

FOR PSA MEMBERS: FREE STATE

03-05-2020

## COVID-19 update: Free State departments

The PSA in the Free State has engaged departments and highlighted the potential health risks of exposing employees to the virus should precautionary safety measures not be implemented. The PSA requested departments to provide progress reports on the following:

- Finalisation of a risk assessment to give effect to the minimum requirements as per the directive issued by the Minister of Employment and Labour.
- The establishment of a Departmental Steering Committee/Health and Safety Committees and Union representatives invited.
- Details of departmental representatives tasked with dealing with COVID-19 for respective business units within departments.
- Detailed list of identified critical jobs and motivation thereof:
  - The identified one third of the workforce to be utilized for Level 4.
  - Current status of PPE within the departments and further needs.

The PSA emphasized the importance of adhering to Disaster Management Level 4 regulations.

It is important to note that the Director-General in the Free State issued a memorandum in which he informs public servants of eased restriction effective from 1 May 2020, how officials will be managed in terms of the published regulations and that they should not return to the workplace on 4 May 2020. Heads of Department will advise officials when they are required to return to the workplace.

The PSA will continue to be vigilant and safeguard the wellbeing of members. Members are encouraged to continue to report any omission that may occur in terms of COVID-19 precautionary measures the employer is required to implement in the workplace to the PSA through shop stewards and/or contact the following PSA staff members:

### **Department of Health and Department Social Development**

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### **National Departments**

Nceba Baardman – 082 880 8939 email: [nceba.baardman@psa.co.za](mailto:nceba.baardman@psa.co.za); Nelson Mateza – 082 880 8934 email: [nelson.mateza@psa.co.za](mailto:nelson.mateza@psa.co.za); [thandi.kgothule@psa.co.za](mailto:thandi.kgothule@psa.co.za)

### **Provincial Departments**

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GENERAL MANAGER