

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL TO THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL ON THE SWARTLAND MUNICIPALITY

REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Introduction

1. I have audited the financial statements of the Swartland Municipality set out on pages 3 to 93 and 99 to 101, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2013, the statement of financial performance, statement of changes in net assets and the 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 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, 2012 (Act No. 5 of 2012) (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 Swartland Municipality as at 30 June 2013 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with SA Standards of 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.

Material inconsistencies in other information included in the annual report

8. The draft annual report has not yet been received at the date of this report. As a result, it has not yet been reviewed for any inconsistency with the financial statements. The final printer's proof of the annual report will be reviewed and any material inconsistencies identified will be communicated to management. Should the inconsistencies identified not be corrected, it may result in the matter being included in the audit report.

Unaudited supplementary schedules

9. The supplementary information set out on pages 94 to 98 and 102 to 103 does not form part of the financial statements and is presented as additional information. I have not audited these schedules 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 21 to 141 of the annual report.

12. The reported performance against predetermined objectives was evaluated against the overall criteria of usefulness and reliability.

13. 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 objectives. 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*.

14. The reliability of the information in respect of the selected development objectives is assessed to determine whether it adequately reflects the facts (i.e. whether it is valid, accurate and complete).

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

Additional matters

16. Although no material findings concerning the usefulness and reliability of the performance information were identified in the annual performance report, I draw attention to the following matters.

Achievement of planned targets

17. Of the total number of 154 targets planned for the year, 55 targets were not achieved during the year under review. This represents 36% of the total planned targets that were not achieved during the year under review. This was as result of the municipality not considering relevant systems and evidential requirements during the annual strategic planning process.

Material adjustments to the annual performance report

18. Material misstatements in the annual performance report were identified during the audit, all of which were corrected by management.

Compliance with laws and regulations

19. I performed procedures to obtain evidence that the entity had 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

20. 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.

OTHER REPORTS

Investigations

21. An investigation is being conducted into the reasons why certain traffic fines had been withdrawn. Payments have been withheld from the service provider for the collection of traffic fines until the investigation has been completed. The investigation was still ongoing at the reporting date.

Auditor-General

Cape Town

29 November 2013



AUDITOR - GENERAL
SOUTH AFRICA

Auditing to build public confidence