



**MINISTRY
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NUMBER: 6635 (NW7430E)

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QUESTION:

6075. Mr S L Dithebe (ANC) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

Whether her department will partner with the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure to avail (a) unoccupied government-owned and (b) other derelict, privately owned buildings for occupation by the homeless in the City of Cape Town; if not, why not in each case; if so, what are the relevant details in each case? NW6803E

REPLY:

(a) Unoccupied Government-Owned Buildings

The Department of Human Settlements, in partnership with the Housing Development Agency (HDA), has initiated collaboration with the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) to identify and facilitate the release of suitable, unoccupied state-owned land and buildings for human settlements development across the country, including within the City of Cape Town.

This collaboration was further strengthened through a bilateral engagement between myself and the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, during which several strategic proposals were considered.

Specifically, in the City of Cape Town, a broader land assembly programme is being implemented jointly with the Western Cape Provincial Department of Human Settlements to respond to the pressing need for adequate housing and improved living conditions. The current land pipeline includes properties situated in Khayelitsha, Philippi, Strand, Hout Bay, Gugulethu, Milnerton, the Wedge Area, and Blaauwbergstrand, which are at various stages of release, acquisition, and development.

(b) Derelict Privately Owned Buildings

The Department, through the HDA, is also engaging relevant stakeholders to identify and, where feasible, acquire derelict or privately owned buildings for redevelopment towards human settlements purposes. These initiatives are pursued in collaboration with the Western Cape Provincial Department of Human Settlements and the City of Cape Town to ensure that land acquisition and redevelopment efforts are spatially targeted and aligned with municipal planning priorities.

Through these interventions, Government seeks to make well-located land and properties available to support integrated human settlements development and contribute meaningfully to reducing homelessness within the City of Cape Town. Furthermore, the Department is developing a long-term strategy to ensure that identified and released derelict and illegally occupied buildings and land parcels are systematically repurposed for human settlements development.