

INFORMUS



FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES (DCS) -
NORTHERN CAPE

27-03-2020

Update: COVID-19 - Northern Cape DCS

State of readiness in DCS Northern Cape

It is concerning and disturbing that since the announcement by the President regarding the national lockdown on 23 March 2020, that Department of Correctional Service in the Free State and Northern Cape Region is not yet ready to comply with occupational health and safety regulations. The announcement that essential services should still be provided does not mean that the employer must neglect the safety of members in this region. The telephone conference on 27 March 2020 revealed that apart from the Coleburg Management Area, the other two Management Areas namely, Upington and Kimberley, including six Correctional Centres resorting under these management areas are not ready to supply officials with sanitisers, gloves and masks where necessary. Some of the officials are nurses dealing with patients.

The PSA calls on the Regional Commissioner to fast track supply of essential protective equipment. The lockdown is intended to prevent the spreading of the COVID-19 virus. This cannot be achieved if employer is reckless about the safety of employees. The PSA advises members to report for duty but not expose themselves to potentially dangerous situations at work until employer complies.

GENERAL MANAGER