

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S OVERVIEW

As the Accounting Officer of the Municipality, I confirm that this 2011/2012 Annual Report has been compiled in line with the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000, the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act 56 of 2003, the National Treasury guidelines as well as the customised template and guidelines for municipal annual reports provided by the Provincial Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs.

At the centre of the municipality's vision is the Integrated Development Plan (IDP), a five-year business plan that collates the needs of the residents, businesses, civil society and government programmes. The IDP is used to allocate resources and develop a medium term budget. The municipality's priorities as there as follows:-

(i) **the alignment of services to IDP indicators and Council priorities**

The following were the key priorities identified by the community during the public and stakeholders consultation processes:

1. Roads and Storm water
2. Water - Sufficient Bulk supply
3. Water - Clean drinking water
4. Roads and Storm water maintenance
5. Refuse removal
6. Illegal dumping
7. Skip bins on strategic places
8. Streetlights and High mast lights
9. Poor basic service delivery in farms
10. Clinic upgrading, more doctors and nurses
11. Improved service at clinics to meet Batho Pele principles
12. Recreational facilities, upgrading of stadiums & swimming pools
13. Cleaning & Fencing at all cemeteries

However, of those identified above, Council prioritized the following for the financial year under review:

1. Roads and storm water master-plan was developed and the project will be implemented as a multi-year project

2. Phase 1 of the bulk water supply project has commenced at Hertzogville and water will be abstracted from Christiana to Hertzogville, and the project is envisaged to be completed by 2012/2013 financial year
3. Tokologo is experiencing serious challenges of providing clean water for the community. *E-coli traces* are still a serious problem in the water and the municipality is working in conjunction with Department of Water Affairs as well as the University of the Free State to ensure that the problem is minimized. There are mechanisms in place to ensure constant monitoring and testing of the water.
4. Though the municipality is experiencing lack of necessary resources, regular maintenance of roads and storm water is undertaken.
5. Once more, though there are challenges of the old and unreliable fleet, the municipality still remove refuse in all 3 towns of Tokologo, though not as regularly as we would like. Support has been requested from the District Municipality as well as the Government Garage for fleet. However, we intend to purchase a new fleet before the end of 2012-2013 financial year.
6. There are challenges with regard to illegal dumping. However, the community is encouraged to desist from illegal dumping. New landfill sites have been identified and will be registered in the 2012-2013 financial year to curb the scourge of illegal dumping, and a by-law and policy regarding illegal dumping, will be in place .
7. There is still no significant improvement on the issue of placing skip bins on strategic places. However, the District Municipality donated a total of 5 000.00 large dustbins for the community (Boshof - 1500; Dealesville – 1500; Hertzogville - 2000) in the previous financial year and we are engaging relevant stake holders for more bins.
8. No significant improvement in this sphere due to lack of resources
9. No significant improvement due to lack of resources
10. Not the competence of the municipality
11. Not the competency of the municipality
12. Recreational facilities are maintained though not regularly. Business plans for the upgrade of sports facilities (stadiums) have been approved for MIG funding and hopefully will be implemented in the 2012/2013 financial year. The municipality will endeavour to improve maintenance on all recreational facilities.
13. Cemeteries are maintained though not on a regular basis. Business plans for the fencing of cemeteries at Dealesville and Boshof have been registered and will be prioritized for implementation and waiting for MIG funding.

(ii) **Service delivery performance**

Provision of Water

Though there is still a challenge of water scarcity in the area, the bulk water supply project is still in progress for Hertzogville and is due to be completed at the end of April in 2013. Phase 2 for Boshof and Dealesville will commence as soon as phase 1 is completed.

However, drilling and development of boreholes projects were undertaken to alleviate the problem. Water meters were installed for purposes of billing and water management. It seems to be mentioned that Hertzogville is the most affected area in that residents are provided with water on intervals (twice per day, once in the morning and once in the evening). Therefore, phase 1 of the bulk water supply project which has commenced at Hertzogville will address the backlog.

Electricity

Of the remaining households without electricity, as identified in the previous financial year, 84% of the backlog has been addressed. Furthermore, there is a backlog once more identified (Boshof 300; Dealesville 300 and Hertzogville 200). We envisage to clear the backlog in the 2012/2013.

Sanitation

A bucket eradication backlog of about 1200 in Tokologo was carried over from the previous financial year. Out of the 1200 backlogs, 250 VIP's were erected in Hertzogville, and 250 VIP's were also erected at Dealesville and 52 more were rejected by the community. At Boshof, 1000 backlog is still to be addressed, however a technical report and MIG business plan was submitted to Provincial CoGTA for approval and funding. The funding required amounted to R16 million and the business plan was approved and due to be implemented in the 2013/2014 financial year.

Refuse Removal

The municipality does provide refuse removal services but due to shortage and/or the old and unreliable yellow fleet, the municipality is unable to meet the National Standards in terms of refuse removal. However, Lejweleputswa District Municipality provided 5000 new large dustbins which were distributed as follows: Dealesville – 1500; Boshof – 1500 and Hertzogville – 2000.

(iii) ***Financial sustainability as presented by the financial health ratios***

(iv) ***the efforts the municipality is making to conserve power and water in its offices***

The municipality ensures that at the end of business day, all lights and electrical appliances not in use are switched off. We also encourage officials to switch off their office lights when they would be away from their offices for longer during working hours. We ensure that all water leakages are addressed without delay and officials are encouraged not to boil more than the required amounts of water when drinking tea, coffee or any other hot beverages.

(v) ***Administrative policies made during the year reflecting the pressures from world recession***

No administrative policies were made during the year under review.

The municipality does not have any shared service arrangements whatsoever.

In the 2011/2012 financial year, the following areas will receive priority:

- (a) Acceleration of the roll out of basic services to the communities of Tokologo
- (b) Prioritisation of the Expanded Public Works Programme to ensure job creation and poverty eradication
- (c) Working quicker and smarter and enhancing performance
- (d) Transforming the Municipality into a customer friendly and service orientated institution
- (c) Improving labour relations and staff morale
- (e) Improving internal communication with staff; and
- (f) Ensuring that accountability is exercised

I would like to extend my warmest appreciation to the political leadership and staff of Tokologo Local Municipality for their contribution to the progress made during the 2011/2012 financial year. I would also like to extend a special word of thanks once more to the internal team that compiled this Report. Your dedication towards making a positive input to the improvement of the municipality is really appreciated.

Adv. L.M.A. MOFOKENG
Municipal Manager