

FOR PSA MEMBERS: LIMPOPO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

15-06-2020

## Feedback Meeting: COVID-19 Steering Committee

The meeting took place on 9 June 2020 and issues discussed are as follows:

### **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

The employer reported that they continue to manage the level of PPE available in institutions. More than 100 000 surgical gowns were delivered on 5 June 2020. Delivery is expected for gloves within the week. 6000 cloth masks received and distribution underway. Dysfunctional toilets at Sekororo Hospital were reportedly fixed.

### **State of readiness for the Department of Health**

Van Velden Hospital disinfected wards, tested 64 employees who were in contact with an infected employee, whilst W F Knobel was cleaned. The PSA raised a concern about the victimisation of members, as some are precautionarily suspended and some have been threatened with leave without pay, when they raise issues of safety contrary with COVID-19 Regulation. The employer to present the SOP to ensure consistency in case of an infection in all health facilities. Two new cases have been reported at Elim and Thabazimbi Hospitals, thus safety measures shall be implemented.

### **Payment: Community Health Workers**

The item is being discussed at the national bargaining council hence will be deliberated during an Exco meeting earmarked for 17 June 2020, wherein the extension of the contract of the CHW will also be discussed.

### **Return to work**

The PSA raised concern about slow process of considering the applications for employees with comorbidities, which forces them to be at work pending the finalisation of the process. The employer will report back in the next meeting.

### **Payment of overtime**

After the employers indication, that only certain EMS officials will be paid 100% overtime, the PSA wrote a letter demanding that all employees who work overtime exceeding 30% of basic salary, be paid 100% of their and not the selected few. Subsequently, the employer will pay all qualifying employees the overtime according to the DPSA Circular.

### **Safety, Health, Environment, Risk and Quality Management (SHERQ POLICY)**

The process of establishing the OHS committees as per circular 35/2020 is underway.

GENERAL MANAGER