

EPWP minimum wage up to R88 a day

THE minimum wage for all Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants, with effect from November 1, will increase from R83.59 to R88 a day – or task.

This was announced by Public Works Department deputy director-general for the EPWP Stanley Henderson.

The wage increase is in line with the current inflation rate.

“As the EPWP continues to play a significant role in uplifting the lives of participants and communities through the creation of work opportunities and providing much-needed services under the EPWP sectors, such as infrastructure, non-state, environment and culture sector, as well as the social sectors, its impact is noticeable through the assets created and skills provided to our communities and participants,” Henderson said.

“The wage increase will significantly



WAGES: The EPWP increase is in line with the inflation rate. PICTURE: VIRTUALCONSULTING

boost the socio-economic conditions of EPWP participants and I urge all the implementing bodies of the EPWP to timeously adhere to the implementation of an approved prescribed minimum wage increase as of November

1, 2017.”

The implementation of the adjusted minimum wage is applicable to all participants of the EPWP across all sectors. However, many public bodies implementing the EPWP projects pay

wages that are much higher than the prescribed minimum wage, which is a significant move towards achieving better socio-economic status of participants and communities.

The EPWP is a government initiative aimed at reducing poverty and unemployment through the provision of training and short-term to medium-term labour intensive work opportunities to poor and unemployed South Africans.

The EPWP participants work in different projects like Early Childhood Development Centres, home community-based care, extra school support programmes, Working on Fire, Working for Water and roads maintenance projects.

Through various skills and training that participants receive from the EPWP, the participants stand a better chance to enter a formal job market or become entrepreneurs.