

Province of the  
**Northern Cape**  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



NORTHERN CAPE

# PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT WEEKLY

FRIDAY, 09 OCTOBER 2020

## FOREWORD | PREMIER DR. ZAMANI SAUL |

One of the most devastating effects of the **COVID-19** pandemic both globally and locally is that of job losses on a magnitude never witnessed in living memory. The South African economy has shed 2,2 million jobs, according to a report released by Statistics South Africa.

As the Northern Cape we have been hit the hardest, having recorded the largest increase by 5,1%. In order to mitigate the negative effects the pandemic has had on our employment figures, we are as the Provincial Government finalising the Economic Recovery Plan that is aimed at placing the economy of the Province, on a growth trajectory.

The creation of Jobs and providing assistance to our **SMME's** are at the centre of this plan. The end of September brought to a close, Tourism month, and we used it to remind the Country that the Northern Cape is #travelready, marketing the Province as a preferred holiday and tourist destination.

The Tourism sector contributes 2.8% of the total Gross Domestic Product of the country, and it has been the sector that has suffered the most due to the **COVID-19** pandemic.

We have entered Transport Month, and will as a Province this month be convening the Provincial Leg of the Taxi Lekgotla. The aim of the Lekgotla will be to get all stakeholders and role-players together and ensure that we promote, foster and maintain the highest transport and safety standards that are practically possible. Moreover, Transport month will be used to promote peace and labour harmony in the taxi sector.

The Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison have released the documents for the Northern Cape Taxi Lekgotla. These documents can be accessed on the Northern Cape Provincial Government Website, and on the Northern Cape Provincial Government Social Media platforms. The Lekgotla, is scheduled to take place on the 14 October 2020.

Until the next edition, I trust that we will collectively continue to adhere to the health protocols as set by the World Health Organisation, in relation to **COVID-19**.

Washing our hands with soap and water for 20 seconds, or alternatively using hand sanitizer, maintaining social distance and wearing of masks, is a prerequisite to avoid another surge of this invisible and merciless virus.



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## MUNICIPALITY FOCUS

### SOL-PLAATJE MUNICIPALITY SUCCESSFULLY ERADICATES THE LACK OF ELECTRICITY IN HOMEVALE

The Sol-Plaatje Municipality in partnership with the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy, this week successfully managed to eradicate the lack of electricity in that community, which has been without electricity since residents moved to the area.

Quality and consistent supply of electricity is acknowledged as an enabler of economic activity. The area has been supplied with quality electricity and is capable of creating growth and development of the area.

To ensure safety and security within the community, the municipality has installed energy saving street lights and residents are encouraged to work together with the municipality, by preserving and conserving the power supply and the infrastructure and whilst reporting all criminal activities that may occur.

### SOL-PLAATJE LAUNCHES ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT IN LERATO PARK, KIMBERLEY.

The community in Lerato Park, have since their beginning of their stay in Lerato Park been without Electricity. The vast area consisting of a number of households, will soon be electrified.

The Municipality has received funds from the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy to electrify the Lerato Park Community. The Construction resumed on 04 October 2020 and will last until June 2021. Through this project, the municipality has created 20 jobs, with an additional 10 envisaged to be created at a later stage.

The installation of the street lights will assist in our fight against curbing many social ills within the community and we therefore encourage the community to work together with the Municipality to ensure that the Project is finalised within the stipulated period for completion of the project. Each household will also receive light bulbs.



**OCTOBER TRANSPORT MONTH EVENTS CALENDAR 2020**





## MEC LAUNCHES RABIES VACCINATION AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN



### HEAD OFFICE

5 - 7 Elliot Street, Kimberley 8300  
Telephone: 053 839 7870  
**STATE VETERINARY OFFICES**  
Calvinia State Veterinary Office  
Akkerdam Weg, Calvinia, 8190  
Telephone: 027 341 1045  
Telephone 2: 087 630 0346



### De Aar State Veterinary Office

Corner Jenny & Rossouw 48 Street,  
De Aar, 7000  
Telephone: 053 631 2592  
Telephone 2: 087 630 0356  
Kimberley State Veterinary Office  
Old Mint Building, De Beers, Kimberley, 8300  
Telephone: 087 630 0351



### Kuruman State Veterinary Office

Tsening Road (Next to Labour Department)  
Kuruman 8460  
  
Telephone: 053 712 1030  
Telephone 2: 087 630 0354

The MEC For Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Land Reform and Rural Development, Ms Mase Manopole, this week launched the Rabies Vaccination Campaign that aims at vaccinating 10 000 dogs throughout the Province.

For more information, visit or call the numbers listed, state veterinary offices across the Province



### Mothibistad State Veterinary Office

6236 Kgosi Mothibi Road  
Mothibistad, 8474

Telephone: 053 773 1981  
Telephone 2: 087 630 0302



### Springbok State Veterinary Office

49 Van Riebeeck Street, Springbok, 8240  
Telephone: 027 712 1311  
Telephone 2: 087 630 0329  
Upington State Veterinary Office  
Karakoel Research Farm, Airport Road  
Upington, 8800  
Telephone: 054 332 1531  
Telephone 2: 087 630 0304



### VETERINARY LABORATORY SERVICES

Kimberley Veterinary Laboratory  
Corner Hall & Lanyon Street  
Kimberley, 8300

Telephone: 053 832 4346  
Telephone 2: 087 630 0349



# COVID-19 RECOVERY

## FIRDOWS LOONAT

1) Please tell us a brief bio about yourself, including your full name and surname, your age, where you come from or live and your occupation.

My name is Firdows Loonat and I am from Cape Town (but married and living in Kimberley). Age dropping... this lady never tells ;-)  
My occupation is Production Pharmacist, currently based and working at the Provincial Pharmaceutical Services Unit for the Northern Cape Department of Health in Kimberley.

2) What were your worst symptoms and how did you treat them? Do you think you contracted the coronavirus due to your exposure at work?

The most testing symptoms were fatigue and shortness of breath. To get through these symptoms I had to rest, eat healthy, medicate and do breathing exercises.

Daily, being still and praying gave me a great deal of comfort and calm. In terms of diet, I tried eating healthy and drank tea (with a mixture of honey, cinnamon, ginger and lemon juice added to it). Medication included vitamin supplements of C, D and Zinc tablets as well as use of the Salbutamol Inhaler (when necessary) and eventually the Salmeterol/Fluticasone Inhaler daily (post-COVID).

I did not contract the coronavirus through exposure at work – it was acquired in the community.

3) You were a pharmacist before the coronavirus pandemic hit South Africa. When **COVID-19** hit our shores, did being a pharmacist and therefore a frontline worker make you nervous or affect your psychology to the point that it affected how you execute your daily duties?

Yes, when the coronavirus hit South Africa it made me nervous. Facing the unknown brings with it elements of fear and concern, but also the perseverance to survive.

While my job does not involve direct contact with patients, daily duties were still affected in-office.

Apart from becoming highly cautious, a person steps into somewhat of a robotic nature that demanded maintenance of a safe social distance, wearing of the necessary protective clothing and sanitising even in this setting.

4) Did you change any practices in your household because you're a frontline worker?

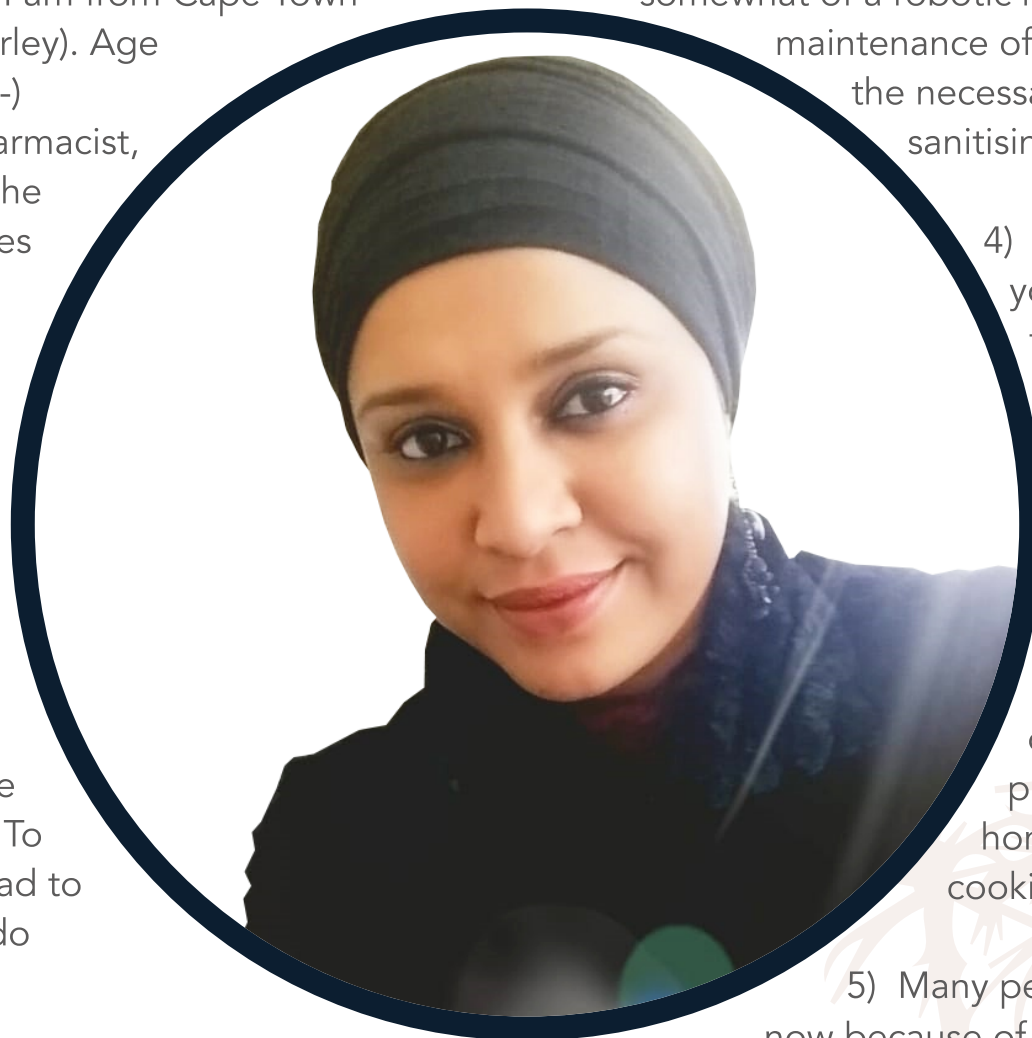
**COVID-19** is a like a chain interlinking many people, which means any/all interaction made outside the household could at some point lead back to its members. So household practices did change – from a simple practice of sanitising on arrival at home to methods of cleaning and cooking and so on.

5) Many people feel that **COVID-19** is over now because of the country moving down to lockdown level 1, as a healthcare worker, what is your advice to the public on how to go about still being cautious about the coronavirus under the new lockdown level 1?

While the country has moved to lockdown level 1, it does not mean that **COVID-19** has 'moved to a lower' degree. This, therefore, means that the level of precaution that we practice should still be maintained.

History has revealed that in the face of adversity, the fight and perseverance of the human race pressed on to victory. In order to break the pandemic chain that we find ourselves either linked to or tip-toeing around, we must as far as possible continue the practices of safe social distancing, wearing a mask and sanitising. And God-willing, in time, we will thrive again!

Don't underestimate **COVID-19**. Keep Healthy. Keep Positive. Keep Safe.



## TRANSPORT MONTH

The month of October is transport month as declared by government in 2005. This year we will celebrate October Transport Month (OTM) under the theme “together shaping the future of transport”. Under this theme we aim to raise awareness of the important role of public transport in the economy.

The Department of Transport safety and Liaison in the Northern Cape under the stewardship of MEC Nomandla Bloem will highlight the importance of public transport in the province. As a province we will host a provincial taxi lekgotla on 14 October 2020.

The aim of the lekgotla is to shape the future of public transport together with all stakeholders in the province. Empowerment and unity of the taxi industry is paramount for government.

Leading up the lekgotla we hosted round table discussion with role players, district lekgotla in all five districts of the province and a intensive community radio and social media campaign to solicit input from every single commuters in the province.

We must formalize the mini bus taxi industry to ensure that they also benefit from government subsidies like other transport sectors.

Inequality remains part of the challenges facing government. In the education sector we provide Shova Kalula Bicycles to deserving learner.

These bicycles ensure that learners that stays more than 3km away from schools arrive at school on time and ready to fully participate.



### GBV CONTACT DETAILS

Know and share these contact details:

**GBV Command Centre:**  
0800 428 428 / \*120\*7867# from any cell phone  
Persons with disabilities, SMS 'help' to 31531  
**Women Abuse Helpline:**  
0800 150 150  
**Child Line:**  
0800 055 555  
**SAPS Crime Stop:**  
0860 10111  
**GBVF-Related Service Complaints (SAPS):**  
0800 333 177/complaintsnodalpoint@saps.gov.za  
**National AIDS Helpline:**  
0800 012 322  
**National Human Trafficking Helpline:**  
0800 222 777  
**Suicide Helpline:**  
0800 567 567  
**National Department of Health:**  
<https://www.health.gov.za>  
**National Institute of Communicable Diseases:**  
<https://www.nicd.ac.za>  
**World Health Organisation:**  
<https://www.who.int>