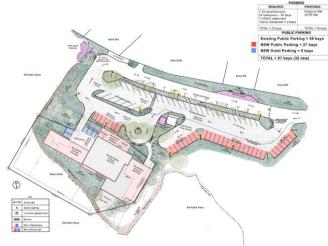


FORESTRY WESTERN CAPE: Private Bag X 12, Knysna 6570 Reference: EIA-WC-GR-0017-2024-25 Enquiries: M Koen/ Tel: (044) 302 6900/ Fax: (044) 382 5461/ E-mail: MKoen@dffe.gov.za

## Sharples Environmental Attention: Luanne Beets Email: luanne@sescc.net Cell/ Tel: 044 873 4923

## <u>COMMENTS ON THE PRE-APPLICATION BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT PROPOSED EXPANSION</u> <u>OF MILKWOOD MANOR HOUSE AND PARKING ON ERF 10190, REMAINDER OF ERF 2066 AND</u> <u>REMAINDER OF ERF 706, PLETTENBERG BAY:</u>

- 1 Forestry is responsible for the implementation and the enforcement of the National Forest Act (NFA), Act 84 of 1998 as amended and the National Veld and Forest Fire Act, Act 101 of 1998 as amended (NVFFA). Thank you for giving Forestry this opportunity to comment on above application.
- 2 Forestry studied the supporting documents for the above mentioned application and the following points related to Forestry's mandate i.e. the implementation of the NFA are applicable
  - a. According to the report the: "Erf is zoned as residential- situated specifically on the western edge of the Keurbooms River estuary; The eastern side of the site falls within the estuary itself and is prone to being eroded as the estuary is constantly migrating in an east-west direction; The western side of the site has been stabilised with rocks to protect the buildings from erosion due to flooding and tidal movement within the estuary; The development proposal includes additions and alterations to the existing buildings as well as construction of both internal and public parking bays and public ablution facilities to service visitors to the adjacent public beach; the existing ground floor of the building is 563.87 m<sup>2</sup> and the existing first floor is 401.91 m<sup>2</sup>. It is proposed to add new rooms, a reception, a bar, a transport area and pergola to the ground floor increasing the total ground floor to 1112.97 m<sup>2</sup>. Upgrades to the first floor includes new rooms, a store and a spa increasing the total first floor to 957.98m<sup>2</sup>. This will bring the total floor area of the new hotel to approx. 2,071m<sup>2</sup>; To accommodate the expansion of the guest house, the existing parking lot must also be expanded- 1.25 parking bays is required for every room in the hotel-30 parking bays is required; Currently Lookout Beach has no public amenities such as toilets and showers- Part of the proposal is to provide these facilities for the public's benefit- The new ablution block will be located adjacent to the existing municipal pump station on Remainder of Erf 2066 "According to the report- "The property consists of Milkwood trees; As well as a small pocket of Coastal forest at the beach access point- which includes a few individuals of species including Tarchonanthus littoralis, Carpobrotus acinaciformis, Eriocephalus paniculatus, Helichrysum patulum, Selago burchellii, Stenotaphrum secundatum, Azima tetracantha, Carissa bispinosa, Euclea racemosa, Grewia occidentalis, Metalasia muricata, Scutia myrtina, Searsia crenata, Cyna



- b. Forestry request that the proposed extensions- as well as the proposed layout incorporate the protected trees. Protected trees to be retained and indicated as no-go areas
- c. Indigenous forest as well as protected trees are protected under the National Forest Act (NFA) (Act No. 84 of 1998) as amended.
- d. This letter is not a NFA licence.

3 Forestry reserves the right to revise initial comment based on any additional information that may be received Yours Faithfully

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