

FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS

22-12-2020

Update: COVID-19 Steerco Meeting

A national steerco meeting was held on 17 December 2020 and the following agenda item were discussed:

100% Return to Work at SCRA (Refugee Appeal Board)

It came to the attention of the PSA that the SCRA management issued an instruction that 100% staff must return to work under alert level 1. The PSA raised an objection to that instruction because the management failed to provide a risk assessment plan before the entire staff members could return to work at once. The PSA maintained that it was irresponsible of the management to make such decision without putting appropriate safety measures in place, especially during the second wave of covid-19 pandemic.

The PSA demanded that the instruction be suspended until the matter is discussed with the Compliance Officer on 21 December 2020. The SCRA manager agreed to suspend the instruction.

COVID-19 Training

It was reported at the meeting that the service provider contracted to render the training on COVID-19 was performing outside their mandate. They were expected to training employees about COVID-19 safety measures, instead they added modules which included lifestyle training. They offered 19 modules, of which only 3 were relevant to the COVID-19 training.

The PSA requested that the training be suspended, and a meeting be convened with the service provider to address the above-mentioned problems. The PSA further requested that the certificates issued to employees in the Free State and North West be withdrawn. The employer agreed to the request.

The PSA wants to take this opportunity to wish all employees who are affected or infected by COVID-19 a safe and speedy recovery.

GENERAL MANAGER