CHECKLIST · BUSINESS

Australia adds sanctions as North Korean IT workers target remote jobs

Published 23 October 2026. Read the full story, sources and any updates at
digitaladvisors.com.au/journal/north-korean-it-workers-sanctions-australia/

- [ ] **Hold a video or face-to-face interview.** Be wary of anyone who won't appear on camera, or whose location or appearance doesn't add up.
- [ ] **Compare their profiles.** Check that name, location, education and work history match across the freelance platform, LinkedIn, portfolio site and payment account.
- [ ] **Verify past employers yourself.** Contact listed employers and universities using details you find independently, not the ones on the CV.
- [ ] **Run a reverse image search on their profile photo.** Look for a photo copied from elsewhere or altered with AI.
- [ ] **Pay through a bank in their name.** Refuse cryptocurrency, PayPal and remittance services, and query any request to pay an account in a different name.
- [ ] **Check ID documents yourself, even for agency hires.** Scrutinise licences and passports for forgery rather than relying on the recruiter's checks.
- [ ] **Keep system access on the laptop you supply.** Require remote workers to connect from that device, not through remote-access software, and to switch off commercial VPNs.
- [ ] **Limit unverified contractors.** Give remote workers you haven't verified in person access only to the systems and data the job needs.

General information only, not legal, tax or financial advice. Check the full story and its sources before acting.