

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **CBE warns: It's illegal for non-registered persons to administer and lead infrastructure projects in South Africa**

*The CBE, in collaboration with the Built Environment Professional Bodies, intends to make it illegal for a non-registered person to administer and lead infrastructure projects in South Africa*

One of the most significant challenges confronting the built environment sector is that, while government departments and state-owned entities are encouraged to appoint professionally registered professionals, they do not comply with these requirements during recruitment processes. There are many cases that can be cited, where candidates either misrepresent their credentials or register with professional bodies but once appointed, they discontinue their affiliation and deactivate their memberships. The lack of professional affiliation results in huge financial (and other) losses for the state when these individuals cannot be held responsible for their professional (mis)conduct. Furthermore, the quality of professional work has deteriorated with time, resulting in several design errors, project overruns, unjustifiable deviations, and poor project scoping.

The CBE, as a statutory body and regulator of the built environment sector entrusted with a mandate to protect the interest of the public, is actively advocating, together with the professional councils and recognised voluntary associations, for administration and work on infrastructure projects to be the exclusive domain of registered persons. This drive will also contribute to transforming the Built Environment sector through a tailor-made compulsory programme for non-registered persons to be implemented in collaboration with the National School of Government (NSG) across the three spheres of government and in private sector.

These programmes will render it illegal for a non-registered persons to administer and lead infrastructure projects across three spheres of government including the private sector. This will be augmented by accompanying legislation viz. the Built Environment Transformation Charter and Sector Codes which are currently being developed for public consultation by the sector.

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**About the CBE:**

The Council for the Built Environment (CBE) is a Schedule 3A Public Entity that reports to the National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure. It is a regulatory body established under the Council for the Built Environment Act 43 of 2000 (the CBE Act) that coordinates the following six Councils for the Built Environment Professions - Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Engineering, Property Valuation, Project and Construction Management, and Quantity Surveying – and through memoranda of understanding these include Town and Regional Planning, Land Surveying, and Environmental Assessment.

The CBE was established for the purpose of instilling good conduct within the Built Environment Professions, mobilising transformation in the Built Environment Professions, protecting the interest of the public and advising the South African Government on Built Environment related issues.

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