

Update: COVID-19 Steering Committee meeting

A Steering Committee meeting was held on 27 May 2021. The PSA reported one death in Ngaka Modiri Molema District office as a result of COVID-19 in the Human Resource section and five members tested positive. Management wanted to keep members in the section even though it needed to be disinfected and sanitised.

The PSA advised members to vacate the section until the employer complies with COVID-19 protocols. The Department responded that policies are in place but some of its managers do not take heed of these. It indicated that re-training of officials and managers is very important and will be implemented.

The HOD of the Department mentioned that recent cases of COVID-19 are very alarming in the Department. The highest number of cases are reported in Ngaka Modiri Molema and Dr KK Districts. All sports activities are suspended in terms of the decision taken by the Minister on Circular No S2 of 2021. It was found that cases are caused by, amongst others, non-symptomatic persons coming into contact with healthy persons, unaware and not observing protocols, clustered transportation in some schools and delayed reporting of cases by some schools. Additional funding has been sought from the Treasury for PPE to cater for this term as cases are increasing.

A template has been provided to districts for completion and provision of toilets and furniture. Delivering of school furniture is ongoing and procurement plans are in place to ensure that all learners have chairs and tables in schools. Contracts of cleaners are coming to an end in June 2021 and the Department will be providing a full report in the forth-coming meeting with regard to their future. The Department will have no option but to renew their contracts because schools must be kept clean at all times.

GENERAL MANAGER