

Closing of buildings owing to COVID-19 positive cases

Members will recall that the Department closed a workstation building for a week until Friday, 23 July 2021 upon reporting of at least 14 COVID-19 cases. The Department closed to allow for disinfection and deep cleaning of the building. Subsequently, Hensa Towers and Central Buildings have been fully disinfected but 28 Market Street had not been fully disinfected owing to unavailability of some office keys. The process is unnecessarily delayed and employees were urged to bring their office keys to allow deep cleaning of the offices prior to reopening of the same. The plan is therefore to deep clean all buildings between Monday and Tuesday where the buildings will be ready for occupation on 28 July 2021.

The PSA commend the Department for prioritising employees' lives and ensuring implementation of safety protocols, including tracking and tracing of contacts and decongestion of the workplace through a rotation system to mitigate the disruption of services.

The PSA wishes infected employees a speedy recovery and strength to those in isolation and awaiting results. Members are urged to constantly wear masks, sanitise or wash hands with soap, observe social distance, limit movements whilst on duty or away from work and avoid social gatherings and congested places. Again, if not feeling well, immediately report to your employer and consult a doctor.

Shop stewards are urged to constantly monitor compliance with COVID-19 regulations, OHS matters and address other workplace challenges. Matters that cannot be resolved must be escalated to the PSA Provincial Office at queen.seema@psa.co.za or (015) 295 0500.

GENERAL MANAGER