

INFORMUS



FOR PSA MEMBERS: NORTH WEST - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND ROADS

28-08-2020

Update: North West Department of Public Works and Roads: Back to office at alert level-2

The North West Department of Public Works and Roads convened a consultative meeting with labour on 27 May 2020, to get labour buy-in on plans to increase the number of staff during alert level-2. Since the partial opening of the department after a consultative meeting in May 2020, the department has recorded 55 COVID-19 cases currently, with 41 reported recoveries, 11 active cases and 3 deaths.

Taking into cognizance the above statistics a cautious approach was emphasized by the PSA and the department agreed. Prior to reviewing the status and recalling employees the department must satisfy 3 requirements that is:

- To increase number of screeners (The process to have more screeners from EPWP program has commenced)
- Replenishment of COVID-19 PPE (procuring disposable masks for screeners and availing cloth masks and sanitizers)
- Procurement of additional and more durable thermometers.

After compliance of the above the meeting in principle agreed to allow employees who are occupying single units to return to work on a fulltime basis. Employees above 60 years are to remain on rotational schedules and ad hoc shifts. Employees, with reported comorbidities, are to continue working remotely. Finally other employees who can't work remotely to be considered for rotational purposes.

NB: Employees are encouraged to report any non-compliance to the PSA Mafikeng Provincial Office at 018 381 9600, because they must adhere to their own departmental OHS Policy, Risk Assessment Plan and *OHS Act*, which gives practical guidelines on how to manage health and safety issues and in this instance to be managed with COVID-19 safety measures.

GENERAL MANAGER