



higher education
& training

Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



LORDS SIGNATURE HOTEL: FALSE RELOCATION CLAIMS DEBUNKED, HOTEL IS NOT MOVING!

Sedibeng TVET College Management has noted the dissemination of false claims published in the *Ster South* publication dated 14–20 January 2025. These misleading statements, which suggest the relocation of Lords Signature Hotel, have continued to circulate among the public, necessitating formal clarification.

We wish to firmly refute these claims and reassure the public that Lords Signature Hotel remains at its original established location: **53 Raymond Street, Risiville, Vereeniging**. This location has been the Hotel's operational hub and will remain its base of operations.

In 2022, Sedibeng TVET College acquired Lords Signature Hotel through an auction. The acquisition was part of the College's strategic plans to secure the Hotel as a going concern, following the previous owner's business rescue process. Initially, the College intended to repurpose the property to house its administration building.

For a transitional period, the College leased the property to LL Hotels Proprietary Limited, under the directorship of Ms. Debbie Steenekamp, a former employee of LS Hotels. The initial six-month lease was extended five times. LL Hotels then requested a further two-month extension to address administrative matters, including employee-related issues. While the College declined the two-month request, it granted a one-month extension, which will remain in effect until **31 January 2025**.

The lease was not renewed or extended due to LL Hotels' breach of its financial obligations. The company owes the College in excess of **R3 million** for 15 months of unpaid rent, notwithstanding repeated assurances and a duly executed Acknowledgement of Debt (AOD) by LL Hotels and its director, Ms. Steenekamp, who acted as surety. Legal proceedings have been initiated in the Johannesburg High Court to recover the outstanding debt.

Reassurance to the Public

Following the conclusion of the current lease on 31 January 2025, Lords Signature Hotel will temporarily close for three months for extensive renovations. This investment reflects our commitment to quality, ensuring the hotel reopens in a pristine condition with upgraded facilities, enhanced hospitality services, and a welcoming ambiance.

Guests can look forward to refined and better amenities coupled with exceptional service. This short-term closure positions us to better serve our patrons, ensuring secure, memorable, and elevated guest experiences for years to come.

Sedibeng TVET College remains dedicated to maintaining the quality and reputation of Lords Signature Hotel while safeguarding its financial interests and public trust.

Issued by:

Dr MG. Mothapo

Principal, Sedibeng TVET College