



public works

Department:  
Public Works  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Issued by Chief Directorate: Communications

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Issue Date: 16 June 2016

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **PUBLIC WORKS WARNS OF LEARNERSHIP PROGRAMME RECRUITMENT SCAM ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

The National Department of Public Works warns employment-seeking graduates and learners from Grade 10 to 12 about a scam promising 700 learnerships at the department.

The fraudulent scheme promises to place the learners in a number of fields including brick-laying, plumbing, carpentry, boiler-making, and tiling. The DPW continues to train hundreds of youth in these fields through its Expanded Public Works Programme, but the recruitment on the internet through social networks, SMS, and Whatsapp is the work of fraudsters.

The fraudulent recruitment has a link that takes the learnership programme seekers to a so-called *Jobs Department* website with a big headline that reads "*Public Works Learnership programmes*". When one clicks on the application for job, one is linked to a Facebook sign-up page that requests the job seekers to provide personal information such as name and surname, date of birth, and phone or email address.

The contact people on the fake recruitment page are listed as Ester Sehlapelo and Linda Kaseke, both of whom do NOT work for the National Department of Public Works. The phone numbers listed on the page do not belong to the Department.

The Department of Public Works is an equal opportunity employer and does not advertise jobs and learnership programmes on the internet and social media. This approach may exclude a large number of South Africans who do not have access to social media.

We request that everyone interested in applying for jobs or learnerships at the Department to verify the legitimacy of the posts before divulging personal information. This precautionary step will prevent one from being a victim of fraud or compromising one's security in the future.

We advise the prospective applicants to go to the nearest offices of the Department of Public Works to verify the authenticity of jobs or learnership programmes with the

Human Resources unit or the Human Capital Investment unit. Alternatively, one must log on to the official DPW website on [www.publicworks.gov.za](http://www.publicworks.gov.za).

The National Department of Public Works has 11 regional offices in Pretoria, Johannesburg, Cape Town, Kimberley, Durban, Mthatha, Port Elizabeth, Bloemfontein, Polokwane, Mahikeng and Nelspruit. The head office is situated at the corner of Bosman and Madiba Streets in Pretoria.

**ENDS**

Issued by:

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