



# 2024 OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

HARRY GWALA  
DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

VOLUME 3 | ISSUE 2



*Together we Deliver and Grow*



 Harry Gwala District Municipality

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

## **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



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# The journey for the new administration has begun



**Mr Ndabezitha Tenza**  
Communications Manager

**A**LLOW me to humbly greet you all our trusted readers. As we wrap up the financial year of 2023/2024, I wish to express my sincere gratitude for your continued support. It is through your support, ongoing engagements and guidance that we remain inspired and eager to deliver on your expectations. Ours remain simple; keeping the community and all stakeholders informed. Our publication is produced and published quarterly, intending to report on the progress of service delivery as well as other functional activities that our municipality takes priority in. It is the transparency in our reporting style that makes our publication to stand out. Brace yourself with detailed reports from our departments. Recently, and on the 29th of May 2024 to be specific, South Africa held highly contested national elections due to the nature of our political landscape. Citizens have expressed their voices by voting in the election and forming what is called public opinion. As we are starting the new journey under the seventh administration, we are confident that there will be a change in the approach to service delivery matters. The more than 27.6 million people registered to vote in the recently held elections reflect our achievements as a government in communicating the importance of participation. We have been long advocating for an engaged society in this country. An engaged society participates in all structures of government including voting in elections.

The Municipal Systems Act (MSA) (Act 32 of 2000) chapter 4 (16) (1) provides that a municipality must develop a culture of municipal governance that complements formal representative government with a system of participatory governance, and must for this purpose encourage, and create conditions for, the local community to participate in the affairs of the municipality. The administration, Councillors, and officials of Harry Gwala District Municipality have been on the ground preparing, implementing, and reviewing its integrated development plan in terms of chapter 5 of the same act across all wards from the District to local level through working with our colleagues from local municipalities.

### Grant funding reporting

Moreover, the Municipal Infrastructure Grant, which is one of the important aspects of advancing service delivery through the national and provincial government spheres, aims to eradicate municipal infrastructure backlogs and to ensure the provision of basic services which in our case is water and sanitation. A reporting session was held on the 10th of April 2024 at the Harry Gwala District Municipality Council Chambers in Ixopo where a status quo on grants expenditure for all municipalities within the District was presented, the status of internal audit, risk management and performance management units. A report was also received on progress in terms of preparation of interim or quarterly financial statements and other issues relating to grant expenditure.

### Harry Gwala Marathon

Yet another exciting edition of the Harry Gwala District Marathon was held over the Easter weekend (31st March 2024), which made it distinct from the previous races. Runners expressed different views about it being an uprun, starting from Ibisi Police Station to finishing at Ixopo High School. It was a joyful moment when one of our own, Mholi Jali from Umzimkhulu scooped the top position of the men's 42.2km. Harry Gwala District Municipality Mayor, Zamo Nxumalo surprised everyone when he participated in the 10km race.

### Youth Council

In terms of framework for the establishment and functionality of District and local youth councils, a two-day Harry Gwala Youth Summit was held at The Oaks Country Hotel in Richmond. This summit was aimed at engaging the youth about issues affecting them in all aspects of life and also giving them insight into how maximum youth development can be achieved. The Municipality's continued partnership with both national and provincial government has been continuing, the Champion and KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety, and Liaison, Siphon Hlomuka has officiated several contractor handovers for the upgrade of roads across the District, namely uBuhlebezwe, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, uMzimkhulu, and Greater Kokstad Municipalities. These roads will be upgraded from gravel to blacktop, where more jobs are expected to be created.

### Mayoral Cup

The Harry Gwala District Mayoral Cup was held on the 4th of May 2024 after competitive games at local stages, at the Jeffrey Zungu Sports field in Ixopo. These games started at a ward level, winners participated at the level of the local Municipality and then proceeded to the district level. All teams that managed to obtain first and second positions at local levels qualified to partake in the District Mayoral Cup.

The above are some of the stories and reports that you should expect in our magazine pages. I wish to extend my gratitude to the communications team for the work they have done in this edition and every day in informing our citizens about the work of the District. I thank you.



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

**MR LINDOKUHLE CHILIZA**  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: REGIONAL COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR (GCIS)

**MISS FEZILE MNGONYAMA**  
COMMUNICATIONS INTERN

# We have implemented and continue to implement projects related to our core mandate

Greetings to all citizens of the Harry Gwala District.

## Reflections as the financial year draws to a close.

**O**N 30 June 2024 we would mark the close of the 2023/2024 financial year. It is important that the sphere of government tasked with the provision of water and sanitation in the region encourage all citizens throughout the sister municipalities that form our progressive district to reflect on what has been achieved when it comes to their requests. This is encapsulated once more in this edition of the previous editions we have compiled in this financial year.

Our tasks have been executed with extreme visualization of how they will positively impact the communities we serve which, by design and historical standards, are largely rural communities. It will be recalled that the District has made great and significant strides in upping the ante on the provision of water, which is a basic right, coupled with the provision of decent sanitation for all within our region.

The District Municipality has implemented and continues to implement projects related to our core mandate and we will be unrelenting as we inch forward to the full realization of ensuring that every household in the District has safe drinkable water and decent sanitation.

## Adoption of 2024/2025 annual budget

The Harry Gwala District Municipality's Annual Budgets for the 2024 - 2025 financial year was tabled at our Full Council recently. I am happy to update the citizens that the budget was approved with no objections. This is yet another confidence booster to the leadership and administration of the District in that this proves once more that we are on the right track as the budget approved without objections spoke directly to implementing the needs and challenges that were raised by communities during the public participation programmes that informed and shaped the final budget allocations.

While tabling the budget for approval I stated that the budget the processes leading up to the final budget adoption were unique in that they



His Worship the District Mayor Cllr. Z.D Nxumalo

**The District Municipality has implemented and continues to implement projects related to our core mandate and we will be unrelenting as we inch forward to the full realization of ensuring that every household in the District has safe drinkable water and decent sanitation.**

had taken into cognisance the 30th Anniversary of South Africa's democracy. Our mission over the past 30 years has been to restore both social and economic justice to our nation, and to decisively

address the inequality that was the symbol of systemic discrimination and dispossession and that our budgets since 1994, have been about securing the goal of growing the economy, so we can do more to address the inequalities and deprivation that still scar the society and undermine our democracy.

I must reiterate that the Harry Gwala District Municipality is one of the ten districts in the province faced with challenges similar to other districts in providing basic services and addressing backlogs. The goal of the district municipality is to enhance service delivery aimed at improving the quality of lives for all in the district. As the leadership we have made a commitment to the community of Harry Gwala that it will continue to deliver services better, faster and smarter in order to build a performance-oriented municipality. Guided by these imperatives, the municipality has implemented a range of initiatives that responded to the eradication of the triple challenges, poverty, unemployment, and inequality.

Even though we face unique challenges we certainly and indeed have unique strengths. Our citizens are resilient, our landscapes are rich with potential and our resolve to improve living standards is unwavering and the 2024/2025 annual budget is designed to complement these strengths and seeks to address most pressing needs while laying the foundation for future growth and prosperity.

### **New financial year, improving service delivery pace!**

The new financial year will kick-off in earnest on July 1, 2024 amid the challenges and strengths that we must bridge in ensuring the implementation of the capital projects and our District programs with haste and with vigour. There are multitude of challenges that HGDM is faced with in its endeavor to provide basic water and sanitation services, these include but not limited to:

- **Ageing Infrastructure:** The Municipality grapples with ageing water and sanitation infrastructure, which poses a significant obstacle to efficient service delivery and sustainability.
- **Vandalism:** Frequent acts of vandalism against water and sanitation facilities exacerbate operational difficulties and financial strain on the Municipality.
- **Insufficient Bulk Water Supply:** Inadequate bulk water supply infrastructure fails to meet the burgeoning demands of the local population, resulting in erratic service provision. That is being addressed through projects like Mqumeni,

Summerfield, Creighton, Bulwer Dam (on the planning stage), and Kempdale Dam.

- **Continuous Backlog:** this is due to the limited or lack of resources to provide sustainable water and sanitation services.
- **Non-payment of services:** this is due to lack of appetite to pay for water and sanitation services by consumers, especially those that are not indigent.

### **Tariff increase**

The water & sanitation tariffs are proposed to increase by 8% considering economic viability of Harry Gwala District Municipality for the ensuing year. With that being stated I am pleased to announce an amnesty program for residents to take advantage of this. This program offers an opportunity for those with long outstanding debts to settle their accounts and receive discounts. I urge all residents to pay for essential services. You are not only supporting the maintenance and expansion of our water and sanitation systems but also ensuring their sustainability for future generations. To facilitate fair and transparent billing, we have allocated funds for the installation of water smart meters for an equitable billing system.

### **2024/2025 annual budget breakdown**

On behalf of the Executive committee of council I am hereby privileged to announce the 2024/2025 budget of R935,5 million.

The budget is outlined as follows:

- Government Grants and Subsidies – Capital R318m
- Government Grants and Subsidies – Operational R512m
- Own Revenue R104m

The budget is a reflection of our commitment to the people of Harry Gwala District Municipality. It is roadmap for progress, designed to address our current challenges while laying the groundwork for a prosperous and sustainable future. I call upon all stakeholders, residents, businesses and community leaders to join hands with us in this endeavour. Together we can transform our municipality into beacon of development and hope. May we all work together for a brighter future of Harry Gwala District Municipality.

I thank you.



## MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S FOREWORD

# The involvement of citizens in matters of service delivery is important in a democratic society



**Mr Gamakulu Ma-Art Sineke**  
Municipal Manager

**G**REETINGS to all citizens, customers, and partners of the Harry Gwala District Municipality.

Allow me the pleasure of once more engaging with you on this platform which seeks to encapsulate by highlighting the many activities, programs, and service delivery updates that the District Municipality undertakes.

### **IDP review and budget inputs**

The involvement of citizens in matters of service delivery is important in a democratic society. Public participation is a mechanism for entrenching democracy, and it promotes social cohesion between the government and the citizens, particularly in the provision of quality and sustainable services. This is the preamble with which the Harry Gwala Municipality visited all the sister local municipalities recently, to table the draft review of the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and the Budget.

In terms of the Municipal Systems Act: Chapter 4, the Municipality is required to consult the community during the development of the Integrated Development Plan (IDP). The IDP informs the Budget as the strategic plan of the Municipality.

That is why year-on-year, the District Municipality encourages the participation of the citizenry in shaping the IDP and the Budget thereof, to ensure that the services rendered are exactly what the citizens require. Citizens are the key stakeholders of our municipality as what we do impacts them directly. The services we render are not an imposition but are instructions from the citizens. That is why this opportunity should not be seen as a box-ticking exercise, rather it must be seen and viewed as an annual general meeting type of approach, where citizens hold us accountable and are given an update on their requests.

I urge citizens to always grab the opportunity to

attend the IDP and Budget Izimbizo, as this is one of the many key platforms for them to engage directly with municipal leadership and to get clarity on any service delivery-related matters.

### **HGDM's strategic planning session**

Both as a precursor and a postmortem, it is always important to evaluate and be wide awake to the needs of our citizens and also be ahead of any dynamics that may hinder the implementation of the requests of our citizens. This is why recently the Harry Gwala District Municipality held a strategic planning session that involved leadership, the administration wing and relevant stakeholders. A strategic planning session is a systematic process that helps organizations or institutions to set goals and objectives for what they want to achieve. By the same token, these sessions are necessary to determine the direction of the organization and institutions and it compels that the focus must be on what was achieved and to do better and on what was not achieved, to improve. In the context of our municipality, this was done of course with one goal in mind, to improve the lives of our citizens.

This, tied with the IDP and Budget engagements with citizens, provided a foundation for the municipality to be poised to hit the ground running as early as the first week of the new financial year (2024/2025) which starts on the 1st of July 2024.

With that, I wish to once more invite all to peruse and engage with this edition of the HDM magazine and to be abreast with what your municipality has been up to.

Many things have been achieved and we cannot capture them all in these pages. For more and regular updates please follow us on all our social media platforms.

I thank you.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



**MR. KHULANI  
MTHEMBENI BRIAN  
MZIMELA**  
Chief Financial Officer



**NTOMBIFUTHI NOMVUSELELO  
FORTUNATE BUTHELEZI**  
Social Service and  
Development Planning



**MR. NKULULEKO BIYASE**  
Infrastructure Services



**MRS. THOBILE  
THELMA  
THIYANE-MAGAQA**  
Corporate Services



**MR. LINDUMUSA  
GWALA**  
Water Services

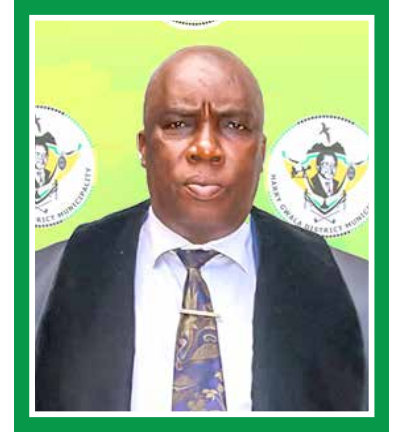
# HARRY GWALA MUNICIPALITY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



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



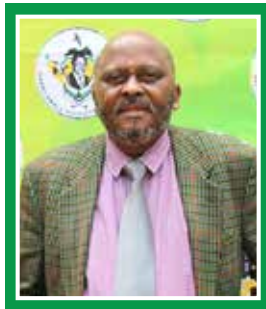
**HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR  
CLLR. Z.D. NXUMALO**



**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. S.G. MKHIZE**



**CLLR. X. MEMELA**





**CLLR. Z.M. NGIDI**



**CLLR. N.W. DLADLA**



**CLLR. Z.R. TSHAZI**



**CLLR. P.N. DAMOYI**



**CLLR. P.K. MEMELA**



**CLLR. N. MDA**



**CLLR. N.R. MTSHALI**



**CLLR. N.H. ZACA**



**CLLR. N.H. MALIMELA**



**CLLR. H.A. LUKHOZI**



**CLLR. N. DLAMINI**



**CLLR. Z.P. DLAMINI**



**CLLR. H.V. MSOMI**



**CLLR. S.R.L. NZIMANDE**



**CLLR. B.R. MEMELA**



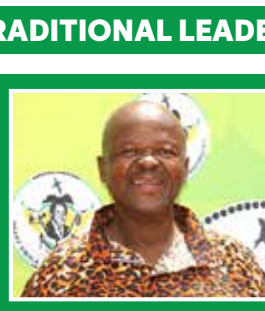
**CLLR. B.L. MARNCÉ**



**CLLR. B. SIBENI**



**INKOSI P.D.H. CHILIZA**



**INKOSI V.V. ZIMEMA**



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

## TRADITIONAL LEADERS

# CHALLENGES THAT UNDERMINE SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION SERVICES IN HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

**H**ARRY Gwala District Municipality is one of 144 Water Service Authorities' (WSAs) that are responsible for water supply and sanitation services provision. Water Services Authorities have a legal mandate to ensure that all South Africans, and in this case Harry Gwala District Municipality residents are provided with basic water and sanitation services that comply with set standards by the Regulator (Department of Water and Sanitation) and prescribed Regulations.

Ensuring provision of basic water supply and sanitation services to residents involves more than the provision of infrastructure. It is therefore important to understand the factors and challenges that undermine the primary objective of Harry Gwala District Municipality to provide sustainable water supply and sanitation services in an effective and efficient manner. There are multitude of challenges that HGDM is faced with in its endeavour to provide basic water and sanitation services and these include but not limited to:

**Ageing Infrastructure:** The Municipality grapples with ageing water and sanitation infrastructure, which poses a significant obstacle to efficient service delivery and sustainability.

**Vandalism:** Frequent acts of vandalism against water and sanitation facilities exacerbate operational difficulties and financial strain on the Municipality.

**Insufficient Bulk Water Supply:** Inadequate bulk water supply infrastructure fails to meet the burgeoning demands of the local population, resulting in erratic service provision.

**Non-Revenue Water:** Is determined according to a standard calculation which takes various categories of water use into account including losses, leaks, accounted for and unaccounted for water.

**Operation and Maintenance:** Challenges associated with the operation and maintenance of water and sanitation services infrastructure require immediate attention to ensure service reliability and longevity but financial constraints causes delays.

**Water Supply and Sanitation Services Quality:** The municipality strives to improve the overall quality of water and sanitation services to meet acceptable standards, safeguarding public health and well-being.

**Basic Sanitation:** Many residents still lack access to basic sanitation facilities, a deficiency that undermines the dignity and health of the community.

**Wastewater and Environmental Safety:** Environmental concerns related to wastewater



management are being addressed by the municipality but to protect the environment and water resources.

**Faecal Sludge Management:** There is a lack of effective management of faecal sludge management within the WSA. For instance, there is no proper pit emptying programme and beneficial use of a faecal sludge due to lack of resource.

**Regulatory Compliance:** Ensuring compliance with water and sanitation services regulations is a complex challenge that demands attention to avoid potential legal ramifications.

**Continuous Backlog:** this is due the limited or lack of resources to provide sustainable water and sanitation services.

**Poor Revenue Collection:** this is due to lack of appetite to pay for water and sanitation services by consumers especially those that are not indigent.

**Climate Change Impact:** South Africa's water resources are under immense pressure due to the effects of climate change. The country relies heavily on surface water, with major dams being the primary source of freshwater. However, these dams are experiencing significant decreases in water levels, leading to concerns over water availability.

Considering these multifaceted challenges, it is paramount to develop and implement effective strategies and initiatives that address the identified issues comprehensively. This means there is a need for coordinated efforts (by Consumers and Municipality), resource allocation, and policy implementation to ensure that water and sanitation services in the Municipality are accessible, reliable, and of high quality, thereby upholding the fundamental rights and well-being of its residents.

# Harry Gwala Investment Summit



**The 2nd Harry Gwala Investment Summit that was held in Sanni Pass (Underberg), with the intent to retain the existing and attracting new investments.**

The Mayor Delivered a speech at the 2nd Harry Gwala Investment Summit:

**W**ELCOME to the 2nd Harry Gwala Investment Summit. Your presence and participation at this Investment Summit demonstrates to us as Harry Gwala and its family of municipalities, that we have the potential to realise our Investment and Growth potential.

As I welcome you to our District, named after the late Mr Harry Gwala – an icon in the liberation struggle in South Africa and who today remains an inspiration to us, I also take the opportunity to embrace the many strides we have taken as a country in the fight against the triple challenges. Despite a strained domestic and global economic climate, we remain mindful that it is only through partnerships that we can, as a collective, nurture an environment that results in the growth of the District.

This year’s summit takes place as we celebrate 30 years of democracy and a historical election year also taking place this year. As we take to the polls on 29 May 2024, may we reaffirm democracy and retain a political system which remains committed to never again experiencing oppression and segregation.

The main aim of the Investment Summit (without

complicating it) is to retain the existing and attract new investment into our District Economy.

As the District political leadership, we understand our role of creating an enabling environment for business to grow. Some of the things we have done are:-

- Ensured the functionality of the Harry Gwala Development Agency under the leadership of the Chairperson – Ms Dlungwane and CEO, Ms Whyte. In its 12years of establishment it is only under the current leadership that we are today bearing the fruits of its establishment. This can be seen by the recognition of COGTA earlier this year, recognising HGDA as the second-Best Functional Agency in the Province.
- Forged partnerships that have yielded positive gains in the establishment of the Harry Gwala One Stop Shop, Harry Gwala TechnoHub which provides much needed skills to the Youth in information technology.
- Approved strategic documents: Growth and Development Strategy and its related strategic documents: Business Retention and Expansion, Township Economy Revitalization and on the Green Economy. The approval of such documents continues to ensure that the proposed and defined catalytic projects will be realised.

# OPEN COUNCIL



**His Worship, Cllr Z. D Nxumalo**

**T**HE Harry Gwala District Municipality's Annual Budgets for the year 2024 - 2025 financial year was tabled recently and approved with no objections as it speaks directly to implementing the needs and challenges that were raised by communities during the public participation programmes that informed and shaped the final budget allocations.

The dignified and glamorous event was held at the Peace Initiative Hall in Ixopo recently, attended by the communities, stakeholders, Mayors, Councillors, government officials, Amakhosi and bigwigs from within the district of Harry Gwala.

It was in a form of accounting to communities as to what has been done with the previous municipal budget and to also highlight plans for the forthcoming budget as per the needs of the communities.

Relevant stakeholders and government organizations made presentations before the keynote address by District Municipality Mayor, Councillor Z.D. Nxumalo.

Tabling his Municipality's budget, Cllr Nxumalo wasted no time in getting straight to the point.

"This budget represents our collective vision and unwavering commitment to improving the lives of our residents and our steadfast dedication to sustainable development," said the Mayor.

The Mayor said that the budget the processes leading up to the final budget adoption were unique in that they had taken into cognizance the 30th Anniversary of South Africa's democracy.

"Our mission over the past 30 years has been to restore both social and economic justice to our nation, and to decisively address the inequality that was the symbol of systemic discrimination and dispossession," said Cllr Nxumalo. He said the budgets they have tabled since 1994, have been about securing the goal of growing the economy, so that they can do more to



**Municipal Manager, Mr G. M Sineke, Speaker Cllr M. S. D Mdunge and District Mayor Cllr Z. D Nxumalo.**

address the inequalities and deprivation that still scar the society and undermine the promise of democracy.

"According to Census 2022, the population of the Harry Gwala grew to 532 000 in 2022 from 461 000 in 2016. Despite the continuous increase of the population in our district, government managed to implement policies, strategies and plans that were helpful in assisting to stretch the rand to provide the necessary basic services to the people of the district," said Mayor Nxumalo.

He added that since the dawn of democracy in 1994, there has been a gradual improvement in the quality of the lives of the people. "The provision of critical household services in the district as per Census 2022 has improved drastically," he said. The proportion of our population having access to flush toilets connected to sewerage increased to 40 percent in 2022. Access to piped water in dwellings increased to 49 percent in 2022, he said.

Budgeting is primarily about the choices the municipality has to make between competing priorities and fiscal realities, improving lives of our people.

Harry Gwala District Municipality is one of the ten districts in the province faced with challenges similar to other districts in providing basic services and addressing backlogs. The goal of the district municipality is to enhance service delivery aimed at improving the quality of lives for all in the district. Its leadership made a commitment to the community of Harry Gwala that it will continue to deliver services better, faster and smarter in order to build a performance-oriented municipality. Guided by these imperatives, the municipality has implemented a range of initiatives that responded to the eradication of the triple challenges of poverty, unemployment, and inequality.

Even though Harry Gwala is a rural municipality,



**Executive Management, officials and delegates of the Harry Gwala District Municipality Open Council 2024.**

said the Mayor, it faces unique challenges, but also has unique strengths.

"Honorable Speaker, we were given the opportunity to lead this district, we have been re-writing history. We picked up the baton and ran without ceasing and have achieved many milestones, we are here to reflect on our highlights so far and challenges experienced during the 2023/24 financial year in order to present future plans going forward. There are multitude of challenges that HGDM is faced with in its endeavour to provide basic water and sanitation services," said the Mayor adding that these include but not limited to: Ageing Infrastructure, Vandalism, Insufficient Bulk Water Supply, Continuous Backlog and Non-payment of services.

The Mayor proceeded to list the District Municipality's achievements and priorities for the 2024/25 financial year.

"A lot has been achieved over the years, just to name a few, more than 25 Water Scheme

Refurbishments that have been concluded such as Tarrs Valley, Hostela, Mcweba, Mhlabashane, Ntabane, Springvale, Nyanisweni to name a few. The functionality of these schemes is assisting our communities to receive more sustainable potable water supply. Our municipality working together with COGTA has managed to complete 180 boreholes, 20 with the assistance from Cogta. Water schemes will be refurbished amounting to R36million in 2024/25 financial year. These refurbishments include Kwanjunga, Raloti, Nazareth, Mfulamhle, Bhayi, Gudlicingo to name a few," he said.

"Honourable Speaker, allow me to mention a few water projects that we are planning to construct for the 2024/25 financial year that will benefit the community of Harry Gwala using Municipal Infrastructure Grant. The municipality also allocated R63, 7million from the Water Services Infrastructure Grant for upgrading the pipeline to Bhongweni and Shayamoya," said Cllr Nxumalo.

Below are some of the planned projects for the financial year starting on July 1st 2024.

| DESCRIPTION                                   | BUDGET      |
|---|-------------|
| KEMPSDALE RAISING PROJECT DAMS & WEIRS        | R50 827 372 |
| MNQUMENI / SANTOMBE WATER PHASE 4 DAMS & WEIR | R16 326 776 |
| CREIGHTON WATER SUPPLY_PIPES                  | R39 133 322 |
| GREATER SUMMERFIELD WTR SUPPLY PIPELINE       | R44 767 665 |
| KWAMAY-THEEKLOOF WATER S_PIPELINE             | R2 000 000  |
| MAHEHLE WATER SCHEME                          | R13 340 433 |
| KHUKHULELA WATER SUPPLY_PIPES                 | R21 392 335 |

| DESCRIPTION                                     | BUDGET      |
|---|-------------|
| MAHHAGU SANITATION PROJECT                      | R18 486 211 |
| UNDERBERG-HIMEVILLE SEWER UPGRADE               | R1 500 000  |
| UMZIMKHULU UPGRADE PHASE 2 SEWER PIPES/MBIZWENI | R4 499 395  |
| UNIVERSAL SANITATION TOILET FACILITIES          | R3 850 000  |

**The budget is outlined as follows:**

- Government Grants and Subsidies – Capital R318m
- Government Grants and Subsidies – Operational R512m
- Own Revenue R104m

**Allocated as follows:**

- Operational budget R 695,4m
- Capital R 322m

**Revenue is made up of the following Revenue Sources:-**

| NATIONAL GRANTS                         | 2024/25              | 2025/26             | 2026/27             |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| EQUITABLE SHARE                         | R491 837 000         | R519 538 000        | R547 904 000        |
| MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT          | R230 622 000         | R242 423 000        | R264 386 000        |
| RURAL ROADS ASSETS INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT | R2 498 000           | R2 610 000          | R2 730 000          |
| FINANCE MANAGEMENT GRANT                | R1 200 000           | R1 300 000          | R1 400 000          |
| EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME         | R4 460 000           |                     |                     |
| WATER SERVICES INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT     | R100 000 000         | R100 000 000        | R115 000 000        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                            | <b>R 830 617 000</b> | <b>R865 871 000</b> | <b>R931 420 000</b> |



# Raising Kempisdale Dam wall will secure GKM community with reliable water



**Water and Sanitation Minister, Mr Senzo Mchunu and Mayor Z. D Nxumalo on a site visit at Kempisdale Dam in Kokstad.**

**W**ATER and Sanitation Minister, Senzo Mchunu has expressed excitement on the start of construction to raise the Kempisdale Dam Wall from 4 meters to 7.8 meters, as the increased raw water capacity will address current deficit and future water demands for the Greater Kokstad communities. Minister Mchunu further reiterated government's commitment to fast-tracking service delivery projects, particularly those meant for the provision of adequate and consistent water supply, as water is one of the essential services and a basic human right in South Africa. The Minister was on a working visit in Kokstad, in the Harry Gwala District Municipality in KwaZulu Natal on Friday, 08 March 2024, to join District Mayor, Cllr Zamo Nxumalo, in conducting a sod turning ceremony to mark the handover of the raising of Kempisdale Dam wall to the appointed contractor. The delegations included Greater Kokstad Mayor, Cllr Lwanda Madikizela, other local Mayors from the District, traditional authorities, departmental and municipal officials.

The R160 million project which is anticipated to take three years to complete is envisaged to augment raw water capacity in the dam to meet a projected future demand up to 2040, and ensure adequate,



safe, reliable and sustainable potable water supply in areas such as Kokstad Town, Kokstad C-Max Prison, Shayamoya and Bhongweni areas. The project involves the raising of the existing Kempisdale dam wall height from 4 meters to 7.8 meters and the construction of a new pump- station downstream of the dam to be treated at the already existing 18 megalitres per day Kokstad Water Treatment Works.

The current water demand for Kokstad is 10.35Ml per day and is estimated to increase to 14.45Ml per day by the year 2030. The project will benefit a total of 08 wards within Greater Kokstad Local Municipality



**Sod turning of Raising of Kempdale Dam.**

with uninterrupted, adequate and clean water supply upon the completion of this collaborative initiative between the Department, Municipalities concerned, farming communities, businesses and residents. Speaking at the construction site during the handover, Minister Mchunu and Mayor Cllr Nxumalo indicated that Kempdale Dam wall will be increased from 4 meters to 7.8 meters to ensure enough water storage which will be supplied to the communities. “What took place during the visit was a culmination of what the District has been doing with our support, there is going to be quite a substantial increase of the dam wall, it is clear that the water services in Kokstad are working very well,” Minister Mchunu said.

The District Mayor echoed the Minister’s sentiments and highlighted that water supply interruptions will be a thing of the past after the increment of the dam wall and construction of a pump station. “The project is aimed at alleviating water challenges in Greater Kokstad Local Municipality for a period of 50 – 100 years, and this will obviously be dependent on the development of the area,” Cllr Nxumalo stated. Subsequent to the handover ceremony at Kempdale Dam, Minister Mchunu and Cllr Nxumalo engaged various stakeholders and the community of Kokstad with a view of soliciting their views, concerns and comments on the state of water and sanitation provision in the area. Community members were accorded an opportunity to voice out their concerns and majority of those evolved around inconsistent and shortage of water supply in the households and residents were understandably frustrated.

Minister Mchunu acknowledged that there are



challenges, he however re-iterated the government's posture of commitment and working tirelessly to ensure that basic services such as water and sanitation are provided to the people, and he further made an undertaking that the situation will improve. The visit to the region takes place as the country observed the National Water Month from 1-31 March 2024, an expansion of the United Nation’s World Water Day which is marked on the 22nd of March annually. This year’s theme was “Leveraging Water for Peace” which sought to galvanize communities to share water resources to enhance peace instead of conflict. The objectives of the National Water Month are to strive to find solutions and innovations to ensure water security, conservation, and respond to challenges brought as a result of pollution, climate change, as well as floods and droughts. This is done through a collaborative effort and active engagement of all spheres of government, private sector, academia, community members and stakeholders within the water sector.



# SASSA RESTORES THE DIGNITY AND CONFIDENCE OF LEARNERS IN EZIMPANGENI





**As part of the Back-To-School campaign, SASSA and Harry Gwala District Municipality conducted a uniform handover to Ezimpangeni scholars.**

**T**HERE were smiles all-round as 54 children of Ezimpangeni received their full brand-new sets of uniform.

As part of Back-To-School campaign programme recently, the Harry Gwala District Municipality in partnership with Sassa made efforts of providing underprivileged learners with uniforms was well-received by the beneficiaries, principal, educators, and parents of Ezimpangeni School under Umzikhulu (ward 9).

This initiative not only restores the dignity and confidence of the needy learners, but also enhances the academic and social performance of learners.

Deputy Mayor, Cllr. N. Jojozi, Speaker, Cllr. MSD Mdunge and the District Manager of SASSA and officials from the departments were in awe experiencing so much gratitude and excitement from the community at large.

In her keynote address, Deputy Mayor, Cllr N Jojozi, said; "This initiative hits home for me because looking back when we were growing up, such deeds were never a thing. It is not only the child that benefits, but the parents as well as it

minimises the financial burden on them."

Mr K.E Mbatha of SASSA put emphasis on how the handing out of the uniforms formed part of the roll out of the Social Relief Programme that served two purposes – instilling a sense of belonging and pride in the school.

As it is, thousands of children across the country do not have the privilege of having one at their disposal and that is the gap that SASSA intends to close.

The total amount that was spent on each child was R2700 (girl) and R2500 (boy).

Parents and the public at large were also informed of other types of grants and assistance that were readily available at SASSA.

It is through these programmes that the government reaches out to the people with the aim of building a caring society together and to restore children's dignity who are faced with embarrassment of not having the proper school attire and that must brace the cold winter days without being dressed warmly.

# District sets its service delivery road map



The Executive management, leadership and officials during the strategic planning sessions.

**E**VERY successful institution has a plan and knows where it is heading in the future. Setting a plan with goals, target dates, and a purpose should be finalized before implementing by any institution, especially the local government sphere which is at the coalface of service delivery.

This is the premise with which the Harry Gwala District Municipality leadership and management gathered for a Strategic planning session.

The session was to ensure that the Municipality planned and strategically for the future of the institution.

The strategic planning session focused on the finalization of the budget to prepare for the new financial year 2024/2025. The finalization of the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and the review and updating of all municipal policies and plans also formed part of the core discussions during the session.

In his opening remarks the Municipal Manager Mr. G.M Sineke, emphasised that the most important thing is to make sure the Municipality is able to bring to the community of Harry Gwala clean, safe, drinkable water and dignified sanitation



services for everyone. The Municipal Manager said that this was the core mandate of the Municipality. To do so, he said, there should be proper plans in place and a budget that would see these activities come to fruition. The strategic planning session also focused on functionality of water schemes, progress on the water meter installation implementation, infrastructure services policies, the three-year capital projects plan, financial plans to name a few. Councillors which were part of the session engaged in robust discussions in ensuring that the service delivery mandate of the Municipality would be

achieved.

The District Mayor Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo emphasised that it is important that management communicates decisions and resolutions taken to the employees and implements all resolutions taken during the strategic planning sessions.

“It would be a fruitless expenditure and a waste of our time and efforts if we would sit here, make decisions that should take this institution forward and not implement them. It is very important that we implement what we have committed ourselves to,” said Mayor Nxumalo.



The members and delegates of the Harry Gwala District Municipality District Communicators Forum.

# The role of communication in driving development cannot be overstated

**E**FFECTIVE communication lies at the heart of every successful government initiative. From disseminating important information to fostering public engagement, the role of communication in driving development cannot be overstated. In the past 30 years, our government recognized communication as a strategic function to bridge gaps, build trust, and create meaningful impact to millions in our communities. In ensuring that communication is cohesive, aligned and impactful, communication structures are set up in such a way that they oversee the communication system of government forums such as the Harry Gwala District Communicators Forum.

The District Communicators Forum comprises all municipal Communicators within the District, national and provincial communicators. The District Communicators Forum is intended to integrate all communicators within the District into the government communication system that includes all three spheres of government, to serve as a platform where different stakeholders meet to enhance participation in democracy, to discuss communication issues within the communication environment, strategize and come up with solutions.

On the 13th of March 2024, the Harry Gwala District Communicators Forum had its

quarterly meeting at the Harry Gwala District Offices boardroom. This sitting consisted of key government communicators from Harry Gwala District Municipality, uBuhlebezwe Local Municipality, Umzimkhulu Local Municipality, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Local Municipality, Greater Kokstad Local Municipality, representative from the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), Department Of Communications & Digital Technologies, Government Communications Information System, KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health, as well members from the South African Police Service.

As we reflect on the journey of this forum, we could not help but feel immense pride in witnessing its remarkable growth. The diversity of perspectives from all members and the depth of discussions that yielded results that enrich our communities with information empowering communities, promoting participation, and fostering collaboration. Through targeted campaigns, informative media releases, and interactive platforms such as Izimbizo, dialogues and IDP's.

The meeting discussed the state of readiness for the 2024 national elections within Harry Gwala, KZN Health Harry Gwala District Communication Plan, Harry Gwala District Marathon Communication Plan and Communication capacity building for Councillors.

# Mayor urges communities to work with SAPS in a fight against crime



**The official opening off the Donnybrook state of the police station, built within the radius of the community.**

**I**N the ongoing quest to address the policing needs of communities and to bring policing resources closer to communities, the Donnybrook Police Station was officially opened and handed over to the community, at an event held within the Harry Gwala District recently.

The National Police Commissioner, General Fannie Masemola, Deputy National Commissioner, Lieutenant General Tebello Mosikili and the Acting Provincial Commissioner of KwaZulu-Natal, Major General Phumelele Makoba were among the dignitaries officiating the opening ceremony. The Harry Gwala District Mayor Cllr. Z.D Nxumalo, and Mayor of the Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Local Municipality, Cllr. S. Msomi, and other councillors attended the function.

The fully-fledged police station also boasts a fully equipped Victim-Friendly Room which is envisaged to accommodate victims and survivors of gender-based violence.

The opening of the Donnybrook Police Station is indicative of the SAPS unwavering commitment in enhancing community safety and policing services and forms part of the South African Police Services' strategic direction to address policing needs and to

bring police services closer to communities.

The police station will ensure the community of Donnybrook has peace of mind, knowing that a fully-fledged police station is serving them within their radius.

Donnybrook Police Station in the Harry Gwala District is servicing many villages within this area and is well capacitated with adequate staff members and other resources needed to fight crime and ensures all people in and around this policing precinct feel safe.

The District Mayor Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo in his message of support requested community members to work with the police in the ongoing fight against criminal elements and behaviour in communities. The Mayor also thanked the police for their hard work and dedication in fighting crime in the district.

"We are very excited about these state-of-the-art police stations that will service our communities. This really shows that the government is concerned about the safety of our communities and is doing everything to ensure we have safe environments. I would like to urge community members to work with the police in fighting crime," said Mayor Nxumalo.



**Amakhosi/Traditional Leaders Integrated Development Planning Meeting.**

# HDM engages traditional leaders on the District’s plans for the 2024/2025 financial year

**M**UNICIPALITIES in South Africa must use the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) as a method to plan pertinent developments in their areas. This approach affords citizens and stakeholders alike an opportunity to make submissions and inputs towards the development of their communities and aims to empower members of the public as the IDP is an approach to planning that involves the entire municipality and its citizens in finding the best solutions to achieve long-term development.

The Harry Gwala District Municipality brought the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and the draft Budget for discussions and inputting with traditional authorities with the District recently, tabling these important documents with along with the Spatial Development Framework (SDF) during the engagement with traditional leaders, held at the Council Chambers in the District’s main office in Ixopo.

This engagement was for the traditional leaders to be informed and be knowledgeable about service delivery updates and plans within their areas.

The Harry Gwala District Speaker, Cllr. S. Mdunge, presenting the draft 2024/2025 IDP/SDF/ Budget said it was necessary that Amakhosi and iziNduna are aware of what the municipality is planning for the communities.

“As the Harry Gwala District Municipality, we want to inform the house of traditional leadership on what we are doing, what we have planned and where there are challenges to be able to address them.

Amakhosi must be aware of what is happening in their areas,” said Speaker Mdunge. The Chairperson of the Harry Gwala Local house of Traditional Leaders and Deputy Prime Minister of AmaZulu Nation Inkosi P. Chiliza, opening the meeting emphasized that this was an important meeting for Amakhosi to be informed on what the municipality is doing in terms of service delivery.

“We are very excited to be part of this meeting, this is a very important meeting to Amakhosi as we get clarity on how far the municipality is in bringing service delivery to our communities. Amakhosi need to be much involved in making sure that our people get the service delivery,” said Inkosi Chiliza. Amakhosi were also encouraged to update community members when they have izimbizo on service delivery, and to communicate issues with the municipality in writing and not wait for such an engagement to have them clarified and addressed.

Amakhosi speaking during the engagement expressed their gratitude for the good relationship between Amakhosi within the District and the Municipality. They also asked to be constantly informed if there are any developments in their areas so that they are aware before any activity takes place so they can also advise accordingly.

The Harry Gwala District Municipality hosted a number of IDP and Budget Izimbizo visiting different wards under the uBuhlebezwe, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma uMzimkhulu and Greater Kokstad Local Municipalities.

# KZN Education MEC applauds Harry Gwala Region for a remarkable milestone in the 2023 NSC results



**Education MEC, Mbali Frazer and Mayor Z. D Nxumalo celebrated the district's outstanding 2023 NSC results.**

**P**ARTNERED with the KZN Department of Education, the Harry Gwala District Municipality gathered to commend and celebrate the outstanding NSC (National Senior Certificate) results 2023.

This prestigious event was held at Peace Initiative Hall in Ixopo, where MEC for Education in KwaZulu-Natal, Mbali Frazer was warmly welcomed by the Harry Gwala District Mayor, Cllr Z. D Nxumalo. Management and officials from the Department of Education and other relevant stakeholders showed great enthusiasm and pride in celebration of academic excellence achieved by the matric class of 2023.

In his welcoming remarks, District Mayor, Cllr Z. Nxumalo expressed his excitement for the Harry Gwala region for having achieved a remarkable milestone of 87.1% pass rate. He further encouraged different government sectors to make necessary allocations that will aid in developing the youth and said, 'A society that does not take care of its youth, is

as good as non-existent.'

This event also acknowledged educators as well as parents who put in the extra an effort in making sure that learners were equipped enough during exam time.

Those that did not do well were not forgotten and were urged not to give up.

The Head Of Department for KZN Education Department, Mr G. N. Ngcobo sang praises of his hardworking team for pulling this huge achievement and said that, "It should be noted that while the pass rate of the 2023 NSC exams in numbers was the second highest in the history of the NSC exams, when expressed as a percentage, the pass rate of the 2023 NSC exams is the highest in the history of the NSC so far."

The MEC emphasised that the improved pass rate was a clear indication that cooperation and dedication from all spheres of the government can enable learners to perform at their best.





**MEC Sipho Hlomuka officiated a sod turning for P113 in Ubuhlebezwe.**

## **MEC SIPHO HLOMUKA INJECTS MILLIONS TO IMPROVE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE WITHIN THE HARRY GWALA DISTRICT**

**K**WAZULU-NATAL MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Sipho Hlomuka has injected millions of rands to improve roads infrastructure projects in the Harry Gwala District.

This came in the wake of the official handover of the contractor to mark the commencement construction of the multi-million rand road projects under the uBuhlebezwe Local Municipality.

These projects include strategic roads and bridges that will connect various communities of Harry Gwala District.

MEC Hlomuka handed over the contractor for the construction of Main Road P113 in Ward 13, under the uBuhlebezwe Local Municipality. The project is 34.04 kilometers long unpaved road located in the southeast of Ixopo, that connects Inhlamvini and Highflats under this Municipality.

The upgrade of road P113 to blacktop standard will assist the local communities by providing a safe and all-weather access road to the communities of Nhlamvini and Highflats under the eMakhuzeni Traditional Council led by Inkosi uDlamini.

The construction of this road will also contribute immensely towards the economic upliftment of the region as it will create more than 100 job opportunities during its construction phase and also benefit local emerging contractors.

MEC Hlomuka was joined by Harry Gwala District Municipality Mayor, Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo, uBuhlebezwe Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr. Elizabeth Ngubo, Local House of Traditional Leadership, local ward councillors and senior officials.

MEC Hlomuka concluded his day by engaging the communities of Ward 09 and 13 at Thuleshe Community Hall under the uBuhlebezwe Local



**The Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison conducted a number of sod turning events in preparation for building and maintaining roads in and around the district.**

Municipality.

Mayor Nxumalo said it is his dream to see this development in his home village, he expressed that this development means a lot to the Thuleshe community.

MEC Hlomuka also proceeded to launch the construction of Ingudwini River Bridge, the construction of main road P-123 and the rehabilitation of P422 and P7/3.

The construction of these major projects is essential in connecting the communities of Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Local Municipality and will create much needed jobs.

MEC Hlomuka also officially handed over the contractor of Ingudwini River Bridge which is located

in ward 15 in the Sandazwezwe area. The bridge which will cost R23 million will serve the local communities by providing safe access to social facilities such as schools.

Main road P123 will be upgraded from gravel to blacktop. The road is 7.1 kilometres and will be constructed at the value of R177 million. More than 55 jobs are expected to be created. The road traverses through eGqumeni and Makhuzeni and will make life easier by providing safe and all-weather access to the local communities.

MEC Hlomuka also proceeded to handover officially the contractors for the rehabilitation of P601/1 and P603 under the Greater Kokstad Municipality.

# Harry Gwala District Municipality hosts progressive youth summit



**The Harry Gwala District Municipality hosted a successful youth summit at the Oaks Country Hotel in Richmond. The summit was a melting pot of progressive discussions. The two-day summit was attended by the youth from all over the District.**

**I**N terms of the framework for the establishment and functionality of district and local youth councils, the Harry Gwala District Municipality hosted a successful youth summit at the Oaks Country Hotel in Richmond. The summit was a melting pot of progressive discussions. policy review, new proposals and reviews for programmes of action targeted at the uplifting of young people.

Evidence of this, the youth of the District of Harry Gwala, during the two-day summit were energetic towards taking progressive resolutions geared towards improving the lives of young people and exposing them to opportunities such as creating job opportunities and the youth being postured to be employers and growers of the economy.

The summit was held under the theme: “Accelerating youth development for a sustainable future”. This is after having convened its Youth Conference in March 2023.

Representing the Municipality leadership, the Harry Gwala District Cllr. H.V Msomi said, in his opening remarks: “this summit must not be a talk show but it should be characterised by a festival of sustainable ideas that should be put into practice”. Adding to his comment, he said this will also create long lasting solutions on challenges facing young people and it is vital that the youth seeks opportunities that will empower them. He also pleaded with the leadership of the Harry Gwala District Municipality to also continue opening doors for the youth.

Cllr. Msomi encouraged the young people of

District to fully get involved in all activities and programmes that develop their well-being for the benefit of their families, their communities which in turn will contribute towards the decrease of crime.

He further thanked youth committees for working tirelessly in ensuring the functioning of such structures.

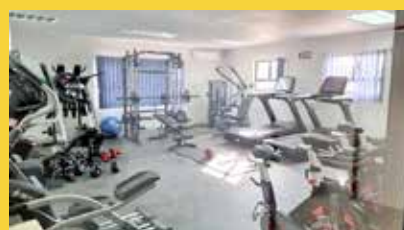
The youth offices are located in all four local Municipalities namely the Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Greater Kokstad, uMzimkhulu and uBuhlebezwe local municipalities under the District.

This initiative aimed to also empower and beam a spotlight on the potential of young people in improving the fortunes of their communities as well as to demonstrate the abilities and voices of young people, so that young people are heard in terms of their needs and wants, so that they can be empowered in so far as social and economic aspects of their desires are concerned.

Deliberations on different issues that affect the youth, and the community of Harry Gwala District at large were unpacked and resolved on during the course of this summit.

Amongst other stakeholders that were present in this summit was the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Department of Health, Harry Gwala Development Agency and other stakeholders.

# KZN CoGTA launches Disaster Management Centre in Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma Local Municipality in preparation for Winter disasters



**It was an exciting day when the MEC Bongki Sithole-Moloi officially opened the Disaster Centre in Bulwer under the Dr. NDZ Municipality. The newly completed disaster centre, equipped with all necessary mitigation measures including early warning systems and firefighting engines, will enable the municipality to better prepare for and mitigate fire and inclement weather disasters.**

**I**N an effort to bolster disaster risk mitigation plans, the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta) launched the Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Fire and Disaster Management Centre in Bulwer under the Harry Gwala District Municipality recently.

The newly completed disaster centre, equipped with all necessary mitigation measures including early warning systems and firefighting engines, will enable the municipality to better prepare for and mitigate fire and inclement weather disasters. Given the fire risks posed by the winter season, the terrain

of the Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Municipality, with its surrounding forests and farms, is among the vulnerable areas prone to disasters.

Cogta MEC Bongki Sithole-Moloi opening the state-of-the-art centre urged the community members to make sure that the facility is not vandalized and that it must be fully utilized for the benefit of the communities of the Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Municipality. Deputy Mayor of the Harry Gwala District Municipality, Cllr. Nosisa Jojozi shared the same sentiments with the MEC saying that this centre must bring hope to the people and it must be used to save lives.



**Municipal Manager, Mr G. M Sineke led sites visits to check up on progress on ongoing projects.**

# Harry Gwala District Municipality Management Site Visit

**T**HE Harry Gwala District Municipality management has committed itself to working hard in ensuring that the District has sufficient, clean, and drinkable water and above standard sanitation.

The team led by the Municipal Manager, Mr G.M Sineke went on a one-day visit to inspect water and sanitation projects under the uMzimkhulu Municipality including the Greater Mnqumeni Water Supply Scheme, Ibisi Sanitation Phase 2 (Ward 11, reticulation, bulk lines, Pumpstation and Refurbishment), UMzimkhulu Bulk Sewer and Greater Summerfield.

The visit was an opportunity to inspect the work being done and to determine completion time.

The site visits also allowed the District management to plan accordingly going forward, as well as to identify factors hindering the expected turnaround time for ongoing projects.

The aim of these visits was to ensure that communities have adequate water access across the District. The Municipal Manager, Mr Mart Sineke said that his team together with the municipal leadership will continue to visit different sites within the District to ensure optimal service delivery implementation.

# WATER SERVICES: UPGRADES AND MAINTENANCE



## KHUKHULELA WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

The project is located within ward 05 of the Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma Local Municipality within the jurisdiction of the Harry Gwala District Municipality in the Province of KwaZulu Natal.

The Project comprises the construction of 1ML prefabricated steel tank and a gravel access road so as to ensure that the community is provided with an adequate, and reliable water storage facility.

The village that will benefit from this storage of water is Khukhulela.

All projects being conducted prescribe to EPWP conditions and procedures. The contractor uses labour intensive construction methods to its maximum and improve the health and water supply situation in the area as a result of the project.

### Project Data

**Commencement Date:** 25 August 2023

**Completion Date:** 30 June 2024

**Contract Amount:** R 23 169 066,61

**Project Team:**

**Engineering Consultants:** BM JV Rudkor Consulting

**Contractors:** Sihlahlasiya'hlumla Construction (PTY) LTD

**% Completion:** 72%

### Scope Of Works

- Site establishment.
- Site clearance.
- Construction of gravel excess road including the associated storm-waters pipes.
- Construction of 1ML Zincalume Water Storage.
- Construction of Precast Concrete Palisade Fence for the 1ML Zincalume water storage.
- Construction of a retaining wall for the Khukhulela Water Treatment Package plant.
- Installation of a temporary park home staff compound on the Khukhulela Water Treatment



Package Plant.

- Inserting all the concrete sections on the gravel access road.
- Construction of a septic tank.
- Reinstating all areas affected by works to condition initially found at the commencement of works.
- De-Establishment.

## GREATER MNQUMENI WATER SUPPLY

### Background

The Harry Gwala District Municipality (formerly Sisonke District Municipality) commenced with the Mngqumeni/Santombe Water Supply project in 2009. The scheme was implemented in four phases, viz Phases1-4, with some of the phases comprising sub-phases implemented as separate contracts.

The project comprised the development of a stand-alone water supply scheme for the villages of Masameni, Mngqumeni, Ndlovini, Ehlanzeni, Matyeni, Gugwini, Mahhobe, Gugwini, kwaTshali, Deepdale, Kiliva, Mantuzeleni and Makhaleni

The scheme was developed to incorporate the above villages into a single centralised scheme as the existing independent schemes did not have a reliable water supply. Most of the incorporated villages were supplied either by public standpipes or yard taps supplied from borehole schemes, which dried up seasonally and experienced significant vandalism. The new scheme is now supplied via a run of river abstraction on the Ibisi River and a 2Ml/day Water Treatment Works (WTW) located approximately 450m from the river abstraction site.

Recently, during a flood event the existing run of river abstraction works failed and as a result of this failure negatively affecting the consistency and reliability of supply of potable water to the scheme consumers. This project aims to address the immediate limitations of the current scheme by constructing a new river abstraction works, raw water pump station, a new raw water rising main,

the upgrade of the of the existing WTW, pipelines, pumping stations and reservoirs.

### **UPGRADE OF WATER TREATMENT WORKS (5ML/DAY)**

The work under this Contract include the full design, machinery, electrical and control panels, measuring and control equipment, cabling and all necessary units and equipment required at each location, labour, tools, plant, workmanship, supervision, transport, water, compressed air, electric power and everything necessary for the due and proper construction and completion of the Work.

Raw water will be abstracted from the Ibisi River and pumped to a raw water storage reservoir on the site of the existing treatment plant. The treatment plant shall be fed raw water from the existing reservoir. The final treated water shall be supplied to the existing potable storage reservoir. The upgraded water treatment plant shall be contained in a designated building (plant building). The package plant treatment facility shall consist of the following:

- Supply of raw water from the raw water reservoir to the inlet of the flocculator / flocculation basin
- Addition /Injection of treatment chemicals including chlorine, coagulants and flocculants/ flocculant aids.
- Lime Stabilization
- Make-up units and dosing tanks for treatment chemicals
- Rapid mixing of chemicals and raw water
- Slow mixing / flocculation in a dedicated flocculation basin/channel/coiled pipe or baffled inlet to the clarifier
- Clarification of flocculated water in rectangular/ round/conventional or high-rate clarifiers
- Storage of clarified water in a pump sump/clear well
- Pumping of clarified water to pressure filters
- Sand filtration of clarified water in pressure filters
- Storage of filtered water in a clear well
- Backwashing facilities for the pressure filters including air scouring
- Disinfection of treated water and dosing equipment
- Pumping of final water to existing storage reservoir
- Water treatment plant residual handling and wash water recovery (sludge, backwashing and rinsing water);

The final treated water shall be disinfected by means of chlorine gas and transferred from the filtered water storage tank to the existing treated water reservoirs for distribution to the community.

The scope of works for the high lift pumping scheme comprises the following:

- Restoration of the design capacity of the pumpstations, including refurbishments where required.

### **Project Data**

**Commencement Date:** 26 October 2022

**Completion Date:** 28 June 2024

**Contractor:** Aqua Plan SA

**Technical Consultant:** ECA Consulting Engineers

**Project Budget:** R 49 494 949.49

**% Complete:** 95%

**Work Opportunities:** 10

### **MNQUMENI ABSTRACTION WORKS, PUMPING SYSTEM AND RISING MAIN: CIVIL, MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL WORKS**

The scope and extent of work comprises the followings:

- Establishment of the Contractor's camp and plant on Site
- Temporary works to enable construction of the abstraction tower
- Doweling of anchors into the foundation rock
- Construction of approx. 11m high reinforced concrete abstraction tower and access bridge
- Construction of brick with concrete frame pumping station building on abstraction tower
- The supply and delivery to site of all pumping equipment, pipework and ancillary specials
- Installation of all pumping equipment, pipework and ancillary specials
- The supply and delivery to site of approx. 515m of 355mm PN 12.5 PE100 HDPE pipe
- The clearing of vegetation and trees along the access road and pipeline routes.
- The excavation of approx. 515m of pipeline trench.
- The handling, laying, butt welding, bedding, testing and disinfecting of 355mm diameter approx. 515m long of HDPE pipeline.
- The construction of valve, air valve, scour and meter chambers.
- The construction of approx. 180m long 3.5m wide access road.
- The construction of gabion Retaining wall
- The demolition of the existing abstraction works
- The recovery and stockpiling for reuse of existing gabion rock within the existing abstraction structure
- The refurbishment and repair of the existing water treatment plant
- The refurbishment and repair of the existing high lift pumping stations
- The refurbishment and repair of the existing rising mains
- The refurbishment and repair of the existing reinforced concrete reservoirs

### **Project Data**

**Commencement Date:** 12 October 2022

**Completion Date:** 14 June 2024

**Contractor:** Mabona Civils and Plant Hire

**Technical Consultant:** ECA Consulting Engineers

**Project Budget:** R 28 000 000.00

**% Complete:** 75%

**Work Opportunities:** 19



It was all fun and games at the Harry Gwala District Mayoral Cup, where teams from Local Municipalities participated on different games. The District Mayor Cllr. Z.D Nxumalo, was also seen playing in these games.

# The Beautiful Harry Gwala District District Marathon

**T**HE Harry Gwala District Municipality delivered a successful well-attended Harry Gwala District Marathon with the finish line at the Ixopo High School Sport Grounds recently. The marathon is also utilized by athletes as Comrades Marathon qualifier.

About 500 runners took the starting line of the marathon in the various categories, the coveted 42.2 km, half marathon (21.1) and the 10km race and fun walk. The Harry Gwala District Mayor, Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo, participated in the 10 km category of the marathon held in partnership with the Harry Gwala District Municipality, uBuhlebezwe Local Municipality, uMzimkhulu Local Municipality, the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture and the Genius Athletic Club.

Mholi Jali emerged triumphant to take first position in 42.2km race of the Men's category, crossing the finish line at a time of 02:33:45, while from the women's category the winner was Irine Ioritarency who took first position at a time of 02:58:49.

"It's a great experience for me to win such a big race, I have participated in the Harry Gwala Marathon before but have not done well. I think it helped to train and prepare myself accordingly. It is such a great honour winning this race at home as I am from uMzimkhulu. I now feel that I am ready for the Comrades Marathon, I will be running my first Comrade this year. I am very excited about winning

this race," said Jali.

The Harry Gwala Marathon was run from Umzimkhulu to Ixopo.

One of the top performers in the Harry Gwala District Marathon, Nkosikhona Mhlakwana who came third in the 42km main race has attributed his good achievement to the Department's Elite Athlete Development Programme (EADP) of which he is the part of. The Howick based athlete also came 11th in his very first Comrades Marathon in 2019. He has also achieved podium positions twice in the two Oceans. He says that his focus was on doing even better for his comrades.

Muzi Fodo was accoladed a special award in the marathon by the District Mayor for participating in the category in his wheelchair.

"I awarded Muzi Fodo a special Mayor's award for this race for his participation in the 10km race on a wheelchair. What he achieved today should encourage all of us to be active and take part in such races and not make any excuses. I would like to congratulate all the winners and everyone else that took their time to be part of this beautiful race. Indeed, we are hoping that as this race reaches its 10th year, that it grows, and that our athletes benefit from it and that local business people benefit from its spin-offs as well," said Mayor Nxumalo. Nxumalo said the District hopes the 2025 race will be bigger and be better.





**Before, during and after (prizegiving) the 2024 Harry Gwala Marathon**

The marathon's results were as follows:

**MALES 42.2km**

1. Mholi Jali
2. Kabelo Lesia
3. Nkosikhona Mhlakwana

**FEMALES 42.2km**

1. Irene Ioritarency
2. Sheila Saina
3. Monicah Jepkorir Mengich

**MALES 21.1km**

1. Lebenya Nkoka

2. Letlatsa Nape
3. Lehlohonolo Ralebetele

**FEMALES 21.1km**

1. Jenet Mbhele
2. Dekeledi Majara
3. Ntshangase Nokuthula

**MALES 10km**

1. Thabang Sekonyela
2. Tumelo Ralitabo
3. Tseliso Masiu

**FEMALES 10km**

1. Busisiwe Chamane

2. Malineo Mahloko
3. Banele Favourate Mabizela

**MALES 10km WALK**

1. Lucky Gumede
2. Vukani Mdunge
3. Ntokozo Majozi

**FEMALES 10km WALK**

1. Babongile Memela
2. Amahle Cebekhulu
3. Amahle Mzimba

# Another Exciting Gathering For Sports Enthusiasts - Harry Gwala District Mayoral Cup 2024 Edition



Proceedings and prize giving of the Harry Gwala District Mayoral Cup 2024

**F**OLLOWING competitive games at local stages, the Harry Gwala District Municipality held a very successful and exciting District Mayoral Cup at the Jeffrey Zungu Sports field in Ixopo at the beginning of the month of May.

These games commenced with matches at ward level, thereafter winners participated at the local municipal level before culminating to the District stage. The top finishers and runners up teams at the local Mayoral Cup games qualified to partake at the District Mayoral Cup games.

The Harry Gwala District Mayor, Cllr Z. Nxumalo also showed his athletic side when he took part in the games as a goalkeeper for one of the participating teams.

Mayors from all local municipalities also graced the games with their presence namely, Cllr EB Ngubo of uBuhlebezwe Local Municipality, Cllr SP Msomi of Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Local Municipality, Cllr J Msiya of the Umzimkhulu Local Municipality

and Cllr MNL Madikizela of the Greater Kokstad Municipality.

**Teams partook in soccer and netball and the winners were as follows:**

#### **NETBALL:**

1st position (Gold): **KGM Jauguers** from the Greater Kokstad Municipality,  
2nd (Silver): **Mhlawuli** from the Umzimkhulu Local Municipality,  
3rd (Bronze): **Hash Tag** also from the Greater Kokstad Municipality.

#### **SOCCER (males):**

1st position - **Good Fellas** from the Umzimkhulu Local Municipality,  
2nd - **Elect** from the Greater Kokstad Municipality,  
3rd - **Limited** from uBuhlebezwe Local Municipality  
First positions in both the sporting codes received a total prize money of R25 000 while the runners up



received R15 000 each and the bronze winners took home a prize money of R10 000.

**Individual performances were also recognized and awarded for the following players:-**

**SOCCER**

- Goalkeeper of the tournament: **Dlamini Phathokuhle (Good fellas)**
- Defender of the tournament: **Liyabonga Phumza (Elect)**
- Midfielder of the tournament: **Lonwabo Nafu (Good fellas)**
- Top goal scorer: **Nkanyiso Shabalala (Ubuhlebezwe)**
- Player of the tournament: **Sibabalwe Myeki (Elect)**

**NETBALL**

- Top goal scorer: **Mbali Diphoko (Jaguars)**

- Best midfielder: **Asanda Ntshangase (Mhlawuli)**
- Best goalkeeper: **Mandisa Mathe (Magic Girls)**
- Best performing Coach: **Nhlanhla (Mhlawuli)**
- Player of the day: **Lindiswa Qini (Jaguars)**

Harry Gwala District Municipality has always viewed the District Mayoral Cup not just about winning trophies, but about nurturing a culture where sport becomes a catalyst for personal growth, community development, and lifelong connections.

District Mayor, Cllr Z. Nxumalo extended his gratitude to all sports associations and clubs in partnering with the Harry Gwala District Municipality for the successful Mayoral Cup. He further committed that the next Mayoral Cup will be bigger and better, this was promised after the community requested for more sporting codes to be included in the following tournament.



## CONTACT US

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

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

**Tel: (039) 834 8700**

**Fax: (039) 834 1701**

**Customer care number:  
0860 103 651**

 Harry Gwala District Municipality

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