

Feedback: Departmental Bargaining Chamber Meeting

COVID-19 compliance

The employer confirmed during the DBC meeting that a decision was taken that although the country is on lockdown level 1, only a maximum of 80% of staff should be at the office at any given time. The rest of the staff will still be working remotely and rotate for when they need to work from the office. The employer further confirmed that employees with co-morbidities and who have submitted the required medical reports will remain on remote work until further notice.

Allocation of parking

Members will recall that it was previously reported that a task team was established to investigate the allocation of parking. Owing to the lockdown period the task team could not meet but parties agreed during the DBC meeting that the task team will now be able to convene since the announcement of lockdown level 1. The employer further reported that approval to erect a shelter for vehicles at the Timber City parking area could not be obtained since the Department of Public Works will start building on the premises soon and any structure erected will lead to a wasteful expenditure as it will be taken down soon.

Contract employees

It was previously reported that all contract posts were extended prior to the lockdown period. The employer reported that currently all contract posts are still valid and extended and that no contract post was terminated during the lockdown period. The employer indicated that it is in the process to advertise posts that are vacant and funded and that the Departmental Recruitment and Selection process will be followed to fill these positions. The advertised posts do not include contract posts that are linked to a specific project.

Restructuring

The employer previously reported that the final structure was sent to the DPSA for concurrence. The employer reported that the DPSA did not approve the structure and made certain recommendations to the Department. These recommendations are currently being discussed with the service provider who developed the macro structure and further engagements with the DPSA will follow.

GENERAL MANAGER