

## **UIF team to visit NC employers**

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UIF team to visit NC employers EMPLOYERS in the Northern Cape can expect a visit from the Unemployment Insurance Fund UIF this week. The Department of Labour said that a UIF team would conduct a door to door campaign, targeting the areas of Olifantshoek, Postmasburg, Lime Acres and Danielskuil, this week to assess the level of compliance with the Unemployment Insurance Act UIA and the Unemployment Insurance Contribution Act UICA . The campaign is also meant to promote online declarations through uFiling, for which the team will assist employers on all aspects of registration and compliance as well as to resolve UIF enquiries. "These door to door campaigns are essential in ensuring that the Department of Labour keeps in touch with the employers and employees and assesses the quality of services it renders, whilst it promotes compliance with the Unemployment Insurance Act," said Zolile Albanie, chief director: provincial operations. Meanwhile, the Department of Labour said that penalties are now in place to deal with employers who contravene the National Minimum Wage NMW Act and employers who fail to comply with the act will be named and shamed as the department will publish their names on its website. The department said that other penalties include compelling non compliant employers to pay the worker twice the amount that is owed for non payment. "There will be no hiding as the department is also undertaking a national blitz to assess levels of the NMW Act. About 1 392 inspectors will criss cross the country to monitor compliance. "Pi special focus of the inspection will be on the whole sale and retail sectors as they have been identified as some of the problematic sectors." "Shaming such employers will ensure that they are recognised as people intent on defying the state. This will go on to ensure that they will not be able to do business with government," the department's chief for statutory services, Fikiswa Mncanca, said. The purpose of the NMW is to advance economic development and social justice by improving the wages of the lowest paid workers, protecting workers from unreasonably low wages, preserving the value of the NMW, promoting collective bargaining and supporting economic policy The act, which came into effect on January 1 this year, stipulates that R20 is the minimum rate workers should earn per hour. For farm and forestry workers it is R18 per hour, for domestic workers it is R15 per hour and for Expanded Public Works Programme EPWP it is R11 per hour. These fees will be reviewed annually by the National Minimum Wage Commission.

