

COVID-19 case confirmed at Head Office

Members were alerted that there was a reported case for COVID-19 at Head Office (Work Towers) and the employer advised all employees not to report for duty on Monday, 14 June 2021 to allow for disinfection of affected areas. Employees are expected to report back for duty by Tuesday, 15 June 2021.

The swift action of the employer is commendable as the lives of employees must be protected at all costs. The containment of the virus requires diligent compliance with COVID-19 protocols. The employer further urged employees to comply with all COVID-19 rules to curb infections, including:

- Adherence to COVID-19 screening procedures at entrances of each workstation,
- Continuous wearing of masks at work and away from work
- Continuous hand sanitising or washing of hands with water and soap,
- Observation of 1.5 m social distancing.

Members will recall that the Department was previously hit hard by increased number of positive cases and the PSA constantly called for enhancement of safety measures such as introduction of a rotation system, staggered work approach and provision of sanitisers at strategic places. Sadly, the employer was oblivious of the impact of the pandemic, forcing the PSA to escalate the matter to the MEC. The outcome of such engagement is still awaited.

The PSA calls upon the Department to immediately introduce safety measures, including remote work, a rotation system and provision of soap in toilets and sanitisers at strategic places. Persistence of having 100% of employees at work where the Department is still undergoing construction on the other side of the building is dangerous. It must be noted that a third wave is upon us and is deemed to be more dangerous. The employer must thus reconsider its stance before there is a loss of lives.

Members will be kept updated.

GENERAL MANAGER