

Wakiso moves to stop staff absenteeism

Justification: Some staff reportedly work for four days a week while others leave office before official closing time.

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WAKISO. Wakiso District authorities are in the final stages of adopting an electronic system to track attendance and reporting of staff to their various workstations.

According to the district chief administrative officer, Mr Luke Lokuda, some staff report for work less than four times a week while others leave work before the official closing time, something that has greatly affected service delivery in many departments.

Mr Lokuda says their investigations had revealed that many medical workers in health centres in remote areas such as Busukuma and Namayumba spend most of their time at their private clinics in towns than in

the public health facilities while teachers spent more time moonlighting in private schools yet they draw government salaries every month.

“Many people are complaining of lack of medical workers and teachers in both our rural health centres and schools, but the problem is the staff themselves who don’t value their work,” he said during an interview with *Daily Monitor* yesterday.

“We hope that the electronic attendance system will help us keep track of attendance without any complexity,” he added.

He said the electronic at-

tendance devices will first be installed at entrances of offices at the district headquarters before they are rolled out to schools and health centres.

However, Mr Lokuda declined to reveal how much money the district will inject in the project.

“We are in the final stages of discussing our budget for the next financial year and there is some allocation for that (electronic attendance system), which I cannot tell you now,” he added.

Mr Lokuda said health workers, teachers and other district staff will then be paid depending on the days they shall have worked.

“Like our staff who receive Shs300,000 per month, it means everyday he/she works for Shs10,000 and if we deduct some money, one who absconds from duty for 10 days will receive only Shs200,000. We hope this will address this vice of absenteeism among civil servants,” he added.

RECENT CASE

Recently, 19 civil servants in the district appeared before the district sanctions and rewards committee over absenteeism and were cautioned.