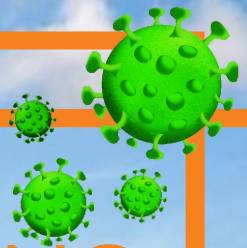




Transport, Safety and Liaison  
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE



# ITLHOKOMELENG TSELENG

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To: All Staff

Dumelang, Molweni, Goeie dag, Good day!!

Welcome to our first bi-monthly newsletter for 2020, in the midst of this invisible enemy which is the COVID-19 pandemic.

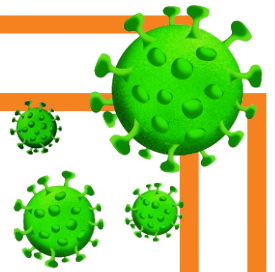
The global COVID -19 outbreak has directly and indirectly affected the lives of communities around the world. The majority of our staff have been at home, until otherwise indicated and in accordance with the national directives for further easing of lockdown restrictions. Only a small number of staff who are performing critical and essential services have been working.

The President of the Republic of South-Africa, Cyril Ramaphosa announced that on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2020, the country will move to enhanced level 3 and the return of staff will be on a staggered approach in order to contain the spread of COVID -19.

The department wants to ensure the safety, health and well- being of employees is prioritised, therefore the department will follow the DPSA guidelines on the return-to-work and these provisions are for employees who are 60 years old, employees with co-morbidities and assessments of any vulnerable employees and this should also include arrangements for remote working, employees at the workplace, gatherings/meetings and travelling.

Acknowledgement should also go to our MEC, Mrs. Nontobeko Vilakazi and HOD, Mr Moeketsi Dichaba who are ensuring the department supports the Premier, Dr. Zamani Saul and the Provincial Command Council in ensuring the Northern Cape COVID- 19 curve flattens and all protocols are observed.

While we trying to fix this ship of COVID-19 while sailing, ENJOY THE READ!





## Department of Transport, Safety & Liaison return to work: COVID-19 status quo

Although we were not prepared for a global outbreak of this magnitude, it came as a true test of our strength and adaptability to endure the changing environment around us.

The head of department, established the COVID-19 steering committee in March 2020 which is led by Mr Hastings Nel, the role of the committee was to ensure that the safety measures are put in place to minimise the chances of staff contracting the virus and to ensure the necessary personal protection equipment are procured for employees in provincial and all district offices.



The department procured and supplied sanitizers, face masks, thermometers to the provincial office and all district offices and deep cleaning and decontaminating of all offices, traffic stations and departmental vehicles. The committee also had to ensure the readiness of the department before employees can resume work.

The department will operate with the stringent controls and employees and the public entering the building will only be permitted if they comply with these measures. **Employees and public will be screened on a daily basis, and wearing of face mask for employees and the public is mandatory.**

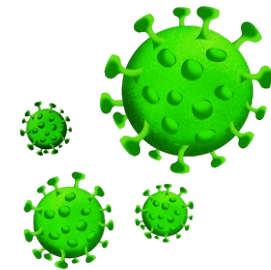
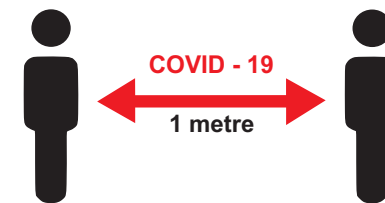


Measures have also been put in place that focusses on the principle of social and physical distancing and protocols for environmental hygiene.

In the fight against this horrid pandemic, the Premier of the Northern Cape Province, Dr Zamani Saul and MEC, Ms Nontobeko Vilakazi, donated sanitizers, face masks, gloves and disinfectants to the taxi industry in the province, and they also led and monitored the process of decontaminating taxis and taxi ranks in Kimberley.

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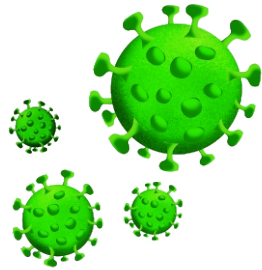
The Head of Department, Mr Moeketsi Dichaba urges all employees to continue to adhere to all precautionary measures as per the DPSA guidelines on COVID-19, that amongst a few includes, **maintaining social and physical distancing, washing your hands regularly with soap and water or sanitize your hands and to always wear a face mask in public spaces.**



## GENDER BASED VIOLENCE A BIG NO



Our homes ought to serve as a safe environment during the national lockdown as a result of the COVID – 19 outbreak, however for victims of gender- based violence that was not the case.



In an effort to serve the people of the Northern Cape Province, Member of the Executive Council (MEC) for Transport, Safety and Liaison, Ms. Nontobeko Vilakazi addressed issues of Gender-Based Violence in the province by visiting an elderly woman in Noupoot who was allegedly raped by someone known to her. The MEC commended the police in Noupoot for their prompt response once the case was opened against the alleged perpetrator. She implored the South African Police Service(SAPS) in the province to leave no stone unturned in their investigation and should ensure that the perpetrator faces the full might of the law.

In the fight against this scourge of gender based violence, MEC Vilakazi handed over alarms to survivors of gender based violence in the province.



She reiterated in her message that one case of gender-based violence is one case too many and urged society to fight all forms of violence against women.



## Traffic Officers making a difference during the COVID-19 outbreak

The exceptional circumstances we find ourselves in as a result of the global COVID – 19 outbreak and under the national lockdown that came into effect towards the end of March 2020.



The Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison as the overseer of traffic law enforcement in the province, mandated the provincial traffic law enforcement officers to work with other law enforcement agencies in securing our provincial boundaries as per Covid-19 regulations on the movement of goods and people between provinces.

As a province, we had a total of 198 traffic officers on duty during this difficult period in our country.

The commitment and dedication of our provincial traffic officers cannot be overemphasized, as a department we will always be grateful for their contribution, as they also ensure law and order on our roads.



The Member of the Executive Council responsible for Transport, Safety and liaison, Ms. Nontobeko Vilakazi on her official visits throughout the province, acknowledged the work done by provincial traffic officers.

The MEC also made time to meet with the traffic officers in Calvinia in order to listen to their issues and concerns.

