

Almost \$60k recovered for Goldfields workers

8 May 2012

The Fair Work Ombudsman has recently recovered almost \$60,000 for dozens of workers in Victoria's Goldfields region.

The largest recovery was \$24,700 for 68 hospitality workers at Ballarat.

The Fair Work Ombudsman randomly audited the business and found the workers had been underpaid the minimum hourly rate for almost three years between October, 2008 and June, 2011.

The underpayments ranged from \$11 to \$1524.

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

Other recent recoveries include:

- \$11,700 for a care worker south of Ballarat underpaid the minimum hourly rate and annual leave entitlements,
- \$7400 for a retail worker at Maryborough underpaid penalty rates, overtime allowances and annual leave entitlements,
- \$5800 for a labourer at Ballarat underpaid the minimum hourly rate,
- \$5200 for a food and beverage attendant at Daylesford underpaid the minimum hourly rate, and
- \$5000 for a North Ballarat receptionist underpaid termination entitlements.

Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson says that when Fair Work inspectors identify a problem and contact a business, most employers check their records, realise a problem has occurred and fix it immediately.

The Fair Work Ombudsman provides a single point of contact for people working or running a business in Australia to get accurate and timely information about their workplace rights and obligations.

Employers or employees seeking information and advice should visit www.fairwork.gov.au.

The website has a number of tools and resources, including PayCheckPlus 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.

Resources also include payslip and record-keeping templates, a self-audit checklist, template letters and fact sheets on dozens of topics including leave, industrial action, public holidays, enterprise bargaining, gender pay equality and family-friendly workplaces.

Follow the Fair Work Ombudsman on [Twitter @fairwork_gov_au](https://twitter.com/fairwork_gov_au)  (http://twitter.com/fairwork_gov_au) or find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/fairwork.gov.au)  (<http://www.facebook.com/fairwork.gov.au>).

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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

The Fair Work Ombudsman is committed to providing advice that you can rely on. The information contained on this website is general in nature. If you are unsure about how it applies to your situation you can call our Infoline on 13 13 94 or speak with a union, industry association or workplace relations professional. Visitors are warned that this site may inadvertently contain names or pictures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have recently died.