

FOR PSA MEMBERS: LIMPOPO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

21-05-2020

Feedback Meeting: COVID-19

The meeting took place on 19 May 2020 and issues discussed are as follows:

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

The cloth masks have been ordered and delivery is expected next week. Furthermore, all employees qualifying for cloth masks will be supplied with two face cloth masks as soon as received.

Household screening

It was reported that the planning of the next phase is not yet concluded. The PSA was dissatisfied with the non-reporting of employees infected with COVID-19 and this will be corrected going forward.

Non-payment of Community Health Workers

It was reported that the contract for CHW's is six months and the stipend is R3500. The PSA needed clarity of the additional six months and the employer is expected to report back.

State of readiness regarding cleaners at health facilities

The employer reported there are enough permanent cleaners in all facilities, however the PSA indicated that Pietersburg Hospital does not have cleaners at night. The employer undertook to investigate and report back at the next meeting. Upon the intervention of the PSA, the employer agreed to buy a washing machine for Shayandima Clinic. Protective clothing for cleaners especially heavy-duty aprons have been ordered and will be delivered soon.

Return to work into the DPSA Circular under lockdown level-4

The PSA raised concerns that some facilities are recalling employees without complying with safety regulations, however the employer reported that the department is not ready to recall employees. The employer responded that the *status quo* remains as per *Circular 30/2020*, indicating that employees will continue to work from home and report to offices when necessary. The PSA cautioned the employer to comply as the safety of members is non-negotiable and should be prioritised.

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

The policy was presented, which is meant to ensure a safe and healthy working environment. This will include the appointment of health and safety reps, committees, first aiders, and fire marshals. Members are requested to submit inputs to patricia.matlhadisa@psa.co.za or Whatsapp on 0769839852 by 25 May 2020.

GENERAL MANAGER