

Mayor's Foreword



I am proud and privileged as Mayor of Elundini Municipality to present the Annual Report for the 2008/2009 financial year. The presentation of the annual report of the Elundini Municipality for the year ended 30 June 2009 marks another Landmark in the history of the Municipality and is evidence of progress made towards attainment of our vision for “a better quality of life for all”.

It was a very productive year and a great deal of progress was made, however, serious challenges that continue to plague the municipality are not completely overcome. And thus we, as the municipality, remain concerned with service delivery backlogs and this remains a critical focus area for us.

Another highlight was the significant milestone in the country's history that this year brought about when the general

elections were held nationwide. At a municipal level this presented a challenge and perhaps an opportunity to intensify a

visible Service Delivery Programme. This all takes place at a time in which the municipal council and senior administration have emerged from a strategic Planning session which was intense, productive and focused. From this session we had come out with a clear and concise strategy and objectives for the financial year ahead 2009/2010.

I must take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the Honourable Madam Speaker, the executive Committee and the municipal council as well as the administration for all their efforts during the past financial year. It is with such unity and combined effort that we shall realize our vision of “a better quality of life for all”.

.....
His Worship, the Mayor
Cllr Bongani Salman

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Municipal Manager's statement



When we mooted the idea of holding a strategic planning session in December 2008, we agreed that the most appropriate theme for the strategic planning session must be “Rural Development for Human Development”. This theme, as we reminisced, would help refocus the Elundini Municipality into paying particular attention to the socio economic circumstances of the rural poor, while also consolidating the existing initiatives in our small rural towns.

We were confronted by realities of under development and poverty that currently characterize rural life in the Elundini Municipality, where: -

- 54% of rural people do not have access to clean drinking water
- 76% of homesteads, mainly concentrated in the Mt Fletcher area, do not have access to electricity
- The majority of our access roads are not trafficable

- Most households do not have decent sanitation facilities
- Unemployment is rife and poverty is the order of the day

We were unanimous that the urban core of Elundini can best be described as rural towns, particularly because the level of infrastructure development and the living conditions of the majority residing in the urban core of the Elundini Municipality are critically lower than that of more developed cities in the province and the entire country.

Rural municipalities of the ilk of Elundini Municipality are heavily reliant on government transfers to be able to discharge their constitutional obligations. The small revenue base of the Elundini Municipality and the indigent status of a significant number of households put a damper to our desire to fundamentally address the socio economic circumstances of our people.

We have attempted to borrow money so we could acquire our own property and machinery, but our credit profile has let us down. We are still determined, however, to do whatever it takes, to have our own plant and machinery and be in a position to respond to the incessant calls to improve the condition of our roads.

Since 2007, we have attempted to engage the Department of Minerals and Energy to resolve the long outstanding issue of the non electrification of the vast majority of our rural area. In April 2009, we managed to meet with the then Minister of Minerals and Energy, who showed willingness to attend to our plight. Unfortunately, she was allocated other responsibilities after the general elections and our efforts to get an audience with the new minister have been in vain. We have also addressed a letter to the Presidency to seek the intervention of the highest office.

Due to the dithering rural electrification programme, the Elundini Municipality has facilitated the introduction of the solar home systems in the affected wards. As at 30 June 2009, at least 359 households had received their installations, and the households are located in wards 14 and 15.

We are addressing the water and sanitation issues with the Ukhahlamba District Municipality and we are grateful that Ukhahlamba District Municipality has received funding to implement a sanitation programme, starting with 1400 VIP toilets in ward 8.

Whereas the municipality did not entirely meet its set milestones for 2008/2009 in terms of its employment equity plan, I am pleased with the gender profile of the top and middle management of the municipality. There is a 50:50 gender split in the level of the managers that are directly accountable to the municipal manager, whereas out of eight (8) assistant manager positions filled, seven (7) positions are occupied by females.

During October 2007, the Elundini and Ukhahlamba municipalities jointly submitted funding applications to implement infrastructure projects that would support the investment by Steinhoff International in Ugie. Although funding was originally approved during the 2007/2008 financial year, some of the projects to be funded were affected by the economic downturn and were consequently iced. The following projects will now be implemented in Ugie, utilizing a provincial grant allocation of R74 million, as follows: -

Nature of Project	Funds Allocated R
Implementation of the Ugie electricity master plan including the installation of highmast lights in the Ugie townships (project co funded by the Department of Energy)	20 million
Bulk water supply	30 million
Completion of infrastructure in Prentjiesberg	6 million
Breaking new ground housing development in Ugie	8 million
Ugie truck stop	10 million

In conclusion, significant strides have been made during the 2008/2009 financial year to further consolidate on the achievements made in the previous financial years. The attainment of a better quality of life for our people is our ultimate destination.

Khaya Gashi
Municipal Manager

Executive Summary

This report assesses the Elundini Municipality's performance against planned targets in terms of the institutional scorecard for the 2008/2009 financial year. As per the requirements of the Municipal Finance Management Act (56 of 2003), the Annual report consists of five components.

The **first chapter** is the introduction and overview which contains the Mayor's foreword, which draws amongst other things a summary of the municipality's performance during this financial year, its priorities for service delivery with established performance targets and measures taken and or to be taken to improve performance. The demographic overview indicates that the Elundini Municipality is a typical rural municipality characterized by huge infrastructure backlogs, inadequate revenue base and limited economic opportunities, high levels of poverty and unemployment and a high incidence of illiteracy, exacerbated by lack of social amenities.

The **second chapter** deals with service delivery highlights and Service Delivery backlogs. It categorises service delivery highlights per local government Key Performance Area (KPA). This section gives a narrative of all services provided by the municipality, including highlighting progress achieved in dealing with service delivery and backlogs. This section also includes information on approval of zoning and building plan applications during the financial year.

The **third chapter** reports on the substantial progress made by the Elundini Municipality regarding Human Resources and Organisational Management. It provides a detailed analysis of human resources capacity of the municipality as well as an overview of the systems and processes being implemented to ensure that human and organizational resources are managed in an effective and efficient manner.

The **fourth Chapter** provides the Annual Financial Statements and related financial information for the year ended 30 June 2009.

The **Fifth Chapter** provides information that shows overview, description and analysis of each function provided by the municipality. This includes the performance of the municipality against set targets as reflecting in the municipality's Scorecard and SDBIP. This section also outlines planned and actual expenditure on the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG), including a three year Capital Budget for financial year 2008/2009, 2009/2010, 2010/2011