

Zululand District Municipality



Annual Report 2007 / 2008





POSTAL ADDRESS

Private Bag X 76
Ulundi
3838

ADDRESS

B-400 Gagane Street
Ulundi

CONTACT NUMBERS

Telephone number: 035- 874 5500
Fax Number: 035 874 5589/91

WEBSITE

www.zululand.org.za

E-MAIL

mm@zululand.org.za

VAT REGISTRATION NUMBER

411 016 816 0

BANKERS

Name of the bank: ABSA

AUDITORS

Internal Auditors: PriceWaterHouseCoopers

External Auditors: Auditor- General

ATTORNEYS

Shepstone & Wylie

CUSTOMER CARE NUMBER

035 874 5530





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Glossary of Acronyms and Abbreviations

BP	Business Plan
DBSA	Development Bank of Southern Africa
DPLG	Department of Provincial and Local Government
DMP	Disaster Management Plan
EE	Employment Equity
EEP	Employment Equity Plan
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
ITP	Integrated Transport Plan
LED	Local Economic Development
LUMS	Land Use Management System
PMS	Performance Management System
RDP	Reconstruction and Development Plan
SDBIP	Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan
SDF	Spatial Development Framework
WSDP	Water Services Development Plan
ZDM	Zululand District Municipality
MANCO	Management Committee
EXCO	Executive Committee
OHS	Occupational Health and Safety
HH	Households

Foreword By Her Worship The Mayor



As the Political head of the Zululand District Municipality, I and fellow councillors, including mayors from five local municipalities under our control and in partnership with traditional leadership (Amakhosi and izinduna), we have again in this financial year re-committed ourselves in working tirelessly and selflessly to make a difference in the lives of people who voted us into the office.

With water provision and sanitation being one of our core functions, our budget of R451-million for the 2008/9 financial year - reflecting an increase of more than R67-million from the previous financial year - is proof that every year, as Zululand District Municipality, we strive to do better than the previous years. The bulk of this budget is, again, allocated towards the provision of water to our communities.

It is an undeniable fact that, despite the limited funds being allocated to us as a District Municipality, we have managed to do better, although we still believe and feel that there is still a room for improvement. Despite current budgetary constraints, we are not going to sit down and be cry babies, but instead, we will knock at every available door to solicit funds for the upliftment and development of about one million residents of our District.

I want to assure you that we are not going to rest until all the Zululand people have portable water and proper sanitation, tarred roads, electricity, the unemployment and crime rates are reduced, and the HIV/AIDS scourge is under control.

Despite all our past efforts, we are not going to sit down and rest on our laurels, or bask on the glory of our yesteryear's achievements. Since the beginning of this financial year, we have continued to hand over to the local Amakhosi and their communities a number of completed projects, including, schools, crèches, as well as, water-related projects.

To further enhance or boost service delivery, at the beginning of the year, we held a meeting with all relevant stakeholders, including Amakhosi, izinduna, business people, religious leaders, mayors from the five local municipalities under the Zululand District Municipality and councillors. This gospel of service delivery was further intensified by my leader, Dr MG Buthelezi, who summoned us (all IFP-linked MPs, mayors and councillors) to a workshop on service delivery in Ulundi.

Finally, we at the Zululand District Municipality, we will continue to serve you with integrity and strive for excellence.

VZ KaMagwaza-Msibi

Foreword by The Speaker



Our Council continued to work without ceasing, sparing neither strength nor might. The Captains of our ship lead us with a renewed sense of direction, vigour and determination. Our mayor, the Honourable VZ KaMagwaza-Msibi steered the ship and ensured that we kept afloat in the troubled waters, her presence amongst us, as one of us, assisted us a great deal in keeping focused. We have continued to draw inspiration from her wisdom and her unequalled leadership.

In the same breath, our council and its committees have again worked tirelessly, to ensure that they execute their responsibility for which they have been put to power. This they have achieved through hard work, honesty, integrity and unity of purpose. In this regard, the attendance of meetings of Council has been exceptionally well. I congratulate all our councillors for a job well done.

The year under review has proved to be the most challenging one in terms of adequate availability of water, due to reasons beyond our influence, which included amongst others, drought. This has threatened to overwhelm our capacity to deliver water through water tanker services; this was worsened by the rise in water demand, on one hand, and on the other hand, the endemic draught which was as a result of lack of rain in recent years.

On another note, it is with deep sense of regret to have to report our loss of two dedicated councillors, who were serving in the Executive Committee. That is councillor Z.Z. C Ndaba, who was the chairperson of Planning and GIS Portfolio Committee; and M.J Ngobobo who was the chairperson of Disaster Management Health and Safety Portfolio Committee. They will always be remembered for their selfless commitment and dedication which characterised the time they spent in service of the people. Their memory will indeed inspire industriousness and selflessness for many years to come.

In conclusion, I wish to record our sincerest appreciation to His Excellency, the Prince of KwaPhindangene who is the Chairperson of Traditional Leaders in Zululand and KwaZulu-Natal, to all Amakhosi and izinduna, our own staff members and members of the community, and all those who made an effort in making sure that the year under review was the success that it was. They have worked with us with a remarkable sense of shared responsibility and as partners in the development of their own communities, and the acceleration of service delivery.

Foreword by The Municipality Manager



We have come to the end of yet another financial year. I am pleased to report that as usual, we have made tremendous strides in bringing necessary infrastructure and development to our communities, the majority of whom are rural poor.

Our good working relations as management, Exco, councillors and staff has produced good results as we have managed to deliver basic services we have planned in this financial year. Our training and development department that has continued without fail to better equip both councillors and staff to serve our communities. At the beginning of each year, we hold planning sessions with all relevant stakeholders of the district to prioritise key projects for all areas under our jurisdiction. In these sessions, traditional leaders play a major role as they are custodians of our tradition and culture. In this District, we pride ourselves for having being the first municipality to provide the local house of traditional leaders with a work centre. The traditional leadership structure under our district will now have a place where they will conduct their daily business in serving our communities. This structure is currently under construction and is being built in Ulundi. Office equipment has already been bought and the administration officer has since been employed and seconded to the House Of Traditional Leaders.

Since the take over of the Prince Mangosuthu Airport early last year, we have commenced with necessary renovations to bring it into working order. Waterproofing and crack sealing of the runway is currently underway. Our Local Economic Development department is busy putting together a plan to turn this institution into a tourism hub. The tourism office has already re-located to the airport. Zululand District Municipality as a water service authority, still prioritises the supply of potable water in all our municipalities. Large amounts of money are prioritised for water and sanitation projects in every financial year. Our main objective is to provide each and every household in both urban and rural areas with clean water. We are currently running a campaign to educate people on water conservation and encourage them to report leaks and vandalism to the infrastructure in their areas. We will also continue with the provision of free basic water to the destitute of our communities. Although we have worked tirelessly to service our communities, we are however aware of the huge backlog that still exists. Water distribution was again hampered by severe drought that we recently encountered this year.

Our zero tolerance to corruption attitude has helped us maintain a good track record in financial management. This is reflected on our unqualified reports from the auditor general for the past seven years. I have no doubt that we will continue with this good track record in years to come.

As management of this ever hardworking district, we pride ourselves for our good track record in delivery of basic services. We assure our communities that we will continue to work hard to realise our mandate of providing efficient basic service delivery to the multitudes of our inhabitants, thereby making a difference to their lives.

On behalf of the administration, I would like to lastly extend a word of gratitude to our respected leaders, loyal staff, patient families and supportive communities. Thank you for making Zululand such a great place.

J H De Klerk
J H DE KLERK
Municipality Manager

Chapter 1 - Chapter 6



1.1. Introduction and Purpose of the Annual Report

The Annual Report is a legal requirement in terms of Chapter 12 of the Municipal Finance Management Act, No 56 of 2003. The purpose of this report as per Act is:

- To provide a record of the activities of the municipality;
- To provide a report on performance in service delivery and budget implementation; and
- To promote accountability to the local community.

The MFMA requires the municipality to report on all aspects of performance providing a true, honest and accurate account of the goals set by council and the success or otherwise in achieving these goals. The Annual Report is thus a key performance report to the community and other stakeholders.

In line with aforementioned, this report will be tabled in Council who must adopt an oversight report containing the Council's comments on the annual report. The annual report will also be made public and the residents and other stakeholders in the Zululand District will be given an opportunity to comment and submit representations in connection with the report, which comments and representations will be considered by the Council when adopting the oversight report.

1.2. Demographic Information

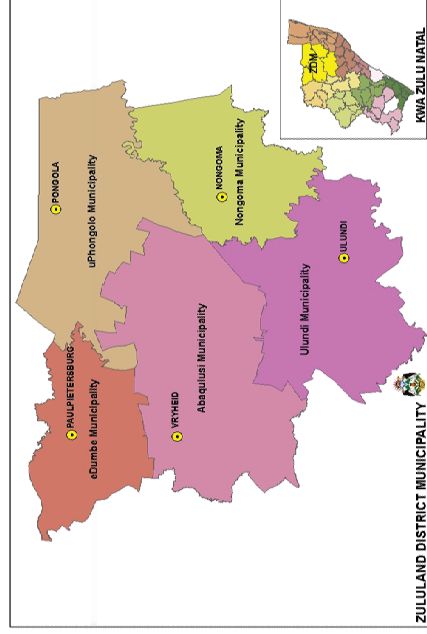
The Zululand District Municipality is one of the ten district municipalities in KwaZulu Natal. It operates in the northern part of the province. Approximately half the area is under the jurisdiction of traditional authorities while the remainder is divided between commercially-owned farms and conservation areas. The area is predominantly rural and the population is sparsely dispersed over 14 810 km². The major towns forming part of the district are eDumbe, Abaqulusi, Nongoma, Pongola and Ulundi.

The district serves a population of 964 005 people of whom 74.6 % reside in the rural areas, with the balance in the urban and/or peri-urban areas. The district is characterised by high unemployment and poverty and, as such, the Zululand District Municipality has been identified as a Nodal Point.

The municipality is isolated from the national economy mainly due its location in relation to transport and distance from major centres. The traditional areas are poverty-stricken and depend upon the little economic output that is generated in the towns that are situated within the district.

Despite this negative backdrop against which the Zululand economy has to perform, there are unique characteristics that present a range of economic development opportunities in the district. These are in relation to tourism and agriculture. The former has started to play a larger role in the economy of the area, although this does not fill the gaps caused by the closure of the mines. The mines have significant forward and backward linkages on all the economic sectors, particularly in Vryheid and the surrounding areas.

Map of The Zululand District Municipality



The table below shows the population distribution per local municipality

TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS COUNT PER LOCAL MUNICIPALITY						
LM Name	LM	2001		2007		Growth %
		Households	Households	Number of People	Growth	
Abaqulusi	KZ263	32312	36044	243766	3732	14%
eDumbe	KZ261	11611	15025	101614	3414	13%
Nongoma	KZ265	27947	34043	230233	6096	23%
Ulundi	KZ266	27957	35319	238862	7362	28%
uPongola	KZ262	16289	22112	149543	5823	22%
		116116	142543	964018	26427	100%