

**REPORT OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL TO THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCIAL
LEGISLATURE AND THE COUNCIL ON THE EHLANZENI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**

REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Introduction

1. I have audited the financial statements of the Ehlanzeni District Municipality set out on pages ... to ..., which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2012, the statement of financial performance, statement of changes in net assets and cash flow statement for the year then ended, and the notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Accounting officer's responsibility for the financial statements

2. The accounting officer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (GRAP) and the requirements of the Municipal Finance Management Act of South Africa, 2003 (Act No. 56 of 2003) (MFMA) and the Division of Revenue Act of South Africa, 2011 (Act No. 6 of 2011) (DoRA), and for such internal control as the accounting officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor-General's responsibility

3. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with the Public Audit Act of South Africa, 2004 (Act No. 25 of 2004) (PAA), the general notice issued in terms thereof and International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.
4. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.
5. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

6. In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Ehlanzeni District Municipality as at 30 June 2012 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with GRAP and the requirements of the MFMA and DoRA.

Additional matters

7. I draw attention to the matters below. My opinion is not modified in respect of these matters.

Achievement of planned targets

8. Of the total number of planned targets, only 15 were achieved during the year under review. This means that 42% of the total planned targets were not achieved during the year under review. This was as a result of the institution not considering relevant systems and evidential requirements during the annual strategic planning process.

Unaudited supplementary information

9. The supplementary information set out on pages xx to xx does not form part of the financial statements and is presented as additional information. I have not audited this schedule and, accordingly, I do not express an opinion thereon.

REPORT ON OTHER LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

10. In accordance with the PAA and the general notice issued in terms thereof, I report the following findings relevant to performance against predetermined objectives, compliance with laws and regulations and internal control, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion.

Predetermined objectives

11. I performed procedures to obtain evidence about the usefulness and reliability of the information in the annual performance report as set out on pages xx to xx of the annual report.
12. The reported performance against predetermined objectives was evaluated against the overall criteria of usefulness and reliability. The usefulness of information in the annual performance report relates to whether it is presented in accordance with the National Treasury's annual reporting principles and whether the reported performance is consistent with the planned development priorities. The usefulness of information further relates to whether indicators and targets are measurable (i.e. well defined, verifiable, specific, measurable and time bound) and relevant as required by the National Treasury's *Framework for managing programme performance information*.
13. The reliability of the information in respect of the selected development priorities is assessed to determine whether it adequately reflects the facts (i.e. whether it is valid, accurate and complete).

14. There were no material findings on the annual performance report concerning the usefulness and reliability of the information.

Compliance with laws and regulations

15. I performed procedures to obtain evidence that the entity has complied with applicable laws and regulations regarding financial matters, financial management and other related matters. I did not identify any instances of material non-compliance with specific matters in key applicable laws and regulations as set out in the general notice issued in terms of the PAA.

Internal control

16. I considered internal control relevant to my audit of the financial statements, annual performance report and compliance with laws and regulations. I did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that I considered sufficiently significant for inclusion in this report.

Auditor General

Nelspruit

30 November 2012



AUDITOR - GENERAL
SOUTH AFRICA

Auditing to build public confidence