Internet Access at St Martini Gardens

From time to time the trustees receive requests from residents or owners for additional internet infrastructure to be installed within the St Martini Gardens complex. Unfortunately, this will not be possible for a few reasons. In brief, the background and current situation can be summed up as follows:

- We currently have two options within SMG. Skyrove started with a wireless option that they provided from a Telkom copper feed but later changed to a fibre connection. They also provided a copper link to flats for a dedicated internet connection and wireless router in subscribers' flats. At time of writing this is still the means by which subscribers are connected to the Skyrove router that is fed by the fibre link.
- After much research we agreed to let Octotel bring their Open Access Fibre into SMG and create a sub-node on their network in our server room. Octotel has agreements with many internet service providers, and many of these will do a free installation and free router. The bottom speed option for these is usually 10/5 (10 Mbps downlink and 5 Mbps uplink) and the monthly costs are generally competitive. Speeds up to 100 Mbps are available from most of them.
- This complex is old with limited space for reticulation of any systems within and between buildings as well as siting of fixed equipment in secure areas. The trustees cannot agree to adding further external infrastructure into the common property as existing cableways and shafts are already heavily utilised, and additional trunking attached to the common property is not an option.
- Dishes or other antennae may not be attached to the roof or other external surfaces of the buildings over and above the existing access points installed by Skyrove.

It is strongly recommended that anyone requiring an internet service researches the available options to decide what would suit their needs best. The following web sites will be of use:

https://www.skyrove.com/ for details of Skyrove's offerings

https://www.octotel.co.za/isp/ to check service providers working with Octotel

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