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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 259**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 19 FEBRUARY 2021**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NUMBER: 2 - 2021**

**259. Ms L H Arries (EFF) to ask the Minister of Social Development:**

(a) What are the reasons for the lack of SA Social Security Agency (SASSA) offices in Knysna in the Western Cape and (b) by what date does she intend to open SASSA offices in Knysna? NW262E

**REPLY:**

SASSA does not have a fixed office in Knysna. However, before the national lockdown a SASSA mobile service team served the following 7 communities in the Knysna area 4 days in the week:

Karatara,Sedgefield,Rheenendal,Hornlee,Dan se bos, Khayeletu, and White Location.

Services to these 7 communities were suspended since the inception of the national lockdown due to the halls not complying with occupational health and safety (OHS) requirements.

SASSA is liaising with the Knysna Municipality with the intention to reopen the above service points and to ensure they comply with OHS and COVID-19 requirements.

Mobile services for Hornlee and Sedgefield commenced on 1 March 2021. The SASSA George Local Office will continue with efforts to ensure that the halls in the 5 remaining communities are OHS compliant to enable SASSA mobile services to these communities to commence as soon as possible.