

FOR PSA MEMBERS: NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (NDHS)

03-07-2020

Feedback: Meeting with Employer and Office Closure Due to COVID-19

Members have been kept informed of developments through previous editions of the Informus (copy can be obtained from the PSA's website, www.psa.co.za or from the PSA Provincial Office).

The employer acceded to the PSA's request and the meeting was held on 1 July 2020. The meeting with the Acting Director-General was to engage on the response of employer regarding the latest positive case of COVID-19 in the Department. This engagement also touched on the contact tracing as well as the way forward for employees to return to the workplace.

However, the employer could not provide the PSA with a detailed report on the contact tracing and indicated that they can only do so in the Departmental COVID-19 Steering Committee meeting that is scheduled for 2 July 2020. The PSA can therefore not provide much information at this stage until the employer provides more information.

Members are still advised that in terms of the Regulations that was issued by the Minister of Employment and Labour, Clause 48, which clearly stipulates the following:

“An employee may refuse to perform any work if circumstances arise which with reasonable justification appear to that employee or to a health and safety representative to pose an eminent and serious risk of their exposure to COVID-19”.

Members are therefore requested to allow the engagement of the COVID-19 Steering Committee to take place as more clarity will emanate from those discussions.

Members will be updated of further developments.

GENERAL MANAGER