

NEWS FLASH

***THIS NEWS FLASH IS AN INTERNAL COMMUNIQUÉ INTENDED FOR THE DHET EMPLOYEES ONLY. MANAGERS ARE REQUESTED TO ENSURE THIS MESSAGE IS COMMUNICATED TO ALL EMPLOYEES.**

Update on the DHET Lockdown Phasing Down Plan and Return-to-Work Communiqué 16 - COVID-19, 1 July 2020

Dear colleagues

We are deeply saddened to announce the DHET family is dealing with an additional two cases of coronavirus. One of our colleagues who has been working at INDLELA has been affected. The colleague was last at work on Monday, 22 June 2020, and received a positive test result earlier today. Staff at INDLELA have been requested to immediately leave.

A fourth positive case has been reported from a colleague who works at Head Office.

We wish a speedy recovery to all four colleagues. In the interests of transparency, please note that following our second case at Head office, a colleague who was a contact of the official went for a coronavirus test. The contact tested negative yesterday.

A process of decontamination and disinfection has already begun at INDLELA. Colleagues will be informed later this week of when INDLELA will reopen. You will be aware that a similar process is underway at Head Office.

All officials of the DHET family are reminded of the following:

- If you happen to get a positive COVID-19 result, please let the Department know. There is a dedicated and confidential e-mail address that is accessed only by the Deputy Director-General: Corporate Services, Ms Lulama Mbobo, who is also the Chairperson of the Steering Committee: COVID-19@dhet.gov.za. The Department is obliged to report cases of infection to the Departments Health, and Public Service and Administration. In addition, you're encouraged to report cases so you're able to access any support you might need.

- If you have been to Head Office anytime last week (22-26 June 2020) as well as 30 June 2020, you are encouraged to self-isolate for 14 days.
- If you present with any symptoms, please consult a doctor for a diagnosis, or a referral for testing, should you require it.
- We encourage you to continue your working-from-home arrangements, where possible, in consultation with your line managers.
- Please wear your mask, encourage physical distancing, and take every possible precaution whenever you leave home.

Sincerely

Ms LC Mbobo

Chairperson of the DHET COVID-19 Steering Committee

Mr AV Monyela

Co-Chairperson of the DHET COVID-19 Steering Committee

