



# HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### 'SHAYAMOYA PROBLEM CAUSES A STINK' - EAST GRIQUALAND FEVER RESPONSE TO NEWSPAPER ARTICLE DATE 09 JUNE 2017

The article on page 3 of the East Griqualand Fever dated **09 June 2017** bears reference **NEWSPAPER ARTICLE RESPONSE.**

Harry Gwala District Municipality is the Water Services Authority responsible for Water and Sanitation Services in the area of Kokstad. Whilst the District Municipality holds this responsibility, it should be noted that areas of Shayamoya, Bhongweni and Extension 7 within Kokstad Town were inherited by the Local Municipality with the services already installed by Developers. It has been discovered that more than 90% of the Main Sewer Collector pipelines have a diameter of 110 mm, which is the same size as the house connections, after analysis has been conducted by the District regarding Sanitation Infrastructure. This is the cause for many sewer blockages as the capacity of the main pipelines cannot accommodate the sewer demands. Through this analysis, Harry Gwala District Municipality has begun to address the problem by upgrading the main collector lines. This can be seen through the pipeline upgrade in Mphela and V3 areas which have been completed in the 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 financial years. When addressing sewer challenges, it is always advisable to start from the bottom and work your way up to the higher lying areas. Based on the District Municipal Budget allocation for Kokstad over the next 5 year term, HGDM has a plan to continue with the pipeline upgrades and clear out all existing sewer spillages.

#### **The following issues should be noted regarding the sanitation challenges at Kokstad:**

1. Mr Abrahams has a neighbour who lives at house number 5023 who is allegedly mentally disturbed. Within his yard, he has dug holes everywhere such that you battle to find space to walk around. Through his digging, he has damaged the main sewer pipeline in front of his house thus causing sewer spillages to the neighbours and leaving ponds of sewer.
2. When our maintenance team attempts to attend to the challenge, the man chases them away with stones. The matter has been reported to Greater Kokstad Local Municipality and the South African Police Services. The man was taken away on 11 June 2017 and our team has started working. All the holes have been covered and the maintenance team has finalized the replacement pipeline.

Community Members are urged to refrain from throwing foreign objects such as pampers, towels, sanitary towels, clothing, bricks, toys etc. into the sewer lines. This is the major cause for blockages. The District Municipality has a Sewer Jetting Machine and a plumbing team which is responsible for unblocking the sewer lines.

**If there are any further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact:** The Executive Director: Water Services, Mr N.E. Biyase at Harry Gwala District Municipality, on tel. (039) 834 2485 and/or 072 300 5511. e-mail can be sent to: [biyasenkh@harrygwalaadm.gov.za](mailto:biyasenkh@harrygwalaadm.gov.za)

**MRS A.N. DLAMINI: MUNICIPAL MANAGER  
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