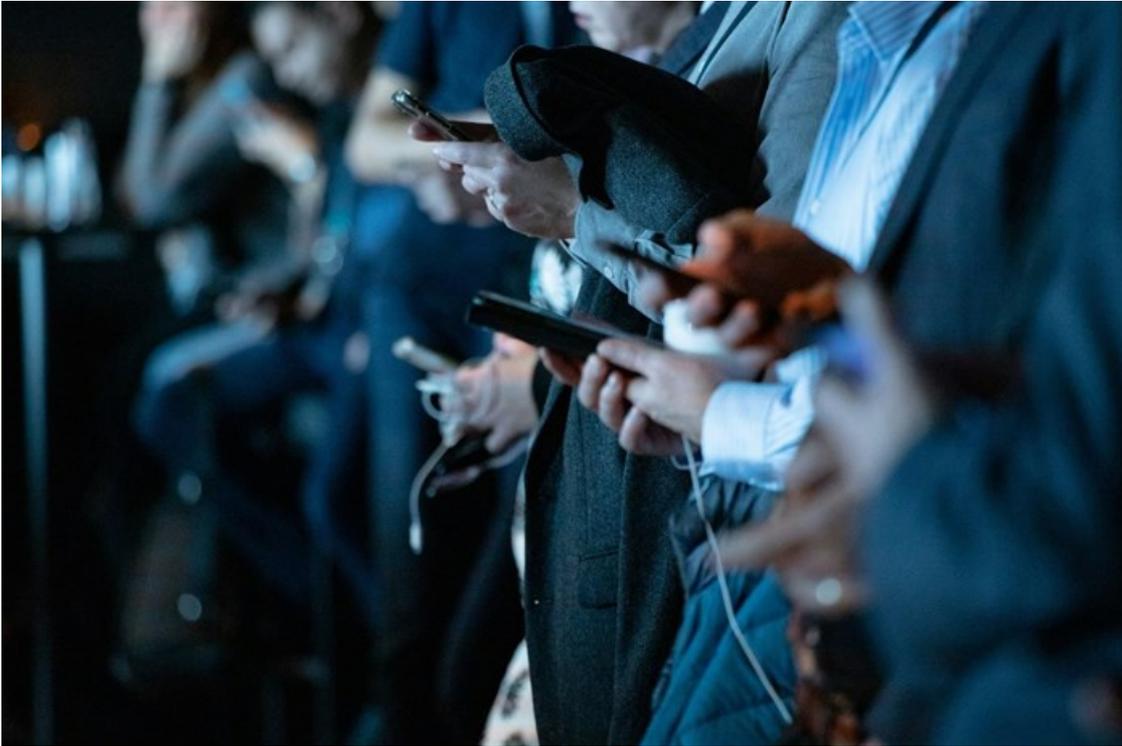


Impersonators targeting small business owners, warns Small Business Development

The Ministry of Small Business Development has warned members of the public not to fall prey to fake social media accounts, which purport to belong to the Deputy Minister of Small Business Development, Dipuo Peters.



Source: [Unsplash](#)

The Ministry has discovered several fake Facebook and LinkedIn accounts that purport to belong to the Deputy Minister.

“This appears to be a well-coordinated plan by con artists to target small business owners through impersonating the leadership of the Department of Small Business Development. A similar scam targeting Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams was discovered a few weeks ago,” the Ministry said on Tuesday.

The Ministry reiterated that neither the Minister, Deputy Minister nor any official of the department will ever request “upfront fees” from members of the public in exchange for accessing funding or business opportunities.

“These fake accounts are created by fraudsters whose sole intention is to defraud innocent citizens and gullible individuals.

