

**PARLIAMENT OF THE  
PROVINCE OF THE  
WESTERN CAPE**

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**QUESTION PAPER**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

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Note: \* Indicates translated version.

**FRIDAY, 19 JULY 2019**

**1. Mr B N Herron to ask Ms S G Fernandez, Minister of Social Development:**

In a media statement issued by her Department on 10 October 2017 it was reported that there were 1 391 bed spaces in shelters available for homeless people although it was estimated then that 4 862 people were homeless. According to the information on her Department's website in 2019, the number of bed spaces in shelters has increased to 1 401. If the number of homeless people did not increase from 2017, there must be a deficit of thousands of bed spaces in shelters. However, the City of Cape Town has contradicted the Department's information when it stated in the *Sunday Times* of 7 July 2019 that there were definitely enough beds and shelters for the city's homeless people. In the light of the information above:

- (1) whether 3 500 bed spaces in shelters have been created in the intervening 20 months; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether there are fewer bed spaces in shelters than the number of homeless people in the city; if so, what immediate relief measures is her Department taking to assist homeless people;
- (3) whether her Department has a plan to assist the thousands of homeless people who are to be fined by the City for contravening the City of Cape Town's By-law Relating to Streets, Public Places and the Prevention of Noise Nuisances, 2007; if so, what are the relevant details?

(13)

**PLEASE NOTE: The reply to the question contained in this Question Paper is due on 2 August 2019. Should the reply not be submitted before or on the deadline, the Member has the right to have the question transferred to the Question Paper for oral reply in accordance with Rule 206.**