



# IMPORTANT NOTICE

## INVITATION TO COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HOPE EXCHANGE SHELTER FOR HOMELESS ADULTS

The Western Cape Department of Social Development invites you to comment on the proposed establishment of the Hope Exchange Shelter for homeless adults.

- The shelter, if established, will be operated by an NGO that specialises in the provision of services to the homeless, with a proven track record of operating dignified, safe, clean, and developmental shelters for homeless people. The NGO will be subsidised by the Western Cape Department of Social Development. The site is located at **20 Christiaan Street, District Six**, and will have the capacity to accommodate 116 homeless adults who will have access to beds, meals, development plans, and a social worker who will render psychosocial support, referrals to health or professional services, and family reunification and community reintegration services.

The need for the establishment of an additional shelter is due to the high number of people who live on the street and in informal structures in the area and surrounds. While there are two other shelters in District Six, the demand for shelter services remains higher than the existing 173 bed spaces. The aim of establishing this additional shelter is to support more people with the opportunity to improve their circumstances and to help them off the street.

The Western Cape Department of Infrastructure has identified the Hope Exchange site as the most appropriate and financially feasible option. This site provides sufficient internal and external space and based on the existing structure, is most suitable to be remodeled as a shelter.

**Plans:** Visual impact: If the shelter is established, the outward appearance of the building will not be changed substantially. Most of the remodeling will take place inside of the existing building. These plans include the redesign of a kitchen, office space, bathroom facilities and dormitories that can accommodate 116 people.

**Noise:** The site is located just over 100 metres away from the nearest neighbouring residential accommodation, which will minimise possible noise pollution for residents during the refurbishment.

**Safety:** If the shelter is established, the external perimeter fence will be checked and repaired. Measures will be put in place to secure the site during the renovation phase, and once operational, to ensure the safety of the clients, and those visiting the premises.

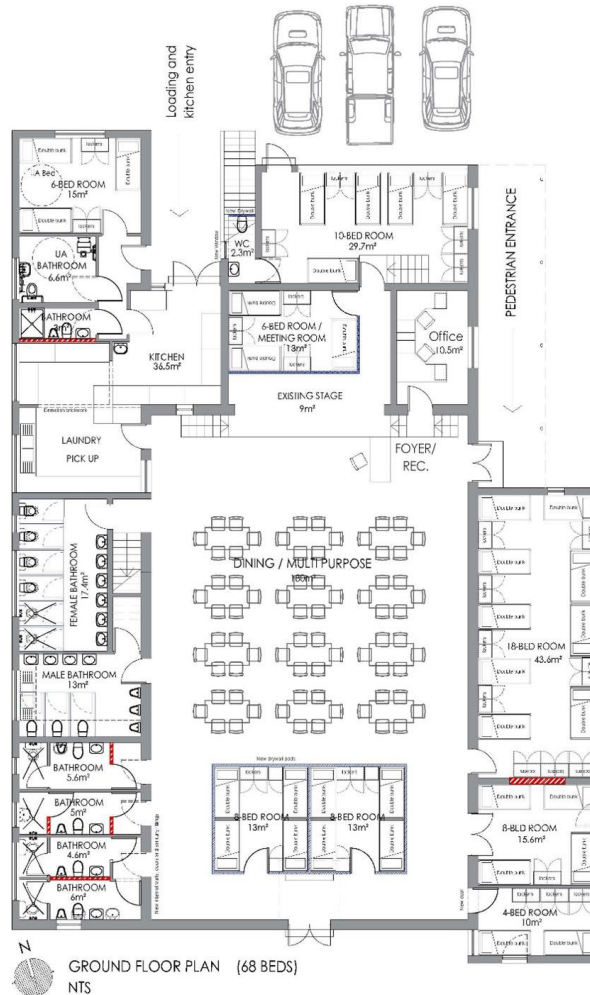
If the shelter is established, the remodeling work will commence in or about October this year, and the duration estimated to last between five and seven months, with the shelter expected to be operational in 2024.
- Residents, stakeholders or interested groups may make written submissions, in response to this invitation to comment on the proposed establishment of the shelter, for the attention of the Head of Department of Social Development on or before Friday, 14 July 2023, via e-mail to [melissa.abrahams@westerncape.gov.za](mailto:melissa.abrahams@westerncape.gov.za) or hand delivered to Union House, 14 Queen Victoria Street, Cape Town.
- Location: 20 Christiaan Street, District Six



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Proposed Ground Floor Layout



Proposed 1st floor Layout

