

Feedback: Provincial OHS/COVID-19 meeting

The following issues were discussed during a virtual meeting on 4 February 2021:

OHS requirements

The employer reported that most repairs at the office in Phalaborwa were attended to, but there are some outstanding (water leakage and cracks still need to be repaired). The PSA cautioned the employer that the matter of Phalaborwa is long overdue and that the time frame allocated by the Labour inspector already expired. The employer acknowledged the delay, and outstanding work is attended to. There is progress in Modimolle as office furniture has been delivered to the new building and outstanding issues such as installation of data lines, network points, concrete slab for the generator and safety glass for windows will be finalised by 15 February 2021. The PSA was satisfied with the progress and the fact that members will soon move into a safe building.

COVID-19 management

Districts reported that they still have PPE and those that are running out placed orders. Procurement of an additional thermometer scanner, gloves and masks is still in process. The PSA reminded districts not to wait until PPE is finished and place orders before running out. It was also reported delivery of some 2 500 hazmat suites procured by head office for employees placed at hospitals is awaited. The PSA requested statistics of employees to be allocated to hospitals. Offices visited for compliance were only Lebowakgomo and Polokwane and all was found to be in order.

Employees infected with COVID-19

The number of infected employees is currently 72, with 7 active cases, 3 deaths and 62 recoveries. The only office closed because of COVID-19 was Polokwane on 1 February 2021. Members are reminded of the counselling services available 24/7 as contracted by the employer.

Steering Committee meeting

Districts held COVID-19 meetings, except for Vhembe. Members are advised to engage shop stewards should they encounter problems with compliance.

Members will be informed of developments.

GENERAL MANAGER