

Educational visits begin in NSW to help employers understand Fair Work laws

4 February 2010

The first of 10,000 educational visits to small businesses in NSW this year are about to commence.

Fair Work inspectors will be visiting employers in Darlinghurst, Paddington and Cooks Hill, near Newcastle.

The Fair Work Ombudsman announced last month that it would send inspectors into the field for face-to-face visits with up to 50,000 small businesses nationwide over the next three years.

Up to 10,000 will be conducted in NSW this year, with further visits planned in 2011 and 2012.

Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson says his Agency is standing shoulder-to-shoulder with small business to assist it to better understand, comply with and maximise the benefits of Australia's new Fair Work legislation.

The visits are targeted at private sector employers entering the national workplace relations system for the first time.

Fair Work inspectors calling on employers will provide a pack of information covering new Modern Awards, the National Employment Standards, Fair Work Information Statement and other useful materials, as well as answer any questions.

Mr Wilson stressed that the visits would be non-confrontational and educational. "We are very serious about our job of building knowledge," he said.

The Fair Work Infoline fielded and responded to tens of thousands of calls from small businesses last month and about 50,000 copies of Best Practice Guides have now been downloaded from the www.fairwork.gov.au website.

Employers or employees seeking advice or assistance can contact specialist advisers on the Infoline – 13 13 94 – from 8am to 6pm weekdays.

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Contact us

Fair Work Online: www.fairwork.gov.au

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

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Contact the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50

Hearing & speech assistance

Call through the National Relay Service (NRS):

For TTY: 13 36 77. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

Speak & Listen: 1300 555 727. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94