measures.
- To provide 14 days leave if a medical practitioner recommends that an employee must be isolated.
- Abnormal overtime to be approved.
- Scanners to be used to screen all visitors. Delivery of scanners to still take place.

### Consultation on non-center-based officials

The employer indicated that they wish to consult labour with regards to the migration of non-center-based employees to center based employees. The PSA responded that a bi-lateral meeting is not a collective bargaining platform that should be used and advised the employer to facilitate such a discussion through the GPSSBC and negotiations in this regard can only take place in a DBC meeting. The employer seeks to change a collective agreement and can only do so with the agreement of labour.

Members will be kept informed of further developments.

GENERAL MANAGER