

FOR PSA MEMBERS: NORTHERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR

04-06-2020

Update: COVID-19 Northern Cape Department of Employment and Labour

The PSA in the Northern Cape conducted a compliance check on 3 June 2020, at the Kimberley Department of Employment and Labour. This was done following complaints from our members about non-compliance by the department amid the anticipated opening of offices to the public and the partial return of employees on Monday 8 June 2020. The following was established after a thorough walk through and engagement along with shop stewards:

- 1.) Front gate screening, registers, and temperature gauging are in place;
- 2.) Social distancing markers are in place with direction and marshals trained;
- 3.) Personal Protective Equipment is in place, sanitisers, masks, and gloves have been provided to all critical staff;
- 4.) Steering Committee fully established including labour representatives;
- 5.) Exit strategy in case of the outbreak of a fire complete and up to date with clear marking;
- 6.) Fire extinguishers serviced in 2019 and next service scheduled for 2021;

The PSA readily applauds the strides and efforts made by the department, in ensuring compliance. The PSA is adamant that a partial compliance with the regulations will not be enough. The province has seen an upsurge in COVID-19 cases in the last week, from 38 to 91 confirmed cases. Therefore, there is a need for daily compliance on an ongoing basis and monitoring of safety measures put in place. We have scheduled a meeting with the CDPO on the following matters of concern:

- 1.) Finalisation of a risk assessment to identify the risks of a COVID-19 breakout;
- 2.) Revision of existing Health and Safety provisions of the department;
- 4.) The establishment of a dedicated email address where all COVID-19 cases can be reported;
- 5.) The development of guidelines, action plans, and protocols to manage any confirmed COVID-19 cases;
- 6.) Detailed list of identified personnel to work in a staggered phased-in approach, to ensure social distancing and
- 7.) A certificate of proof that the workplace was deep cleaned by a recognised company

We look forward to further engagement with this department's Management and members will be kept informed of developments. Members are welcome to contact Russle: 0828837563. Eugene 0762892849 or Neo 0828808982.

GENERAL MANAGER