

Fair Work Ombudsman focuses on Central Coast shopping centres

11 September 2013

Inspectors from the Fair Work Ombudsman will visit two shopping centres on the NSW Central Coast next week to educate employers about workplace laws, ahead of an auditing campaign next month.

Fair Work Inspectors will visit about 30 independently owned and operated retail and fast food outlets at Bateau Bay Square and the Lake Haven Shopping Centre next week.

Inspectors will be discussing with employers steps they can take to ensure they are paying employees minimum pay rates of pay and provide fact sheets and templates for time-and-wages records.

Inspectors will return to the shopping centres late next month to audit the books of about 20 businesses, selected at random.

Inspectors will check employers are paying employees their full lawful entitlements, including minimum hourly rates and penalty rates, and complying with record-keeping and pay slip laws.

Senior Fair Work Inspector, Evan Brownell, said next week's educational visits provide employers with an opportunity to ensure they fully understand their responsibilities under workplace laws.

"We want to make sure employers have all the information they need to comply with minimum pay rates, conditions and their record-keeping obligations," Mr Brownell said.

Mr Brownell said the Central Coast region was being focused on because it had been the source of a steady stream of complaints in recent years, with many coming from employees in the retail and fast food industries.

"We hope the educational visits and audits will increase employers' awareness of their obligations and help to prevent some of the issues that lead to complaints," he said.

The focus of next week's visits will be educating employers about the tools available at www.fairwork.gov.au to help them comply with workplace laws. Tools include PayCheck Plus and an Award Finder to help business owners determine the correct award and minimum pay rates for employees.

Other resources include templates for time-and-wages records, best practice guides covering different aspects of employment and fact sheets on leave and other entitlements.

Employers and workers seeking further advice can get in touch with the Fair Work Ombudsman by calling the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94. For an interpreter service, call 13 14 50.

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 (<http://www.facebook.com/fairwork.gov.au>).

Media inquiries:

Tom McPherson, Media & Stakeholder Relations
0439 835 855
media@fwo.gov.au

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.