

Auditor's report

Westrand District Municipality

30 June 2015

Report of the auditor-general to the Gauteng provincial legislature and the council of West Rand District Municipality

Report on the financial statements

Introduction

1. I have audited the financial statements of the West Rand District municipality set out on pages x to x, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2015, the statement of financial performance, statement of changes in net assets, cash flow statement and the statement of comparison of budget information with actual information for the year then ended, as well as 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 South African Standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (SA standards of 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 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 municipality'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 municipality'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 West Rand District Municipality as at 30 June 2015 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with SA standards of GRAP and the requirements of the Municipal Finance Management Act of South Africa, 2003 (Act No. 56 of 2003) (MFMA) and Division of Revenue Act of South Africa, 2011 (Act No. 6 of 2011) (DoRA)

Emphasis of matters

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

Significant uncertainties

8. With reference to note 50 to the financial statements, the municipality is the defendant in a number of legal claims. The ultimate outcome of these matters cannot presently be determined. Consequently no provision for any liability that may result has been made in the financial statements.

Restatement of corresponding figures

9. As disclosed in note 38 to the financial statements, the corresponding figures for 30 June 2014 have been restated as a result of errors discovered during 30 June 2015 in the financial statements of the West Rand District Municipality at, and for the year ended, 30 June 2014.

Material impairments

10. As disclosed in note 11 to the financial statements, material losses to the amount of R 3 193 058 were incurred as the recoverability of these amounts are doubtful.

Additional matter

11. I draw attention to the matter below. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Unaudited supplementary information

12. 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

13. In accordance with the Public Audit Act of South Africa, 2004 (Act No. 25 of 2004) (PAA) and the general notice issued in terms thereof, I have a responsibility to report findings on the reported performance information against predetermined objectives for selected development priorities presented in the annual performance report, compliance with legislation and internal control. The objective of my tests was to identify reportable findings as described under each subheading, but not to gather evidence to express assurance on these matters. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion or conclusion on these matters.

Predetermined objectives

14. I performed procedures to obtain evidence about the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information for the following selected development priorities presented in the annual performance report of the municipality for the year ended 30 June 2015:
- Development priority 1: Regional planning and economic development on pages x to x
 - Development priority 2: Health and social development on pages x to x
 - Development priority 3: Public safety pages x to x
15. I evaluated the reported performance information against the overall criteria of usefulness and reliability.
16. I evaluated the usefulness of the reported performance information to determine whether it was presented in accordance with the National Treasury's annual reporting principles and whether the reported performance was consistent with the planned development priorities. I further performed tests to determine whether indicators and targets were well defined, verifiable, specific, measurable, time bound and relevant, as required by the National Treasury's *Framework for managing programme performance information* (FMPPi).
17. I assessed the reliability of the reported performance information to determine whether it was valid, accurate and complete.
18. I did not identify material findings on the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information for the following development priorities:
- a. Development priority 1: Regional planning and economic development
 - b. Development priority 2: Health and social development
 - c. Development priority 3: Public safety

Additional matters

19. Although I identified no material findings on the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information for the selected development priorities , I draw attention to the following matters:

Achievement of planned targets

20. Refer to the annual performance report on pages xx to xx for information on the achievement of planned targets for the year.

Unaudited supplementary information

21. The supplementary information set out on pages x to x does not form part of the annual performance report and is presented as additional information. We have not audited these schedules and, accordingly, we do not express a conclusion thereon.

Compliance with legislation

22. I performed procedures to obtain evidence that the municipality had complied with applicable legislation regarding financial matters, financial management and other related matters. My material finding on compliance with specific matters in key legislation, as set out in the general notice issued in terms of the PAA, are as follows

Annual financial statements

24. The financial statements submitted for auditing were not prepared in all material respects in accordance with the requirements of section 122 of the Municipal Finance Management Act. Material misstatements identified by the auditors in the submitted financial statements were adequately corrected, which resulted in the financial statements receiving an unqualified audit opinion.

Internal control

25. I considered internal control relevant to my audit of the financial statements, annual performance report and compliance with legislation. The matters reported below are limited to the significant internal control deficiencies that resulted in the findings on compliance with legislation

Leadership

26. The accounting officer did not always adequately perform oversight responsibility over financial reporting and compliance resulting in material adjustments required on the financial statements after submission for audit.

Financial and performance management

27. Management did not adequately perform oversight responsibility over financial reporting and compliance resulting in material adjustments required on the financial statements after submission for audit.

AUDITOR-GENERAL

Johannesburg

30 November 2015



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