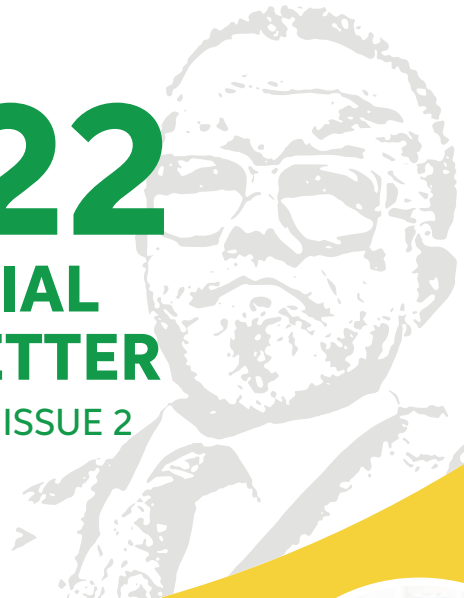







# 2022

## OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1 | ISSUE 2



 Harry Gwala District Municipality  
 @harrygwala  
 @harrygwala

[www.harrygwalamunicipality.gov.za](http://www.harrygwalamunicipality.gov.za)

*Together we Deliver and Grow*



## **VISION, GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES**

By 2030 Harry Gwala District Municipality will be a leading water services provider in the KZN Province with its communities benefitting from a vibrant agriculture and tourism sector.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Working together with its communities and stakeholders Harry Gwala District Municipality will ensure the provision of clean, drinkable uninterrupted water services and proper sanitation facilities and strive to improve its agriculture and tourism sectors to enhance human dignity.

## **CORE VALUES**

Transparency • Accountability • Consultation • Commitment and Honesty



# Table of Contents

---

Editorial Note	04
Mayor's Foreword	05
Municipal Manager's Foreword	07
Council and Committees	08
Mayor calls for devine intervention as tavern shooting claims 13 lives	10
Harry Gwala Marathon set to be a major economic boost	12
The 2022/23 annual financial year budget adopted	14
Cllr Mdunge: Taking care of the NEEDY should not only be the government's responsibility but the private sector's as well..."	16
Training to upskill Councillors and Municipal workers	18
An emotional and dignified send-off for Mandisa Sebenza	19
Hard-working Harry Gwala leadership regularly visits projects	20
Mayor: "It starts with parents, first..."	21
"Lets do Right, even when nobody is watching"	22
Harry Gwala Development Agency CEO hits the ground running	24
Mayor Nxumalo engages Traditional leaders	25
Highflats Water Supply Scheme	26
Batho Pele Workshop / Spring Protection Project	27
WSIG Projects	29
Amnesty Programme	32
Communications Workshop	33
A community imbizo in the Harry Gwala District Municipality	34
A healthy working environment	35

---

# Service delivery and forthcoming plans for the year 2022/23



**Mr Ndabezitha Tenza**  
Communications Manager

**O**NCE more, we welcome you to our edition that updates you on the progress of the Municipal projects as the Water and Sanitation Authority. This communication tool is shaped up based on the previous completed projects and those underway. However, it also gives light on our forthcoming plans, service delivery progress as per our new financial budget of the year 2022/23.

Apart from that, we inform you about the Municipal programmes meant to capacitate Municipal employees and celebratory events as per their different months and themes.

There have been a lot of workshops aimed at empowering our staff as part of building the capacity of the municipality and ultimately rendering quality services to our communities.

We, the Communications Unit conducted a workshop to educate all employees about communications. Since communication is an integral part of any organizational structure, be it a public or a private entity, it is important that employees are trained at intervals regarding communication issues. Within the public sector, communication is a critical tool of governance which plays a strategic role in determining the quality of service delivery.

Skills Development Act makes provisions for capacity building of employees in any organization. Responding to that call, the Corporate Services Department workshopped business unit managers and their subordinates in all departments on June 2022. Municipal Councillors were also trained on computer literacy. The Water Services Department (Customer Care) also had a Batho Pele Principles workshop where employees were reminded of the important role the Batho Pele (people first) Principles play in service delivery.

As a developmental state, our government adopted eight principles that guide the rendering of services to the citizenry. Consultation is one of the eight principles of Batho Pele in which Harry Gwala employees were trained on. The philosophy behind the principle of consultation

is that people must be consulted on the services to be rendered to them by the government and those services must respond to their needs. If services are not responding to the needs of people, tension is developed between government institutions and the citizenry, and ultimately lead to permanent protestation. It is necessary that employees are capacitated timeously to avoid unnecessary service delivery protests.

As part of the developmental state our government adopted Izimbizo as a citizen engagement strategy. Izimbizo are regarded as the only platform that the government is using in terms of interacting with the public on a face to face basis. We have recently hosted Imbizo in Kromhoek Sports Field, Ward 20, UMzimkhulu Local Municipality where we saw Deputy Minister of Human Settlements, Pam Tshwete together with other Deputy Ministers including Deputy Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy, Dr. Nobuhle Nkabane interacting with the electorate.

We are coming from Youth Month where young people were encouraged through different programmes to be exemplary in their communities and follow the footsteps of heroes and heroines of June 16, 1976 who dedicated their lives for the liberation of South Africa from apartheid. One of the challenges which most of our communities are faced with in this country is the immoral behaviour attributed to young people. We successfully hosted a Behaviour Change Campaign at Ufafa, under uBuhlebezwe Local Municipality. With such campaigns we want to reach as many communities as we can, for moral regeneration purposes.

In conclusion, we urge our communities to cooperate with the municipality by paying their bills. Paying bills does not only clear the ratepayers name on credit matters, but it boosts the municipal revenue which we use to finance the services that we render to our communities. There is an Amnesty Programme provided by the municipality, people are encouraged to make use of it. We humbly appeal to the citizenry of Harry Gwala to use water sparingly.

You can follow us on our social media platforms such as Facebook and website.

**MISS NONTUTHUKO NGUBANE**  
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER (PRO)



**MR MQONDISI DUMA**  
COMMUNICATIONS ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT





# Message from the Harry Gwala District Municipality Mayor

Greetings

**W**ITH the start of the new financial year, 2022/23 I hope we shall continue to work together as it happened during our Integrated Development Programmes/Roadshows where communities of the Harry Gwala District Municipality came in their numbers to raise their concerns and challenges that should be prioritised for a better Harry Gwala area.

So, for the successful implementation of the challenges and suggestions you raised, I urge everyone to continue taking part in ensuring the Municipality is on the right track to accomplish or fulfil the concerns and challenges raised by our communities.

As water and sanitation authority, it is in your hands as communities to ensure that the supply or the distribution of water to your areas is done and monitored regularly because we might not reach you all of the time we are required to do so as the District due to the vastness of the area but persistent calls or communication will receive swift responses where we will react and be able to note down some challenges you are facing on our own.

Should you (communities) not receive any help or swift responses, my office as your Mayor, is always open and we will answer your calls where you will convey your grievances or concerns or ask for my personal number if it comes to a push.

We have not done all that we wish to do but a lot has been achieved through the cooperation of the former Municipal Manager, A.N. Dlamini who worked tirelessly with the entire management and officials for a better Harry Gwala.

It is for this reason that we need to convey our gratitude to her for her hard work and wish her all the best in her new endeavours.

Our proactive acting Municipal Manager, Thobile Thiyane-Magaqa has taken from where she left off with the hope that she will work closely with you as communities until the Municipality finds Mrs Dlamini's successor.

This is our first issue in the new financial year, in it we are updating you with the progress on our projects, in which most of them have been visited and monitored by my office and the office of the Speaker, Councillor Sibongiseni Mdunge and the relevant managers and officials to ensure that what is encapsulated in our reports goes parallel with what is happening on the ground.

In this publication we are giving highlights on the recent memorial service held in the District of 13



His Worship the District Mayor Cllr. Z.D Nxumalo

**“We have also held a number of programmes where our District was visited by honourable Deputy Ministers to lend an ear on the ground as part of the District Development Model aimed at fast tracking service delivery in rural areas.”**

people, originally from UMzimkhulu, allegedly killed by assailants who opened fire inside a Tavern in Soweto in the Gauteng Province.

We have also held a number of programmes where our District was visited by honourable Deputy Ministers to lend an ear on the ground as part of the District Development Model aimed at fast tracking service delivery in rural areas.

We are also proud to announce that our 2022/23 financial year budget was adopted uncontested with



thorough consultations with the public and the Traditional Authority.

This budget is sound and realistic and allocates expected revenue to achieve core service delivery priorities as set out in the Integrated Development Plan. Furthermore, we have put plans in place which include fast tracking the installation of prepaid meters, removing illegal connections and implementing appropriate debt collection remedial measures.

We are pleased to announce that, through extensive consultations, using various avenues such as provincial/community radios, social media platforms and community meetings, the people of our District actively participated in the IDP/Budget process. During the presentation of the Medium-Term Budget Policy Statement (MTBPS) in February, Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana, pointed out that our country has more than a decade of economic stagnation. This macro-economic challenge has constantly affected the government's ability to allocate sufficient funding for capital projects. In the main, this negative impact is felt by the poor. This is reflected in the insufficient allocation of conditional grants for capital projects to municipalities such as Harry Gwala, which are facing a historical and longstanding infrastructural backlog.

The situation is worsened by a combination of factors, including that our revenue collection base is generally small, because a lot of people in our District are battling to make ends meet. Another problem which we must never be shy to talk about, is that there are those who, while they afford, do not pay for services they receive from our municipalities. As a government, we have a primary responsibility to provide social services to our communities. Those who receive them, if they can afford them, must pay.

It should be noted that over the past three years we have received the unqualified audit opinions by the Auditor-General which symbolizes responsible and good governance practices. It is imperative that we join hands and ensure that we improve our audit opinion to achieve a clean audit.

#### **Youth Month**

We celebrated Youth Day on the 16th of June. We understand the challenges that the youth of today faces but as the District we would like to work together with the youth to achieve their goals. Youth issues are well managed under the Youth Office.

Mr Qiniso Mnguni who is leading the youth office in our Municipality is attending to issues of young people on a daily basis. We encourage all young people to make use of their office.

#### **HGDA New CEO**

We also want to congratulate the newly appointed Harry Gwala Development Agency (HGDA) Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Antoinette Whyte for joining us, leaving all the good work she has started in one of our sister Municipalities, the Greater Kokstad Municipality. This Municipality is a shining example of good governance at local government level, countrywide. It is the number one municipality in the province and number nine nationally in terms of being a stable and financial viable Municipality.

We hope that the experience she possess will help us in moving our District forward to ensure better services to our communities.

Thank you.

# Working together we can achieve more



**Mrs. Thobile Thelma Thiyane-Magaqa**  
Acting Municipal Manager

**L**ET me welcome our communities to our first publication of the Harry Gwala District Municipal Newsletter for the financial year 2022/2023. As the currently acting Municipal Manager, I would like to begin by providing tribute, gratitude, admiration and honour to our former Municipal Manager, Mrs. A. N. Dlamini, who is no longer in the municipal employ after resignation. Mrs. Dlamini served the District municipality exceptionally well for a period of 20 years and occupied a number of positions during her municipal employment tenure, such as Pims Centre Manager, IDP Manager and Executive Director Economic and Community Services. She also served as an acting Municipal Manager at the then KwaSani Local Municipality, that has since acquired a name change into Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Local Municipality, after the amalgamation process of KwaSani and Ingwe Local Municipality that are two (2) out of the four (4) municipalities falling under the jurisdiction of Harry Gwala District Municipality.

The Executive Director Corporate Services, Miss N. Lungwengwe has also departed from the District municipality after receiving an appointment as a Chief Director: Human Resources Management at the Department of Transport in the Eastern Cape. The Harry Gwala Development Agency (HDA) has recently appointed a new Chief Executive Officer, Ms. A. Whyte who resumed her duty on the 1st of July 2022.

The District Municipality entered into the 2022/2023 financial year with a spirit of renewal and continuation of municipal service delivery. As Local government, our quest is to abide by the Constitution, the local government legislative and policy framework, which creates an amicable situation for municipal compliance to be achieved. The role of the accounting officer is to provide support, guidance and advise to political structures, political office bearers, municipal administration and administrative structures, on governance and service delivery. Section 152(1) (b) of the Constitution prescribes one of the objectives of local government which is to ensure the provision of services to communities in a sustainable manner. This in turn serves as a vehicle for the accomplishment of service delivery.

Our municipality is a water services provider that strives to provide clean, portable water and to overcome the immense water and sanitation backlogs in our rural areas where the majority of our population resides. We aspire as

a District municipality, working together with our family of municipalities as a collective, to ensure that there is provision of sustainable services, promotion of social and economic development and the participation of communities in matters that are pertaining to local government.

As a legislative requirement, our municipality operates under the guidance of an Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and the Annual Budget which outlines the key municipal development priorities and service delivery targets. Our budget is structured in such a way that it is geared at meeting our targets respectively. Our Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP) has been approved by Council for the current financial year and forms the basis in monitoring the implementation of the municipal budget and IDP. As a District municipality we have always been committed to preparing our Integrated Development Plan in consultation with our communities at the local municipalities using IDP Forums. Communities become engaged in IDP/Budget Izimbizos to comment and input on our service delivery targets. The publication of the newsletter serves as a communication tool to inform our communities about work that is continuously done by the municipality to meet targets and fulfil the constitutional mandate.

Our Newsletter features the Harry Gwala Marathon which was a huge success and poses to be an on-going year after year event that seeks to put the District on the sporting map. It also boosts the District economically as the attendance and turn out attracted many participants from in and around the District and the KZN as a whole. Seven hundred athletes (700) participated in the different race categories. On traditional leadership, the Harry Gwala District Council has two (2) traditional Leaders that serve and play a role in encouraging that the mission and mission statement of the District is achieved.

Our District adopted the 2022/2023 financial budget at Bulwer under the Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Local municipality during an open Council meeting.

In conclusion, my aspiration as an acting Municipal Manager is to sustain the administrative component so as to meet the requirements of Council and to encourage communities within our District to work together in addressing developmental challenges so that service delivery can be accelerated.

I thank you.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



**MR. MTHETHUNZIMA MKATU**  
Chief Financial Officer



**MR DAVID BHEKI MAKWAKWA**  
Infrastructure Services



**MRS. THOBILE THELMA THIYANE-MAGAQA**  
Social Services and Development Planning



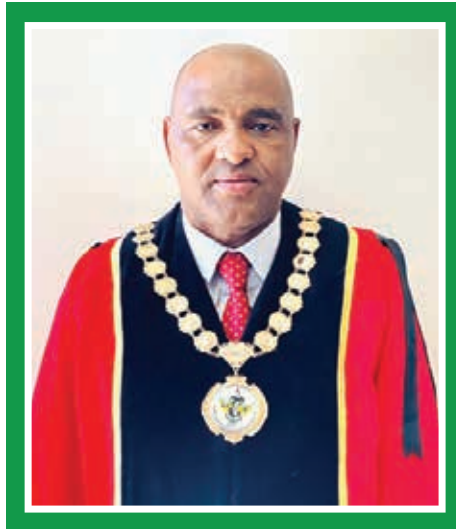
**MR DUMISANI SANDILE GQIBA**  
Water Services



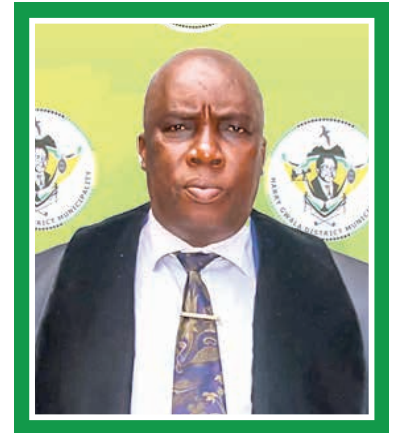
# HARRY GWALA MUNICIPALITY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



**HONORABLE DEPUTY MAYOR  
CLLR. T.N. JOJOZI**



**HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR  
CLLR. Z.D. NXUMALO**



**HONORABLE SPEAKER  
CLLR. M.S.D. MDUNGE**



**HONORABLE CHIEF-WHIP  
CLLR. N. MHATU**



**EXCO MEMBER  
CLLR. S.D. BEKWA**



**EXCO MEMBER  
CLLR. K.S. DLAMINI**



**EXCO MEMBER  
CLLR. Z. TSHANGASE**



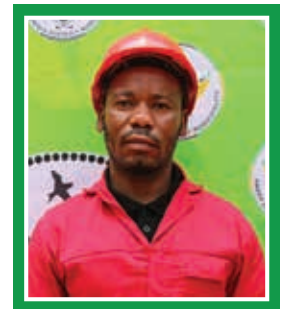
**CLLR. T.G. SONI**



**CLLR. T.S.H. GAMEDE**



**CLLR. V.A.T. MTHEMBU**



**CLLR. X. MEMELA**





**CLLR. Z.M. NGIDI**



**CLLR. Z.R. TSHAZI**



**CLLR. R. RAMATLAPENG**



**CLLR. P.N. DAMOYI**



**CLLR. P.K. MEMELA**



**CLLR. N.W. DLADLA**



**CLLR. N.R. MTSHALI**



**CLLR. N.H. ZACA**



**CLLR. N.H. MALIMELA**



**CLLR. N. MDA**



**CLLR. N. DLAMINI**



**CLLR. Z.P. DLAMINI**



**CLLR. H.V. MSOMI**



**CLLR. H.A. LUKHOZI**



**CLLR. B.R. MEMELA**



**CLLR. B.L. MARNCÉ**



**CLLR. B. SIBENI**



**CLLR. B. KESWA**

**TRADITIONAL LEADERS**

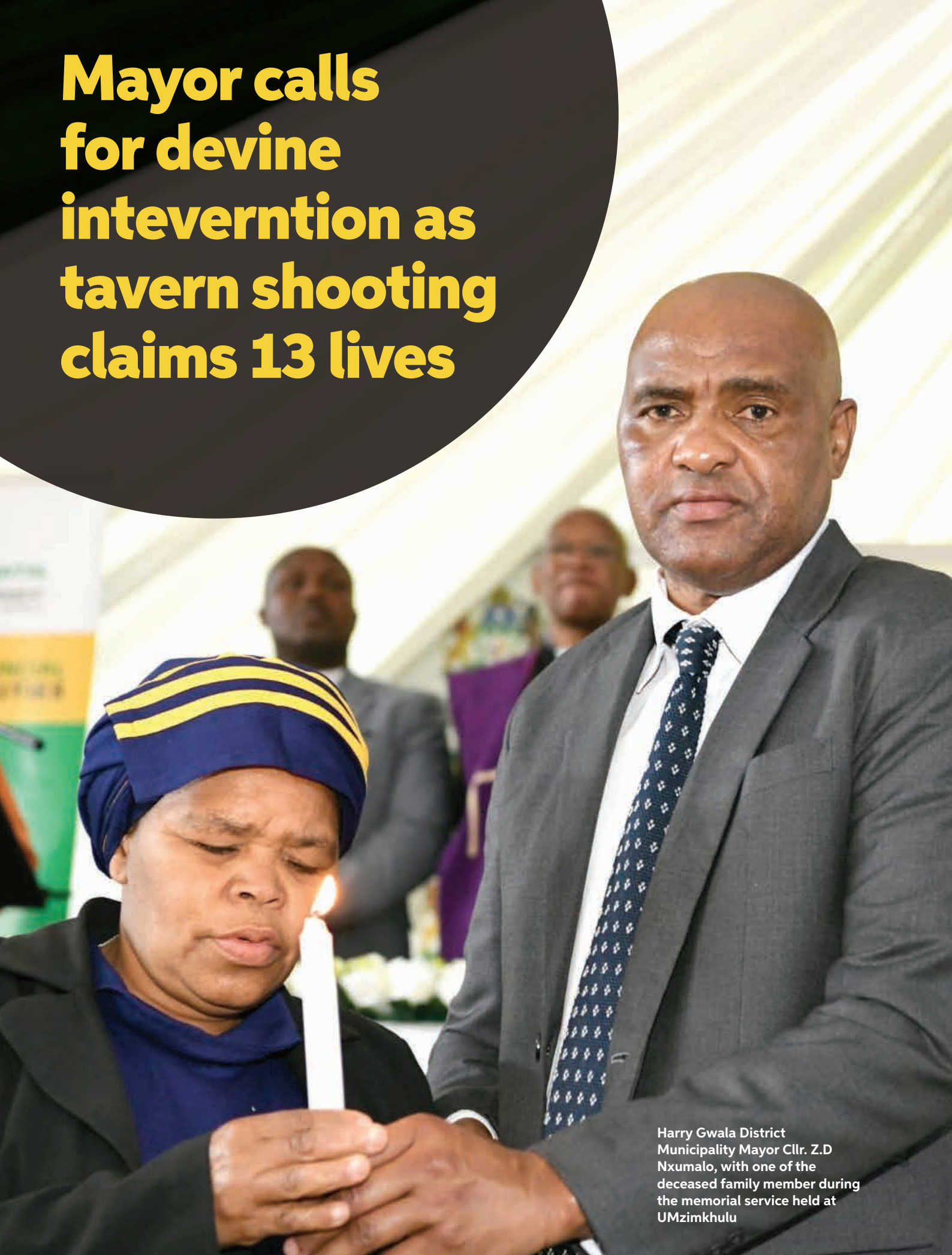


**INKOSI V.V. ZIMEMA**



**INKOSI M.S.I. ZULU**

# Mayor calls for devine intevertion as tavern shooting claims 13 lives



Harry Gwala District Municipality Mayor Cllr. Z.D Nxumalo, with one of the deceased family member during the memorial service held at UMzimkhulu





Pictured during the candle lighting at the memorial service, was one of the family members of the deceased, the priest and Harry Gwala District Municipality Speaker Cllr. S. Mdunge.



Leadership singing the national anthem at the memorial service, from left is UMzimkhulu Mayor Cllr. J. Msiya, Harry Gwala Mayor Cllr. Z.D Nxumalo, and KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala.

**T**HE Harry Gwala District Mayor, Councillor, Z.D. Nxumalo has called upon different congregations and denominations to always put his District in their prayers due to a number of killing incidents that seek to dominate in the District.

Cllr Nxumalo appealed for divine intervention to descend to the region in the wake of the recent incident where assailants reportedly shot people in a tavern in Soweto in the Gauteng Province, leaving 13 victims dead which were originally from UMMzimkhulu.

The memorial service, held in UMzimkhulu recently, was attended by the KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala where the sounds of crying family members echoed around the packed hall.

The memorial service was held at eSayini TVET College in uMzimkhulu with heavily armed police surrounding the hall.

Cllr Nxumalo said it was sad to learn that the victims went to Johannesburg to look for jobs as his District is part of the Districts that have a challenge of job scarcity.

“This is a clear indication that we must all take the issue of the lack of jobs seriously so that we reduce the number of people leaving rural areas to urban areas to hunt for opportunities to feed their families. We need to create an environment that people move from rural to urban areas out of their own will not because they go to other areas to look for opportunities,” said Cllr Nxumalo.

He said his District is rich in agriculture but it is only a few people who benefit from utilizing the land, adding that the District Municipality is making strides to ensure the youth gets into the agricultural sector.

He said as the District, they are zooming into the electricity crisis, which leads to power outages owing to loadshedding that also cripples their gradually growing economy as local businesses get affected dearly.

“We are now looking at ways to generate our own electricity but that would be done in line with the laws of the country to check where our Municipality could have the kind of capacity that would be required when we do the research,” said Cllr Nxumalo.

He added they have not experienced such mass deaths since 2017 and such incidents came to an end after they held District-wide prayers, meaning the Almighty was on their side and now they need to pray regularly. He said this happens while the District was still mourning the deaths of those that perished in the recent taxi accident, which claimed about 20 lives and most victims of the accident were from UMzimkhulu.

Nxumalo said it was very sad that the victims went to Johannesburg to look for job opportunities so that they could take care of their families, but came back in coffins.

Premier Zikalala, said this was one of the most “extraordinarily painful” incidents that the people of KwaZulu-Natal have suffered.

“We have the KZN liquor authority whose jurisdiction is in KZN, notwithstanding that this happened in Gauteng. We will continue to tighten and enforce regulations that taverns close on time. There are prescribed times for all taverns to close. It does not only expose people to killings but even to social instability because it affects entire communities,” Zikalala said.

#### Deceased:

1. Sithembiso Mjolo, 2. Luyanda Mjolo, 3. Nhlonipho Mbanjwa, 4. Nkosiyezwe Malunga, 5. Thamsanqa Malunga, 6. Sphethuxolo Chiliza, 7. Menzi Ndzimande, 8. Mlondi Ndlangisa, 9. Philani Mngonyama, 10. Sibongiseni Jokazi, 11. Sibonelo Ngubane, 12. Njabulo Dlangisa, 13. Sifiso Cromwell Sosibo.



Harry Gwala Mayor Cllr. Z.D Nxumalo consoling one of the family members of the deceased at the memorial service held in UMzimkhulu.



Mayor Z.D Nxumalo, speaking at the memorial service



Premier Sihle Zikalala speaking at the memorial service





It was during the start of the Harry Gwala Marathon when everyone was nervous and in deep thought whether they would make it to the finish.

## Harry Gwala Marathon set to be a major economic boost

**T**HE Harry Gwala District Municipality is confident that the marathon, held recently, will grow from strength to strength and is set to be a major economic boost for the district following a promising turn up, which attracted a number of athletes participating in the race that left the local and provincial leadership excited.

The Harry Gwala District Mayor, Councillor, Z.D. Nxumalo was convinced that the marathon would have been far without the two-year Covid- 19 recess, which also affected many sponsors due to the economic slide and recession, which in turn had negatively impact to most businesses.

“I am very excited that after gatherings were prohibited in order to conform to the COVID-19, people showed a huge interest in taking part in the race with utmost excitement and interest with the return of the marathon with businesses also coming together promising support going forward,” said Mayor Nxumalo.

However, this year’s race saw about 700 athletes taking part with a very strong competition in three different categories of the race that were as follows: 42, 2 km, 21 km and 10 km.

The 42,2 km race started from highflats in Ixopo to uMzimkhulu while the 21km started in Ixopo to



Mayor Z.D Nxumalo with MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture in KwaZulu-Natal, Hlengiwe Mavimbela congratulated the winners of the race Ayanda Ngcobo who took the first position with Ndumiso Sokhela taking the second position.

uMzimkhulu and 10km started between iXopo and uMzimkhulu.

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture in KwaZulu-Natal was the major sponsor with the hope that even the private businesses will also play a pivotal role in next year’s installment of the marathon.

The Department’s MEC Hlengiwe Mavimbela was





Dr. Sibongiseni Dhlomo, a member of parliament, was also excited when he finished the race.



Mayors graced the Marathon, from Left is Umzimkhulu Mayor Cllr. J Msiya, UBuhlebezwe Mayor B. Ngubo, Mayor Z.D Nxumalo and Acting Municipal Manager Mrs. Thobile Thelma Thiyane-Magaqa.



The Harry Gwala District Marathon was a success, more than 20 media houses attended and interviewed mayors as well as athletes.



also part of the event witnessing the success of the marathon.

The National Deputy Minister of Health Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo also participated in the race.

The MEC Mavimbela echoed Cllr Nxumalo's sentiments that "it was very exciting to see people coming in large numbers in support of the marathon after hard times owing to Covid-19". She said this is part of supporting the local business, whose normal operations were disrupted by the Covid-19 regulations and negatively affected their daily income/profit.

"We want to explore all avenues to ensure businesses go back to normal and continue to play a pivotal role in job creation," MEC Mavimbela said. She said apart from boosting the local business, the marathon can also be a weapon towards boosting local tourism.

A young man from Northern KwaZulu-Natal, Ayanda Ngcobo registered his name amongst the winners as he won the 42, 2 km race, walking away with a R50 000 prize, Ndumiso Sokhela took the second position while Tommy Skink came in third position.

Ngcobo said he had worked very hard to win the race to prevent it from being won by athletes that originate from other countries as it was previously won by an athlete from Lesotho.

He said his win also represents the District of Harry Gwala as part of the KwaZulu-Natal province. In the female category race, the 42.2 km was won by Jennifer Koech from Kenya. Makhosi Mhlongo took the second position followed by Lisa Collett.

The Mayors of different Municipalities, UMzimkhulu, uBuhlebezwe and Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Municipalities congratulated the winners.

### WINNERS

#### 42.2 km

Males	Females
1. Ayanda Ngcobo - 2:18:08	1. Jennifer Koech - 2:58: 25
2. Ndumiso Sokhela - 2:18:09	2. Makhosi Mhlongo - 3:03:05
3. Tonny Skink - 2:20:04	3. Lisa Collett - 3:03:30

#### 21 km

Males	Females
1. Jobo Khatoane - 1:02:12	1. Molulubele Makatsi - 1:12:09
2. Elvis Tau - 1:02:56	2. Methakane Letsie - 1:13:52
3. Mfundo Chagwe - 1:03:29	3. Jenet Mbhele - 1:14:29

#### 10 km

Males	Females
1. Siyabonga Ndovu - 0:28:06	1. Bathobile Mkhize - 0:34:54
2. Ath - 0:28:40	2. Mafole Elelloang - 0:35:27
3. Kamohelo Mafolo - 0:28:56	3. Reitumetse Thethana - 0:37:47



Harry Gwala District Mayor, Councillor, Z.D. Nxumalo delivers his budget speech.



# The 2022/23 financial year budget adopted





**Harry Gwala District Mayor, Councillor, Z.D. Nxumalo, Council Speaker, Councillor, S. Mdunge and the Acting Municipal Manager, Thobile Thiyane- Magaqa were part of the open council meeting and played a role in giving answers to the questions raised by the observers and stakeholders.**

**T**HE R865,7 million total budget for the year 2022/23 was adopted by the Harry Gwala District Municipality Council recently.

The 2022/23 financial year budget was adopted in Bulwer under the Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Local Municipality, which was attended by the relevant stakeholders that also believed the budget talks directly to community challenges on the ground.

During the budget adoption, it appeared that the R600 million Bulwer Dam is compelling the Harry Gwala District Municipality to allocate a huge chunk of its capital budget to the Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma Local Municipality for its implementation.

This came to light after the Harry Gwala District Municipality Mayor, Zamokwakhe Nxumalo, while tabling the budget, indicated and clarified why the Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Local Municipality seems to be getting the bigger slice of the District’s budget, compared to other local municipalities.

The Bulwer Dam will be funded by the national Department of Water and Sanitation, as it is meant to be a backup and a permanent water solution within the District. It will supply water to the neighbouring Districts as well such as Ugu.

This is set to yield savings on the part of the District Municipality as the municipality rents dams from the neighbouring farmers as backups during dry seasons.

Speaking at Bulwer Hall on the 27th of May during an open Council meeting, Nxumalo said the project would

start before June next year.

“This forms part of our projects to shape up local projects in preparations that would accommodate other projects in the pipeline,” said Nxumalo.

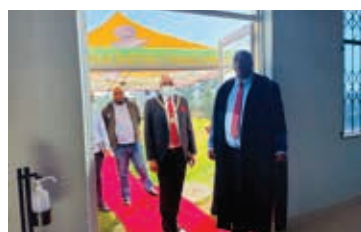
He added that negotiations for the project have received the green light from the national government and are at an advanced stage.

He revealed that this is a mission to ensure that they become the leading District in terms of water supply in the country since they also have plans to have a water testing/treatment plant in the District where they will not depend on Umgeni Water to test the status of their water.

Opposition parties commended the budget adoption but the Democratic Alliance disputed the six percent tariff increase.

The Mayor said, “Despite being a grant funded Municipality, we are too rural... we do not have a viable revenue collection as the Municipality is owed R239 million by the communities in terms of rates”. The DA added the rates should be fair, bearing in mind the Municipality’s background and the current financial situation.

Nxumalo said they want to collect at least 40% of the outstanding R239 million debt. The capital budget allocation to municipalities as per the division of revenue act is as follows: The Greater Kokstad Municipality (R35 million), uBuhlebezwe (R70 million), UMzimkhulu (R101 million) and Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma (R113 million).



**Some of the dignitaries including Mayors and the speakers from the Municipalities within the district of Harry Gwala were part of the budget adoption to witness the successful event.**



Harry Gwala District Municipality Speaker Cllr. Sibongiseni Mdunge, visiting the family in Umzimkhulu where fourteen people are living in a two-bedroom house. Here he is seen with a family member describing her difficulty on daily basis as no one is employed and they all survive on social grants.



**Cllr Mdunge:** Taking care of the **NEEDY** should not only be the government’s responsibility but the private sector’s as well...”





**Speaker Cllr Sibongiseni Mdunge together with the District and UMzumkhulu Disaster Unit delivering food for the family.**



**The condition of the house that fourteen people live in.**

**T**HE Speaker of the Harry Gwala District Municipality, Councillor Sibongiseni Mdunge has appealed to the private sector not to take a backseat when it comes to finding solutions to community challenges but they should also join hands and help by donating any assistance that might help put food on the table for the needy.

Cllr Mdunge made this call when he visited a family of fourteen family members living in a two bedroom house, in an unbearable and not conducive situation in uMzimkhulu where they also donated groceries.

The family was identified during campaigning programmes for the previous elections and was further profiled to follow all the processes.

It was discovered that the fourteen children live in a two-room house and the other family of five children was also living alone with nothing on the table.

The Speaker, Cllr Mdunge, together with the Disaster Unit in the UMzimkhulu Municipality bought groceries for the families. The family depends on government

grants to put food on the table.

“It should be noted that the groceries we brought will not last long and it is because of this reason why we are calling upon the private sector to come forward and assist the families,” said Cllr Mdunge.

He said their dream is to build a shelter for both families but will continue to consult businesses to donate whatever they can to accomplish their wish of seeing these families living in proper houses.

This further touched a 45-year-old woman who could not hold back her tears saying: “it is very painful to see young kids going to school without food”. She thanked the Municipality for the support, hoping that it was not going to be a once off thing.

“With the recent floods we couldn’t even sleep because the house is not strong, water was leaking. We would like assistance with a house and jobs for us so we can provide for the family,” she said.

Those who wish to assist are encouraged to contact the Speakers Office: 039 834 8700.



**Speaker Cllr. S. Mdunge with an official from UMzimkhulu Disaster Unit delivering food parcels.**



**On his visit Speaker Cllr. S. Mdunge also motivated the children in this family to continue going to school and making sure they improve their living conditions one day.**







The Municipality's initiative to train neither workshop the employees and councillors was commended as an excellent move, which will reap good results for the benefit of the community through the effective service delivery that will be provided by the up-skilled service delivery-driven councillors and officials.

# Training to upskill Councillors and Municipal workers

**I**N an effort to ensure that the Harry Gwala District Municipality has Councillors, Managers, Supervisors and officers are equipped with expertise to expedite service delivery, the Municipality recently embarked on a workshop to train a selected number of Councillors and officials with skills that includes computer literacy and management skills.

The District which is led by Mayor Councillor Z.D. Nxumalo, held the three day workshop at the Main Office and Disaster Centre at Ixopo, to ensure that the Councillors and staff are well equipped to perform their duties.

This workshop material demonstrated to Councillors and managers how to maintain positive workplace relationships by improving specific interpersonal, written,

computer and organizational skills.

Managers were taught how to refine and maintain their systems for effective employee management by setting and tracking goals to meet community and personal objectives.

Managers also learnt techniques to effectively coach, train and support their team members to perform optimally.

The aim of these workshops was for the participants to gain the personal insight and practical skills to develop and implement a framework for successful time management, improving both employee output and organizational effectiveness.

The workshop was steered by the Corporate Services Department in the Municipality.



# An emotional and dignified send-off for Mandisa Sebenza

It was indeed an emotional but a dignified send-off for the late Mrs Mandisa “Nomama” Sebenza (49).

Mrs Sebenza was an employee of the Harry Gwala District Municipality, described as a very humble, hardworking and a humorous person.

She worked as a Disaster Officer before passing away after a short illness and was buried in Chamto Location (UMzimkhulu). She will be remembered by her character which was full of jokes.

During her memorial service held at the Peace Initiative Hall, the Harry Gwala Municipality Speaker, Councillor, Sibongiseni Mdunge consoled the mourners, sending condolences to her family and stressed the Municipality was sharing the same pain as she was not only an employee but had become family to them.

“When we lose one of our own, that simply impacts negatively on service delivery, meaning there will be more workload to a person who will be acting in her position until the Municipality finds a person who will fit in her shoes,” said Cllr Mdunge.

He added that while they are mourning, they are relieved by the fact that the deceased worked at the

Municipality with pride, dedication and commitment.

Cllr Mdunge prayed for strength to the family and to those that were close to her.

The UMzimkhulu Municipality Mayor, Cllr Jabulile Msiya was also part of the memorial service and she described Sebenza as a humble person and a hard worker who will be missed dearly by many.

The National Deputy President of the South African Municipal Workers Union (SAMWU), Mluleki Mbhele said he was proud to have had an employee of Sebenza’s calibre that was committed to her work at all times.

The Acting Municipal Manager, Mrs Thobile Thiyane-Magaqa echoed the same sentiments saying, “we have lost a loved one and a dedicated individual”.

“She was humble and had a sense of humour. We are finding it hard to deal with her sudden death and to close her chapter so easily,” said Mrs Thiyane-Magaqa.

The mourners included workers from the Harry Gwala District Municipality, workers from other municipalities, family and friends who packed the Peace Initiative Hall to bid her farewell. She is survived by her husband and three children.



Speeches of sorrow echoed the packed Peace Initiative Hall in Ixopo when mourners, friends and colleagues were paying their last respect to the most loved and well-respected former employee, Mrs Mandisa Sebenza who was described as a hardworking and dedicated employee who was also passionate about her work. She will forever be missed.





The Harry Gwala District Mayor Councillor, Z.D. Nxumalo together with the Municipality Council Speaker, Councillor, S. Mdunge led a team of councillors and management to visit the Municipal projects with the aim of inspecting them as part of monitoring and playing an oversight role to ensure they intervene where there are challenges. The Acting Municipal Manager, Mrs Thobile Thiyane-Magaqa, was also part of the programme as an accounting officer to ensure the reports go parallel with the work on site.

## Hard-working Harry Gwala leadership regularly visits projects

In order to ensure that what is documented on municipal reports goes parallel with what is happening on the ground in relation to progress on the implementation of water projects, the leadership of the Harry Gwala District Municipality conducted site visits to conduct oversight.

The Harry Gwala District Municipality, under the leadership of the Mayor, Councillor Z.D. Nxumalo simply refuse to sit in their air-conditioned offices but regularly visits all of its projects to assess progress.

This is not only meant for purposes of accountability but to ensure that the services are delivered as per the specifications to the targeted communities.

Leading from the front, Mayor, Cllr Nxumalo, the Speaker, Cllr Sibongiseni Mdunge and management visited projects on different sites to inspect the progress made thus far.

The sites visited included the rectification and upgrade of Fairview and IXopo sewer phase 2 and 3, Ibisi housing sewer reticulation and Greater Summerfield Water supply project both in UMzimkhulu.

During the visit, the Mayor, Cllr Nxumalo engaged

with the management on sites to ascertain as to what could be done in order to fast track these projects and to be sensitized about where there is a need to unblock or unchain some of the challenges raised regarding these projects.

The Mayor said it was important to go on site visits and brave the cold weather to ensure that they as the Municipality do not only rely on reports written by engineers or municipal officials about the progress on the municipal funded projects but they should physically go to the projects to witness whether what is written on reports coincides with what is on sites.

“As leaders, we should not be office or desk bound but we should regularly go out to observe the projects on our own. This does not mean we do not trust the reports from the officials but it is part of our jurisdiction in relation to the oath of office we took that we shall remain public servants at all costs,” Cllr Nxumalo said.

He added the visits were very useful because they are able to intervene where there are challenges resulting in a slow pace or backlogs on certain projects.



The hard-working Mayor, Cllr Z.D Nxumalo with its Speaker, S. Mdunge always prefer to bunk their beautiful offices to be hands-on, shortening their sleeves to witness the progress on site.

# Mayor: “It starts with parents, first..”



The Behavioural Change campaign aimed to educate community members on changing behaviour, was held at Sheshe Hall oFafa, Ward 3, where the Mayor, Cllr, Z.D Nxumalo pleaded with parents to lead by example. Councillors, community members, different Departments including the Department of Health that also provided services to the community members were also part of the event.

**T**HE Harry Gwala District Municipality Mayor, Councillor Z.D. Nxumalo is taking the lead as a parent himself to encourage parents to lead by example for the benefit of their children.

However, this time around, the Mayor, is of the firm view and feels that it all should start with parents first...

The “exemplary behaviour” programme was spearheaded by Nxumalo as part of government’s responsibility to address Moral Regeneration amongst young people but unequivocally from the standpoint that it should start with parents first to lead by example.

The Mayor said this during the Behaviour Change Campaign held at Sheshe Hall at Ofafa recently.

This campaign was aimed at educating community members on behavioural change, drug abuse and providing health services.

Addressing community members, the Mayor said it

was essential that parents lead by example in their homes.

“Parents must lead by example, how we speak and how we conduct ourselves in our homes must be the correct way in which the young ones can learn from. We also need to have dialogues with our kids on sexual issues and behaviour issues,” said Mayor Nxumalo.

He added there is a challenge of unemployment, teenage pregnancy and drug abuse, which in some cases may perhaps be caused by some misbehavioural attitudes towards our kids. He further advised that the community should go back to basics and have home gardens where they plant vegetables and also to keep the young people busy especially during the holidays and on weekends.

The Behavioural Change Campaign is an initiative by HIV and AIDS Directorate in the Office of the Premier in partnership with the Office of the Mayor, at the District Level (Harry Gwala District Municipality).



# “Let’s do Right, even when nobody is watching”



“There won’t be any place to hide for municipal officials who fails to do the right thing.” – That was the message at the campaign titled ‘*I do right even when nobody is watching*’. The event which held at the Peace Initiative Hall in Ixopo addressed issues on maladministration and corruption. Seen at the event were Mayors from Ubuhlebezwe Cllr. E.B Ngubo, UMzimkhulu Municipality Cllr. J. Msiya and Dr Nkosazana Municipality Dlamini-Zuma Cllr. S. Msomi known as MaJobe.

In order to promote the spirit of choosing to do everything right by officials with the intention of instilling ethics, morals and professionalism amongst the public servants, the KwaZulu-Natal Premier, Sihle Zikalala has embarked on a programme titled “I do right, even when nobody is watching”.

The programme aims at ALWAYS ringing a bell of reminding officials that government funds and materials are not meant for them, or their families and friends but should be respected in a manner that always reminds them that it is meant for the upliftment of communities and they are there to serve the public.

The Premier’s call Zikalala was emphasised to ensure that the campaign gains momentum and to make it known that the fight against corruption continues.

The launch of the campaign was attended by different stakeholders. It was rolled out in various sectors of the province. The Harry Gwala District Municipality followed the trend also.

Harry Gwala District Municipality Cllr Z.D. Nxumalo hosted the campaign at the Peace Initiative Hall, in Ixopo recently. The Mayor delivered the keynote address where he noted that it is very important that all officials in the

municipality are aware of such campaigns and urged them not to be tempted to engage in any fraudulent and corruption activities.

“This campaign is necessary to remind everyone about what it is that they need to do in the workplace, to do the correct things even when no one is watching. This is necessary for the advancement of service delivery,” said Mayor Nxumalo.

Harry Gwala District Municipality and its sister Municipalities have developed the Fraud Prevention Policy, Strategy, Implementation Plan and Gift Policy to fight fraud and corruption. Furthermore, the Whistle Blowing Policy which assists to protect whistle-blowers is also in place.

Nxumalo said that all the Municipalities within the District have fraud risk registers which assist as a mitigating factor to minimize the occurrence of fraud. “Our Municipalities have risk management committees which deal with fraud and ethics management. All these committees are chaired by independent chairpersons. Municipalities have established the Municipal disciplinary boards which deal with financial misconduct,” added the Mayor.

# I do Right Campaign

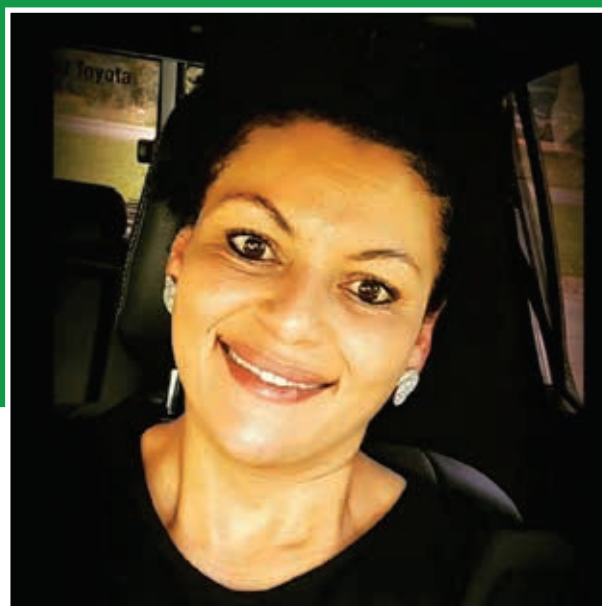


Municipal officials and Councillors and government department officials were in attendance.



# Harry Gwala Development Agency CEO hits the ground running

The Harry Gwala District Municipality has appointed a new Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Antionette Whyte for its Development Agency, the Harry Gwala Development Agency (HGDA).



**Harry Gwala Development Agency Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Ms. Antionette Whyte**

**T**HE new CEO of the Harry Gwala Development Agency wasted no time and hit the ground running, with no secret about her intention to resuscitate the programmes, which the agency is responsible for having assumed the responsibilities of determining the agenda and driving the economic trajectory of Harry Gwala from 01 July 2022.

Whyte graduated - Cum Laude - from the Institute of Business Management with a National Diploma in Business Management and has a qualification in BA, Majors in Development Studies and Political Science from UNISA and from the University of Pretoria she obtained an NQF 6 in Executive Leadership Development Programme and from WITS she passed the NQF6 - Certificate Programme in CPMD. She is currently studying towards her LLB also at UNISA.

Her most recent experience is evidenced in having institutionalised, managed and grown the Local Economic Development Unit of Greater Kokstad Municipality, which was inclusive of championing the Smart City Development Strategy of Kokstad, realising increased investment of approximately R147 million in a period of five years, creating in excess of 2000 work opportunities through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) as well as an oversight of the SANRAL led Kokstad N2 Interchange, SMME business retention and expansion, together with growth in the agricultural sector through municipal led projects, the most notable being the Franklin Hydroponic Tunnel project which has secured commercial off-take arrangements.

In responding to a question of what her goals and dreams are, her answer was simple, "To live my purpose". She believes that hers is to "fertilize the soil and plant trees that will provide shade to and feed future generations".

Whyte is a strong believer in working as a collective and as a team. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge, experience and her keen ability to forge and strengthen partnerships.

In placing the role of the CEO into context, the Harry Gwala Development Agency was established in 2012 as an entity of the District (Harry Gwala District Municipality),

tasked with identifying key areas of growth, formulating strategies for economic development, sourcing funding and therefore holistically driving the economic agenda, inclusive of facilitating access to business models for SMMEs and job creation methods. The Agency has, however, encountered numerous challenges through the years, the most recent being limited functionality of the Agency.

In developing a Turn-Around Strategy with short-, medium- and long-term indicators, Whyte's priority is to resuscitate the functionality of the Agency through responding to attracting investment into the region through partnerships with the private sector, funding institutions and facilitating access to opportunities to SMME with the focus on government's priority groups.

When asked what has been her biggest learning experience since becoming a CEO, she responded that it is not necessarily a lesson but a reminder that "we are all but one small link in the entire scheme of life and that you have to constantly ensure that everyone around you has similar intentions".

In her free time, she enjoys reading and spending quality time with family and friends. "Family is very important, they are your anchor, and friends are your mirrors", she added.

To the question of what gets her up in the morning? she replied: "There are two "alarm clocks", the first alarm is my daughter and my daily commitment to be the best mother that I can be by responding to all her needs, teaching her independence and accountability and providing her with a toolkit that will inform her journey in this life. The second alarm – my hope that by my actions, the lives of others are changed for the better. To live my legacy."



Attending the IDP were Amakhosi and iziNduna from different areas in the Harry Gwala District.

## Mayor Nxumalo engages Traditional leaders

**I**n a mission to ensure that traditional leaders play a pivotal role in the delivery of services by Harry Gwala District Municipality, Mayor, Councillor Z.D. Nxumalo has taken the first step forward in this regard by engaging the local traditional leaders about the Municipality’s budget and how it has been shaped to respond to the needs of the people of this District.

The intention is to include all sectors of communities and not only involve the view of community members through Public Participation Programmes that are in line with the Integrated Development Programmes (IDP) when developing the budget.

However, the above mentioned programme of public participation does not prevent traditional leaders from participating but the Mayor, Cllr Nxumalo felt they needed to be afforded their specific time where they would be at liberty to address the Municipality head-on.

Cllr Nxumalo tabled the budget to the Traditional Authority, which was commended especially the aspects that talk to the challenges of the communities, particularly those in rural areas.

The Mayor, Cllr, Nxumalo said it was necessary that Amakhosi and iziNduna are aware of what the municipality is planning regarding the budget.

“The municipality further held strategic sessions to discuss the budget, that is why we needed to address the Traditional Authority so that their input and comments should also be noted and attended to by the Municipality,” said Mayor Nxumalo.

The Mayor also encouraged Amakhosi to address community members when the Municipality convenes IDP and Budget Izimbizo on service delivery plans and progress on projects that have been attended to.

He also addressed the issue of census that its workers should be allowed to count the people as it would be to the government’s advantage to know the number of the people in the country and the statuses of communities as to how many graduates are sitting with degrees at home and how this challenge would be dealt with.

“As the Municipality we rely so much on you as Amakhosi and Izinduna to send out the message of service delivery to your people.”

“We want to hear what development you want to see, who needs water and our services in your communities. In such meetings we then discuss ways of improving where it is necessary to do so,” said Cllr Nxumalo.

He further shared his contact details with Amakhosi to contact him about anything regarding service delivery -related challenges.



That Harry Gwala District Mayor, Councillor, Z.D. Nxumalo deliberating relevant matters during the adoption of 2022/23 financial year Budget



Speaker S. Mdunge addressing Amakhosi at the IDP meeting held at Soweto Hall in iXopo



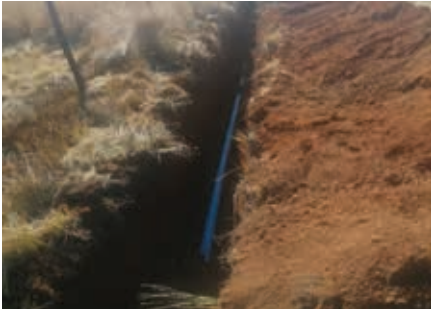
INKosi V. V. Zimema addressing Amakhosi at the IDP meeting.

“The Municipality and traditional leaders need to work together to develop the communities we are leading,” said Mayor Nxumalo.

INKosi Phathisizwe Chiliza, the former Chairperson of the House of Traditional Leaders in KwaZulu-Natal, speaking at this engagement expressed his gratitude on the good relationship between Amakhosi and the Harry Gwala District Municipality.

He also encouraged traditional leaders to work together with municipalities to speed up service delivery.





# HIGHFLATS WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

**T**HE project is located within ward 13 of the uBuhlebezwe Municipality within the jurisdiction of the Harry Gwala District Municipality.

The Project comprises of the construction of 10 standpipes so as to ensure that the community is provided with an adequate, safe and reliable supply of potable water.

The village that will benefit from this scheme is Highflats informal settlement.

All projects being conducted subscribe to EPWP conditions and procedures. The contractor is to use labour intensive construction methods to its maximum and improve the health and hygiene situation in the area as a result of the project

### Project data

Commencement Date: 12 April 2022  
Completion Date: 12 December 2022  
Contract Amount: R 8 044 554.48

### Project Team:

Engineering Consultants: Lesedi Technical Engineering Consulting  
Contractors: Makize's Plumbing and Projects (PTY) LTD

### Scope of works

- (a) Site establishment
- (b) Site clearance
- (c) Excavation for pipe trenches
- (d) Pipe bedding, laying and backfilling
- (e) Installation of 10 No. of standpipes
- (f) Testing of pipelines
- (g) Equipping of 2 No. of Boreholes at Highflats to supply elevated Tank
- (h) Supply and Installation of 150kl elevated pressed steel tank on 10m high stand
- (i) Clearing, Clean and de-establishing
- (j) Reinstating all areas affected by works to condition initially found at from the commencement of work

# HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY EPWP GRADUATION JUNE 2022

Harry Gwala District Municipality conducted a graduation ceremony for all EPWP Participants that have participated in the EPWP projects implemented throughout the district in June 2022.

As a token of appreciation, they were awarded certificate of completion to different fields such as:

- Water meter installation
- Cleaning of facilities and office buildings

- General office maintenance
- Water meter reading
- Household data collection
- Pipe laying
- Data Capturing

Harry Gwala District created 1100 Wok opportunities on capital projects implementation and on incentive grant allocation.



# BATHO PELE WORKSHOP



The Municipality has identified the need to conduct a two-day Batho Pele workshop designed for municipal employees.

The workshop was held on the 21st and 22nd of June 2022. The workshop focused on how to make Batho Pele a reality in the workplace, and to ensure the alignment of Batho Pele Principles into the Municipality's work plans.

Furthermore, the workshop will assist the employees to restore old skills and knowledge of Batho Pele Principles.

During her opening remarks, the Acting Municipal Manager Mrs. T.T. Thiyane – Magaqa highlighted that Batho Pele was not a stand-alone concept, however, the principles are means to enhance service delivery.

## SPRING PROTECTION PROJECT

### Background

The Harry Gwala District Municipality (HGDM) is one of the Water Service Authority (WSA) municipalities in the KwaZulu-Natal province. The HGDM consists of four local municipalities (LMs); namely uBuhlebezwe, UMzimkhulu, Greater Kokstad and Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma LMs that are categorized as water services areas in terms of water service provisioning. Most rural villages in the Harry Gwala District Municipality still depend on standalone water supply schemes that provide an interim supply of potable water to the communities whilst the municipality implements multi-year projects which intend to provide bulk potable water from reliable sources.

The Harry Gwala District Municipality developed a business plan to be funded under the Accelerated Water Intervention Programme that was submitted to the provincial Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA) to solicit funding for the 2021/2022 financial year. The primary objectives of the business plan was to address water shortages and relieve the backlog that the District is faced with in the provision of access to basic water services.

### Intervention

The District earmarked on the development of water springs protection to address the water challenges faced by the District as per the Provincial Water Masterplan developed by CoGTA. The District appointed a contractor to address the aforementioned challenges.

All tender procurement processes were followed on the appointment of the contractors;

- Mthuthukiswa Construction Pty Ltd was appointed for the universal spring protection for the villages of UMzimkhulu, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, and uBuhlebezwe Local Municipalities, under contract number: HGDM757/HGDM/2022.

### Scope of Work

The scope of work for the universal spring protection entailed the construction of v-boxes, installation of a 5 000L static storage tank, construction of a water connector pipeline from the v-box to the storage tank, and the installation of the standpipe, water spring fencing, and installation of a pedestrian gate.





### Beneficiaries

The construction of the aforementioned projects has been completed and the below communities are benefiting from the program.

No.	Local Municipality	Village	Ward	Household Count
1	Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma	Dumabezwe	13	70
2		Mpthini	12	43
3		Qulashe	6	34
4		Scedeni	6	21
5		Mpumulawane	5	31
6		kwaPhini	9	54
7	uBuhlebezwe	Ncakubane	1	21
8		Gudwini	8	42
9		Nhlawukeni	8	39
10		Goxe	8	41
11		Nhlangwini	8	40
12		Nhlawukeni	8	35
13		Sigcakeni	8	65
14	Springvale	9	35	
15	UMzimkhulu	Ntshongo	10	70
16		St Patrick	1	61
17		Nozingili	3	90
18		Nazareth	7	85
19		Phelanyoni	8	105
20		Esikhulu	18	76
21		Mbumbane	12	90

# WSIG PROJECTS

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of this programme is to ensure that the population of the Harry Gwala District Municipality is relieved of the stress resulting from a lack of potable water supplies, which are reliable and of acceptable quality. This is through the supply and installation of intervention water supplied through funds supplied by the Department of Water and Sanitation under the Water Services Infrastructure Grant (WSIG). WSIG must serve extensive areas over Municipal jurisdiction with the main aim to eradicate backlog, fast-track service delivery as well as water demand and conservation management.

## PROJECT NAME: NOKWEJA-MASHUMI WATER SUPPLY

**Contractor:** Nomafusi Projects JV  
Kuyazanywa Construction  
**Contract Budget:** R3 500 330.52  
**Status:** Practical Completed

## BACKGROUND:

The Nokweja water supply scheme is made up of 19 villages. The water supply scheme is subdivided into 12

zones (namely Reservoir B to Reservoir F, Res 2 to Res 8) based on the elevation and the main water supply reservoirs servicing the scheme. Nokweja water supply scheme has water resource, and maintenance challenges on the existing bulk distribution network, and as such, water does not reach certain villages within the water supply scheme. Thus, this project focuses mostly on the short-term interventions to address the immediate water shortage challenges in zones E and F, which encompasses Nokweja, Ramaphosa, Nongongonini, Nkomeni, Two thousand and Mawusheni villages. Two boreholes equipped with hand pumps were identified in Nokweja and Nongongonini villages and earmarked for the project. ZCE appointed a geo-hydrology to conduct a yield test to establish the available yields and water quality of the two boreholes. The two boreholes were found to have sufficient yields to meet the current water needs of the two zones (E and F) in the Nokweja WSS scheme at a level of service of 25l/d/ca. The project will serve 816 beneficiaries. Due to the delay by Eskom with the installation of power, the project was delayed. Currently, we install diesel generators for operational purposes. Both pump houses have separate generators.

Table 2 below shows the location of the villages under study in this report.

No	Village	Location		Ward	Local Municipality
		Longitude	Latitude		
1	Kwa Ramaphosa	30° 1'54.96"E	30°16'57.92"S	Ward 11	Ubuhlebezwe LM
2	Kwa2000	30° 1'34.12"E	30°17'49.75"S		
3	Nkomeni	30° 1'40.23"E	30°19'26.14"S		
4	Ngongonini	30° 2'4.83"E	30°18'13.32"S		
5	Africa/Nokweja	30° 1'38.70"E	30°17'19.75"S		
6	Mawusheni	30° 0'33.11"E	30°18'18.41"S		

## PROJECT BRIEF

Construction of water supply pipelines (Rising Main) from two boreholes (new and existing) to existing

reservoirs within the Nokweja-Mashumi area. The project commenced on 27 April 2021 and was completed on 30 September 2021. The aim of the project was to serve the community with potable water.



Pump house inside with borehole inside



Connection chamber to the existing reservoir



Diesel generators



**PROJECT NAME:  
CAPITA INFRASTRUCTURE REFURBISHMENT/  
UPGRADE IN UMZIMKHULU LOCAL  
MUNICIPALITY**

**Contractor:** Novubu Construction  
**Contract Budget:** R21 542 977.87  
**Status:** Final completed

**BACKGROUND:**

Rehabilitation of an existing UMzimkhulu river water abstraction forms part of Capital Infrastructure/Upgrade of UMzimkhulu LM Villages that aims to supply water around UMzimkhulu Villages within Harry Gwala District Municipality. The current scope of this project is to alleviate the problems currently experienced in raw water from the UMzimkhulu River.

**PROJECT BRIEF**

The project objectives are to review, extend and upgrade/

refurbish the existing scheme, maintain efficient and effective use of water resources within UMzimkhulu town as well as create job opportunities for a limited number of people. The concrete pump station building, including necessary earthwork and erosion stabilization. Installation of a pump and associated mechanical and electrical works. Construction of paved access road. All necessary environment rehabilitation. Construction of a 450mm PVC Class 16 raw rising main. Construction of a structural steel bridge over the Mvubukazi River. The project will serve 2287HH. The project has a standby diesel generator that operates as a source of power since Eskom is delaying the installation of electricity. It is the first big project under WSIG to be implemented by the department of Water Services and was completed within the anticipated time. It is operational with our operation staff.

**LOCALITY**

The locality is based on area and will be in the form of the following co-ordinates: 22 22' 22"E 33 33' 33"S



Inhlambamasoka Pump house



Complete pump house



Slab for pump house



Mbizweni pump house



Two pumps



HGDM Team from left to right:  
Sibusiso Madlala, Plumber  
Nokukhanya Mkhize, Project Manager

**PROJECT NAME:  
CONSTRUCTION OF WATER SUPPLY  
INFRASTRUCTURE FOR IDENTIFIED VILLAGES  
IN UMZIMKHULU - MASAMINI - MBUZWENI  
WATER SUPPLY**

**Contractor:** Boboshe Trading Enterprise  
**Sub-Contractor 1:** Mnotho Investment (Pty) Ltd JV Sibalukhulu Trading  
**Sub-Contractor 2:** Vigour Health Star (PTY)  
**Contract Budget:** R 14 775 359.82  
**Status:** Practical Completed

**BACKGROUND:**

The Masamini Mbuzweni Water Supply Scheme is formed by seven (7) villages namely (Sangweni, Rauka, Nonginqa /Nkukhwini, Nqokozweni, Dumisa, and Myembe ), which all fall under UMzimkhulu Local Municipality (ULM) which is one of the four local municipalities that fall within the HGDM. UMzimkhulu Local Municipality is mostly rural and dominated by traditional land ownership. The area has about 90.8% of the population residing in rural areas, while the remaining 9.2% are urban-base. Hulu is a town in Harry Gwala District Municipality in the KwaZulu-Natal province of South Africa. The UMzimkhulu town lies 243 km north-

east Mthatha and 18 km south-southwest, it borders the outskirts of Drakensberg mountain ranges near Ward 1 of UMzimkhulu LM.

The beneficiaries of this project are about 11 200 people covered by the seven (7) villages. The reason

behind the implementation of this project was to cover the huge backlog of proper consumable water by poor communities of UMzimkhulu LM.

One below shows a 20-year population projection per village from 2020 to year 2040.

Table 1: Population data for seven villages

Village	Counted Households 2the 020	Counted population year 2020	Projected Population @ Growth Rate 0,5%/a			
			Year 2025	Year 2030	Year 2035	Year 2040
Dumisa	1129	5645	5788	5934	6084	6237
Myembe	233	1000	1025	1051	1078	1105
Nonginqi	532	2590	2655	2722	2791	2862
Nkukhwini	180	400	410	420	431	442
Nqokozweni	143	715	733	752	771	790
Rhuwaka	150	750	769	788	808	829
Sangweni	20	100	103	105	108	110
Total	2387	11 200	11 483	11 773	12 070	12 375

Number of new water connections meeting minimum standards

**Sangweni 20 HH**  
**Nonginqi 429 HH**

Number of rehabilitated water connections to public/communal facilities

**Dumisa 1129 HH**  
**Nonginqi 103 HH**  
**Nkukhwini 180 HH**  
**Nqokozweni 143 HH**  
**Rhuwaka 150 HH**

NB: Due to budget the one village, Myembe village not rehabilitated due to the enlargement of the scope of works.

Hence, the total number of served households is 2154 HH

The findings of the investigation of this project had proven that these villages have infrastructure that is aging or inadequate or no water supply sources, lack of infrastructure, and in most instances unprotected and unsafe water sources to be consumed by humans, also most people walk long unreasonable distances to fetch water.

Now this project has assisted the people residing in these communities by providing them with proper infrastructure and safe water, which they get within a 200m radius from their homes. Even for the elderly people it is now easy for them to be able to get water on their own because now the water is nearer to their homes.

All the junctions and standpipes have installed linear-motion isolation valves with the ability to either stop or allow flow in cases of emergencies like a broken tap and a pipe leak used to isolate specific parts of the water supply network for maintenance, repair, and new

installation operations, as well as to reroute water flow throughout the pipeline.

## PROJECT BRIEF

UMzimkhulu Local Municipality is predominantly rural in nature with a high unemployment rate and many people living below the poverty line. At present people within the area of study in the local municipality depend on natural sources like streams, rivers, and springs for their potable water supply. Water in many areas is not purified and this makes these areas exposed or prone to cholera and other waterborne diseases. The quality of water is generally poor. Water from the main pipeline supplies and from the boreholes is not always in working order. Most of the existing water distribution networks are below the minimum level of services, thus people often have to fetch water outside the stipulated 200m radius from their place of residence.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proposed scope of works and implementation plan for the seven (7) villages proposed in this report will be conducted as part of phase 1 of the project while the rest of the remaining villages will be catered for as part of phase 2 of the project based on the availability of the budget. The seven (7) villages considered in this report are in the jurisdiction of UMzimkhulu Local Municipality (UMzimkhulu LM is one of the four local municipalities that fall within the HGDM). UMzimkhulu Local Municipality is mostly rural and dominated by traditional land ownership. The area has about 90.8% of the population residing in rural areas, while the remaining 9.2% are urban-based. The population of the seven villages under study in this report is about 11



200 people. According to the 2018 Harry Gwala WSA: WSDP-IDP Water Sector Input Report, UMzimkhulu Local Municipality has the second highest number of water supply backlogs of 11 094 households compared to the total number of 34 287 of the entire Harry Gwala District Municipality.

Table 2: Village location

No	Village	Location			Local Municipality
		Longitude	Latitude	Ward	
1	Dumisa	29°43'37.31"E	30°13'24.15"S	6	uMzimkhulu Local Municipality
2	Nkukhwini	29°33'0.39"E	30°10'13.02"S	4	
3	Sangweni	29°29'42.45"E	30° 5'52.76"S	1	
4	Myembe	29°46'40.83"E	30°10'38.78"S	21	
5	Ngqokozweni	29°50'42.30"E	30°11'52.41"S	7	
6	Rietvlei, Mbuzweni,	29°49'17.74"E	30°29'42.89"S	12	
	Rhuwaka				
7	Nonginqi	29°34'3.64"E	30°10'9.75"S	4	



## AMNESTY PROGRAMME

The Harry Gwala District Municipality Mayor Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo encourages all residents to use the amnesty programme provided by the municipality to pay for services.

From June the Municipality has been implementing an Amnesty Programme with the intention to reinforce the culture of payment for municipal water and sanitation charges.

In light of the above, Harry Gwala District Municipality has resolved to offer amnesty to water and sanitation customers whose accounts are 180 days or more in arrears. The qualifying customers who wish to benefit from the amnesty will have to come to the municipality's offices, either in Ixopo, Umzimkhulu or Kokstad, to obtain amnesty application forms, which upon completion, must be submitted to the same office. The closing date for the amnesty is the 30 September 2022.

Mayor Nxumalo said: " Customers

are encouraged to make use of this amnesty opportunity. If you are not sure what to do, go to our offices and you will get an explanation," said Mayor Nxumalo.

The amnesty shall be administered as follows:

1. Accounts of which 50% of the overall debt are paid within 30 days after the signing of the amnesty application forms will be written off by 50% of their outstanding debt.
2. Accounts of which 50% of the overall debt are paid within 60 days after the signing of the amnesty application forms will be written off by 40% of their outstanding debt.
3. Accounts of which 50% of the overall debt are paid within 90 days after the signing of the amnesty application forms will be written off by 30% of their outstanding debt.
4. Accounts of which 50% of the overall

debt are paid within 120 days after the signing of the amnesty application forms will be written off by 20% of their outstanding debt.

5. Accounts of which are paid 50% of the overall debt are paid within 150 days after the signing of the amnesty application forms will be written off by 10% of their outstanding debt.
6. Qualifying customers who are unable to take up the amnesty offer in terms of the above cited five (5) categories are offered to make debt payment arrangements with the municipality, subject to terms and conditions stipulated in the debt arrangement form obtainable from the municipal offices in Kokstad, Umzimkhulu or Ixopo.
7. Customers are encouraged to make use of this amnesty opportunity.
8. The amnesty excludes Municipal Councillors, government departments and state owned enterprises.

### FOR ENQUIRIES:

Vuyokazi Mfenqa (Director Income) (039) 834 5529/8700

#### KOKSTAD OFFICE

Thando Mdlophane/Qinisile Mchunu (039) 727 2723

#### UMZIMKHULU OFFICE

Siviwe Mseleku (039) 834 8783  
Nomathamsanqa Biyase (039) 834 8717  
Khanyisile Mlaba (039) 259 0500

#### MAIN OFFICE IXOPO

Siviwe Mseleku (039) 834 8783  
Nomathamsanqa Biyase (039) 834 8717  
Mbalenhle Mzizi (039) 834 8772

#### NKOSAZANA DLAMINI ZUMA (INGWE AND KWASANI)

Siviwe Mseleku (039) 834 8783  
Nomathamsanqa Biyase (039) 834 8717  
Lwazi Mdladla (039) 834 8722



The Communications Unit within the Harry Gwala District Municipality held a Communications Unit for all the employees, to remind them that communicating with the public is part of service delivery. Attendees got an opportunity to ask question and be part of the discussion.

# Communications Workshop

**C**OMMUNICATION is important for any municipality as it provides feedback about municipal programmes and encourages public participation within local government as part of the decision processes through effective use of appropriate communication tools and public participation processes.

This is why the Harry Gwala District Municipality's Communications Unit embarked on a communication workshop for all employees, to remind them that communicating with the public is part of service delivery.

The Communications Unit held a Communications Workshop for all Harry Gwala District Municipality employees, to educate and inform them about what the

unit does and the importance of internal and external communications in the municipality.

This workshop was necessary after seeing the need to address internal communication and the use of social media for all employees.

This workshop was held at the Disaster Centre in March. All departments were scheduled to attend at different times.

Communication Manager, Mr Ndabezitha Tenza led the workshop programme.

Tenza emphasised that it is necessary for all employees to be aware of all the municipal communications channels and also acquaint themselves about social media etiquettes related to the Municipality.





The Harry Gwala District Municipality presented to the Deputy Ministers on services rendered in the district at the iMbizo.



Speaker Cllr. Sibongiseni Mdunge, on his remarks during the iMbizo



Harry Gwala District Municipality Acting Municipal Manager Mrs Thobile-Magaqa and the former Co-operate Department Director Ms. Neziswa Lungwengwe

# A community imbizo in the Harry Gwala District Municipality

**T**HE Deputy Minister of Human Settlements Pam Tshwete, together with other Deputy Ministers, convened an interdepartmental Community Imbizo at the Kromhoek Sports Field, Ward 20, in UMzimkhulu Local Municipality recently. At this gathering they unpack governmental programmes and plans for the Harry Gwala District Municipality (HGDM).

Other Ministers present at the Imbizo included Deputy Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy, Dr. Nobuhle Nkabane, the Deputy Minister of Forestry and Fisheries and Environmental Affairs, Ms Makhotso Magdeline Soty, the Deputy Minister of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs, responsible for Traditional Affairs, Mr Obed Bapela, the Deputy Minister in the Presidency, Ms Pinky Kekana, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Ms. Nokuzola Capa, the Deputy Minister of Police, Mr Cassel Mathale.

The Deputy Minister of Employment and Labour, Ms Boitumelo Moloi and the Deputy Minister of Small Business Development, Mr Sdumo Dlamini were also in attendance.

The Community Imbizo tackled issues related to

human settlements, agriculture, safety and security, economic development, water and sanitation, environment and social development. This was part of government interventions which is aimed at accelerating service delivery through the District Development Model (DDM).

Harry Gwala District Municipality Speaker Sibongiseni Mdunge, welcoming officials and members of the community emphasised that what is important is working together in bringing service delivery for the people of Harry Gwala District Municipality.

“We are working together with communities and stakeholders to ensure that we provide clean and drinkable water. Our District is striving to improve in agriculture and tourism sectors,” said Speaker Mdunge.

Community member Nhlakanipho Mojaja who attended the Imbizo said he was fortunate to have been part of the programme because it addressed concerns he had with starting a business and getting information about funding from government.

“This Imbizo is going to assist us especially who are looking to start our own businesses, we got information about government funding which is important for us to know,” said Nhlakanipho.



# A healthy working environment



Aerobics were part of the wellness day where employees put down their suits and ties to show others how it was done.

**T**HE Harry Gwala District Municipality on Wednesday, 15 June 2022, had a Wellness Day at the main office in Ixopo, as part of an ongoing initiative to improve and sustain the employees' emotional, physical and financial well-being.

The initiative was co-ordinated by the Corporate Services Department (Occupational Health and Safety) in the District.

Health Care Practitioners were invited to conduct tests on glucose, blood pressure, cholesterol, eye testing and voluntary HIV/AIDS counselling. Other activities of the day included financial education, diversity

management in the workplace, injury on duty and medical aid exhibitions and aerobics.

Addressing employees, Director of Corporate Services Department, Miss Neziswa Lungwengwe, said: "A Workplace Wellness Day helps to promote healthy lifestyle behaviours, and builds a sense of team and culture cohesiveness. It can provide employees with a fun, healthy and interactive way to connect and recharge,"

She encouraged employees to use the services provided for free.

The financial wellness was also important part of the package as over-indebtedness among employees could negatively impact on productivity in the work place.



Employees listened extensively to the advice given on wellness issues.



Occupational Health and Safety (HOS) Officer Xolo Mhlongo, took the Covid-19 vaccination booster.



Employees at Harry Gwala District Municipality gathered for the wellness day at the main office in Ixopo





## CONTACT US

Physical Address:  
**40 Main Street, Ixopo, 3276**

Postal Address:  
**Private Bag X501, Ixopo, 3276**


**Tel: (039) 834 8700**

**Fax: (039) 834 1701**

**Inombolo yokhathalelo lwabathengi:  
0860 103 651**

 Harry Gwala District Municipality

 @harrygwala

 @harrygwala

**[www.harrygwalamunicipality.gov.za](http://www.harrygwalamunicipality.gov.za)**