

# INFORMUS



FOR PSA MEMBERS: GOVERNMENT PENSION ADMINISTRATION AGENCY (GPAA)

04-06-2020

## COVID-19: Temporary closure of GPAA Head Office (34 Hamilton Street) and Trevena Campus

The PSA was made aware that the GEPP, has notified the GPAA that a GPAA staff member who is stationed at the GEPP offices, has tested positive for COVID-19 since the lockdown. The employer has since appealed to labour, as well as employees, to assist them by remaining calm so that the employer can take the necessary precautionary measures immediately.

The immediate action plan for now is as follows:

- GPAA Head Office (34 Hamilton Street) and Trevena Campus will be closed from 3 -5 June 2020 to allow for response activities. Any employees who may arrive at the two premises for any reasons will be allowed access, but will have to vacate the premises by 09:00 on 3 June 2020. Nobody will be allowed access on 4 – 5 June 2020.
- The GPAA Head Office and Trevena Campus will be deep cleaned and no staff will be allowed to enter the building until 8 June 2020.
- The GPAA is to be deep-cleaned and no staff will be allowed to enter the building until Monday, 8 June 2020.
- The primary suspected cases of GPAA employees, namely Drivers, Maintenance Team, ICT, SCM and Finance, who visited the GEPP or interacted with the GEPP colleagues will be quarantined and tested.
- Any other second, third, and fourth-hand potential exposure cases, will be tested if the first group tests positive in line with applicable procedures.

To date there are no positive cases reported at the GPAA and the screening process enables the GPAA to identify isolated cases and quarantine them while arrangements are made to get tested. The GPAA's safety procedures have been implemented and only three people at Head Office have requested to consult their doctors. One employee stationed in Rustenburg and another security person in Thohoyandou also displayed excessive temperature readings. The PSA welcomes the prompt action by the employer of testing employees, disinfection of the Head Office and Trevena Campus, as well as adhering to the screening of all employees and the supply of necessary PPE's.

The DPSA's Circular 7/2020 directs that where an employee tests positive for COVID-19, the HOD must grant such an employee sick leave. Approval in accordance with Public Service Regulations 51 for employees that came into contact with the affected employee, they must self-quarantine for a period of 14 days to ensure the infection does not spread. The offices must be disinfected, and the case must be reported to the DPSA.

Members should take note that it is illegal for the employer to force them to work in an unsafe working environment, hence they are encouraged to report non-compliance with COVID-19 Regulations to their shop stewards.

GENERAL MANAGER