

MATTERS ADDRESSED IN RESPONSE TO THE MEC LETTER TO THE ZULULAND DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, DATED 26 SEPTEMBER 2014

1. MUNICIPAL TRANSFORMATION AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- a. The organisational structure of the municipality in the previous 2014/2015 IDP was not clear due to a technical error. This has been addressed.
- b. The issue of the SPLUMA tribunal structure is at the present moment not yet adequately finalised among the 5 local municipalities in the district due to a unique system having been proposed. However, this should be finalised by the next review of the IDP 2016/2017.
- c. An ICT governance framework will be developed and adopted along with a Business Continuity Strategy by June 2016.
- d. Although the SWOT analysis has been revised, mainstreaming with the Municipal Strategic Plan will be redone with the review of the 2016/2017 IDP

2. LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- a. Although the LED Strategy is still under development until July 2015, a budget has been allocated to various elements of the sector.
- b. A structural overhaul and redesign of the municipal strategic plan and monitoring and evaluation framework is necessary in order to articulate fluently, the set targets and performance against those set targets and municipal contributions as set out in the District DGDP/PGDP and NDP. This will only be fully possible in the new cycle of IDPs (2017/2018) . The present strategic framework is not adequately accommodating. However, an attempt will be made to incorporate elements of the District Growth and Development Plan into the 2016/2017 IDP Review with assistance of stakeholders.
- c. An analysis (demographics and LED sections of the IDP) of the vulnerable groups within the municipality has been made particularly the households headed by children, households headed by women, the elderly, orphans, unemployed, dependency ratio and gini-coefficient. A co-ordinated responsive strategy by all departments is required to adequately begin to address key issues. A social development plan will lend strategic impetus and platform for the district and its partners to engage issues of vulnerable groups.

3. BASIC SERVICE DELIVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

- a. The WSDP is revised annually by the Zululand District Municipality. Elements of the findings have been incorporated into the 2015/2016 IDP.
- b. The second phase of road visual assessments will commence in May 2015 in line with the RISFSA policy and DORA requirements. The first phase was done in 2012. The municipality will be able to begin interpretation of the condition of its roads meaningfully and devise maintenance plans.
- c. A Community facilities masterplan is currently under review with completion expected in July 2015. The findings will be incorporated into the 2016/2017 IDP review.
- d. DOT MTEF and other departments have been incorporated.

4. FINANCIAL VIABILITY AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- a. Level of grant dependency and employee related cost percentages have been included.

5. SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

- a. Upon securing a budget the SDF will be reviewed to include among other things
 - i. Scheme guidelines
 - ii. Strategic Environmental Assessment
 - iii. Capital Investment Framework (already included in the current SDF)
 - iv. Delineation of urban/development edges
 - v. Urban and rural food security (a brief on food security initiatives has been included after the Municipal Strategic Plan. This will be incorporated properly into the SDF in the 2015/16 review
 - vi. Sips 1-18 OF THE National Infrastructure Plan

- vii. National Resource Management Strategy
- viii. Spatial profiling of Disasters
- b. The Comprehensive Infrastructure Plan which includes Capital Investment Framework is being revised (see Status of Sector Plans table). The findings will be incorporated into the 2016/17 IDP Review
- c. Grant funding is anticipated in July 2015 for development of an Environmental Management Framework. An MOU has been signed.

6. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

- a. A budget for Disaster Management has been included in the budget
- b. The new National KPA will be incorporated into the 2016/2017 IDP Review
- c. The Back to Basics programme, Cabinet Lekgoltla resolutions and Medium Term Strategic Framework with a district level link has been incorporated into the Government Priorities section.

Several areas of improvement are and continue to be constantly identified. The IDP is a work in progress with the ultimate objectives being to develop a user-friendly document that not only complies with legislation but that:

- the community can identify with ; and
- engages with investors;

demonstrates deliberate integration with municipal, provincial, national and external partner development projects