

FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – WESTERN CAPE

29-05-2020

Update: Regional Steering Committee – DCS – Western Cape

The PSA attended a Regional Steering Committee meeting on 29 May 2020 and the following items were discussed.

Area Steering Committees

These don't appear to be taking place at all Management Areas. The RC office indicated that they will request the minutes of all Management Areas and provide them to labour.

Educators

A concern was raised that Educators were instructed to return to work on Monday 25 May 2020, whilst the departments own directive states that they should return at level-3.

Comcor

A concern was raised that with the release of 19 000 inmates in the country, a huge burden will be placed on officials working in Comcor. Labour was informed that 35 ex-officials would be appointed soon, with the possibility of a number of SANDF officials being appointed. The Regional Office would consider appointing these officials at Comcor to relieve this problem.

Change to 50% shifts

A number of management areas have started to change from the requisite 50% shifts and instructed officials to return to work. The areas where this was done are Goodwood, Allandale, and Voorberg. The reason being the high positive infection rate at those institutions. The department confirmed that it cannot return to 100% staffing compliment at this stage. The RC Office will provide direction to the Management Areas, indicating that the 50% may be raised but not to 100%.

COVID-19 Statistics

To date in the Western Cape there have been 190 officials who have been infected, with 71 recoveries.

Training

Training on COVID-19 to continue, with an added aspect of training regarding stigmatization.

PPE's

PPE's have been procured and full PPE's will be provided to officials working at identified COVID sites.

Health profile questionnaire

The RC Office is developing a Health Profile Questionnaire, to assist them to be prepared in the event that an official with a co-morbidity tests positive for the virus. Only one official at each Management Area will be allowed to handle these confidential questionnaires and completion thereof will be voluntary.

GENERAL MANAGER