

\$17,600 back-pay for Warwick workers

8 August 2012

Three workers at Warwick in Queensland's Southern Downs region have shared a total of \$17,600 back-pay following intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The manual labourers – who all worked at the same business – lodged complaints with the Fair Work Ombudsman after they were underpaid the minimum hourly rate and penalty rates over an 18-month period in 2010-11.

After a Fair Work inspector contacted the business and explained its obligations, the workers were reimbursed all the money owed without the need for further action against the employer.

The biggest individual underpayment was \$7400.

“When we find mistakes, we’re here to assist and give practical advice to employers on how to voluntarily fix them,” says Acting Fair Work Ombudsman Mark Scully.

Mr Scully says that the Fair Work Ombudsman’s Assisted Voluntary Resolution team is now achieving resolution of about half its referrals within the first month.

“This Warwick business has corrected the errors that led to the underpayments and put processes in place to ensure they will not happen again,” he said.

Workers or employers seeking support should get in touch with the Fair Work Ombudsman via the website - www.fairwork.gov.au - or call the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94.

The website has a number of tools and resources, including PayCheck Plus and an Award Finder, to assist business-owners to calculate the correct pay for their employees.

PayCheck Plus calculates minimum rates of pay per hour, per shift or per week and takes account of payments for overtime, penalty rates and allowances.

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Contact us

Fair Work Online: www.fairwork.gov.au

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

Need language help?

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

