

MEDIA STATEMENT

EMBARGO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 10 OCTOBER 2024

SUBJECT: ALERT AGAINST PAYMENT FOR EMPLOYMENT SCAM

ENQUIRIES: NDABEZINHLE SIBIYA

THERE IS NO FEE THAT WILL GUARANTEE EMPLOYMENT

As soon as you're asked to pay anything towards recruitment and related employment services know that this is likely to be a scam.

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Human Settlements has noted with concern recent scams promising the unemployed jobs.

"Government will use every legal avenue available to ensure that criminals, who swindle unsuspecting and desperate people, are brought to book. We have adopted a zero-tolerance approach to housing scams". This is the stern warning issued to fraudsters by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements in KwaZulu-Natal, Mr Siboniso Duma.

This warning comes in the wake of complaints from members of the public in the Jozini District Municipality who paid "facilitation fees" in order to get "preference for employment" in the KZN Department of Human Settlements.

Complainants were advised to open individual fraud cases against the perpetrator, whose identity is known to the Department. The Department is also conducting its own investigation.

The Department of Employment and Labour has also earlier warned that "South Africa is in the grip of an unprecedented unemployment sitting at 31,9 percent and this has presented a fertile ground for scammers to dupe the public with promises of job offers in return for a fee".



Members of the public must note that no person may charge a fee to any work seeker for providing employment services to that work seeker – this is according to the Employment Services (ES) Act. Work seekers are advised not to deposit any fees and share their contact and personal information - thus compromising their security.

Advertisements calling for applications for employment are published in newspapers and on the KZN Department of Human Settlement's Department's website: www.kzndhs.gov.za. No fees are charged for applications and the Department distances itself from anyone who charges "facilitation fees".

People who are requested to pay fees towards employment must report the matter to the Department, Anti-Corruption Hotline or to their nearest police station

Anti-Corruption Hotline: 0800 701 701

Anti-Fraud e-mail: fraudhotline@kzndhs.gov.za

For more information, please contact Ndabezinhle Sibiya (Spokesperson: MEC for Transport & Human Settlements) on 082 375 4742.

ENDS