

## SECTION B: SITUATION ANALYSIS

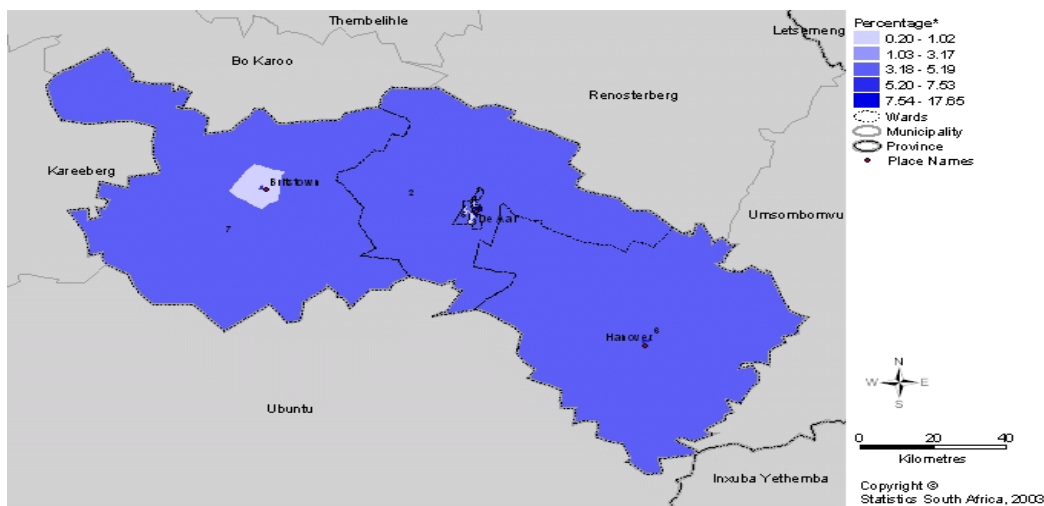
### 1. EMTHANJENI MUNICIPALITY PROFILE

#### 1.1 Emthanjeni Municipality in Context

Emthanjeni, and especially De Aar, is renowned for its central location on the main railway line between Johannesburg, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Namibia. De Aar is situated in the Northern Cape Province, with an approximate population of 991919 people (census 2001). The Municipality is further situated in the Pixley ka Seme District Municipality with an approximate population of 164412 people (census 2001), this represents 16, 92% of the Northern Cape population. The Municipality is also situated approximately 300km south west of Kimberley, 440 km south east of Upington, 300 km north east of Beaufort-West and 300 km south west of Bloemfontein.

Hanover lies approximately 65 km east of De Aar on N1 main north to south route. Britstown is situated about 55 km west of De Aar on the N12 route. Both these main routes link Johannesburg and Cape Town. The towns of Emthanjeni lie in an extensive stock farming area with the emphasis on sheep, mutton and wool farming, especially Merino's.

Emthanjeni Municipality, specifically De Aar, is the seat of Pixley ka Seme District Municipality; the Municipality further hosts all Government Departments. Emthanjeni Municipality covers an area of approximately 11390km<sup>2</sup>. Emthanjeni comprises 11% of the district land area and 3% of the province. We further represent approximately 23% of the district's population.



Distances from major centres in South Africa:

- Johannesburg : 750km
- Pretoria : 810km
- Cape Town : 748km
- Bloemfontein : 315km
- Port Elizabeth : 502km

De Aar has the following residential areas:

- De Aar-West
- De Aar East
- Nonzwakazi
- Waterdal.

Britstown has the following residential areas:

- Jansenville
- Mziwabantu
- Britstown (town)
- Proteaville

Hanover has the following residential areas:

- Kwezi
- Nompumelelo
- Joe Slovo park
- Tornadoville
- Hanover (town)

## **Geographical Features and Natural Resources**

### **Climate**

Emthanjeni Municipality is situated in the Northern Cape Province, which has a semi-arid climate; specifically in the Pixley ka Seme Region which has summer rainfall, occurring mainly in the late summer months. The area has warm summers and very cold winters, with temperatures varying from high 30°'s in January/February to below freezing in June/July. The region is subject to periodic droughts which have a serious impact on the surrounding farming areas and on the economy of the towns.

### **Physical Characteristics**

#### **Water**

The towns of Emthanjeni Municipality obtain water from 68 boreholes and two fountains, divided into 4 borehole schemes. The monthly capacity of the fountains varies according to the rainfall. The water quality is hard and presents problems for bathing, washing and electrical appliances.

#### **Minerals**

De Aar and the surrounding area does not have any economically viable mineral deposits, as far as can be ascertained. Recent studies indicate the possibility of uranium deposits in the area (Hanover). This can only be ascertained after an elaborate study is conducted.

## **Vegetation**

The vegetation is typical of the Karoo region with Karoo bushes and grass as the dominant features. Lone thorn trees occur in limited areas

## **Flood lines**

No perennial rivers are to be found in the immediate vicinity of the towns. All stormwater channels are local and the catchment area is limited to the immediate vicinity of the towns De Aar experiences problems with stormwater in the streets and subway due to a lack of proper stormwater drainage.

## **Air**

The quality of air in the Emthanjeni Municipal area can be described as good. In comparison with the pollution in other urban centres, air pollution is minimal. Problems such as acid rain do not occur in Emthanjeni Municipal area. Pollution from industries is kept to a minimum. Dust pollution does occur in the Karoo to a certain extent, due to the sparse vegetation and low variable rainfall.

## **Historical Overview of Emthanjeni Municipality**

### **De Aar**

De Aar means “the artery”, and in many senses this town is the lifeblood of the Karoo. It’s the head office of the Emthanjeni and Pixley Ka Seme District Municipalities; home to many artists; there’s an important weather station that can be toured by visitors, and it’s the second most important railway junction in the country. The significance of its situation on the railway line is because it’s central to Gauteng, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Namibia.

There are about 110km of railway lines, including 29 rail-tracks in De Aar’s precincts. However, “De Aar” founded in 1904, was so named because of the many water-bearing arteries that occur underground. Unlike many other Karoo towns, it did not start around the Dutch Reformed Church, but in fact started around the railway line.

De Aar, has the largest abattoir in the Southern Hemisphere and supplies all the major centres throughout the entire country with the famous “Karoo” lamb and mutton. Apart from meat production, the sheep farms around De Aar are also major suppliers of wool. All the water used in the town comes from boreholes – which is why the town is known for its large number of wind pumps. The town is easily accessible by tarred road, two airfields serve it – one is an all-weather runway that can accommodate any type of aircraft and it’s only 52km away from the national bus route.

### **Hanover**

This attractive and historic little town on the N1 lies more or less halfway between Cape Town, Gauteng and Kwazulu-Natal. It was established in 1854 at the base of

some rocky hills on the farm Petrusvallei, which was bought from Gert Gous. Gous requested that the town be called Hanover, after his great grandfather's town in Germany.

When declared a magisterial district in 1876, the town was very fortunate to be appointed with a far-seeing magistrate, Richard Beere. He insisted that trees be planted so that resident's descendants would have shade. Due to the increase in water consumption caused by an increase in residents, the spring that Hanover was built around dried up, and the number of trees seen in the town today is far less than 100 years ago. Beere loved the Karoo and spent a lot of time on the summit of Trappieskop, where a stone pyramid honouring his contribution to the town was erected when he died.

The older houses were all built right on the road edge – as per authority's instructions at the time – and when, in later years, homeowners built on verandahs, they had to pay a one shilling tax for this privilege. Today, they are still paying this tax, which is now R17, 00. Hanover was home to Olive Schreiner – well known South African author – who lived here from 1900 to 1907, and referred to it as “the prettiest little village I have ever seen”. Her husband, Cron, was an agent in town and today his offices are used as a small guest house. Like many small Karoo towns, most of the streets are not tarred and the residential areas are very quiet. However, behind garden walls and front doors there's plenty of activity going on as the industrious residents carry out their daily business.

The town is home to a variety of artists and craftspeople, as well as having several restaurants, a delightful bookshop, coffee shop and a museum. Interesting Karoo architecture is to be seen and many gardens have a wind pump standing sentinel in one corner. Surrounding farms are principally Merino sheep farms, with many of the country's best breeders farming in the Hanover district. Lesser Kestrels, from Europe and Central Asia, come to nest in trees around town, and can be seen gliding in the dawn and dusk sky from late October to the end of summer.

### **Britstown**

It was in the heady days of The Great Diamond rush in the year of 1877 that Britstown came into being. Fortune hunters paused here in their frenzied dash to the fabulous diamond field, and a settlement mushroomed to provide fresh horses, fodder, refreshment and accommodation. Soon even a concertina virtuoso made music for happy dancers lubricated by the local brew. First the Fuller and Gibson coaches and then others stopped here. But by the time Britstown gained municipal status in January, 1889, a railway line already snaked across the Karoo plains to carry would-be diamond diggers through to Kimberley.

## Emthanjeni Municipality Population

According to Statistics South Africa, the total population of Emthanjeni Municipality was 35549, composed as follows:

Table B1: Population

AREA	AFRICAN	COLOURED	ASIAN	WHITE	TOTAL
<b>DE AAR</b>					
Male	3543	7181	21	1637	12384
Female	4014	7766	12	1841	13635
Total	7556	14946	33	3478	26019
<b>BRITSTOWN</b>					
Male	400	1306	1	138	1846
Female	398	1617	2	160	2178
Total	797	2922	3	298	4024
<b>HANOVER</b>					
Male	756	421	1	95	1274
Female	866	453	1	100	1421
Total	1621	873	2	195	2695
<b>EMTHANJENI FARMS</b>					
Male	252	971	0	249	1473
Female	184	947	0	206	1338
Total	435	1917	0	455	2811
<b>EMTHANJENI TOTAL</b>					
Male	4951	9879	23	2119	16977
Female	5462	10783	15	2307	18572
Total	10413	20662	38	4426	35549

Source: Census 2001

Emthanjeni has a total population of 35549 and is currently a category 3 Municipality. The recent Community Survey (StatsSA) indicates that the total population has increased to 38228.

### Households

Household in Emthanjeni Municipality in 2001 stood at 8621 (Census 2001) the Community Survey conducted in 2007 indicates 9489.

The following table indicates percentage distribution by type of main dwelling.

Table B 2:

	Census 2001	CS 2007
House or brick structure on separate stand or yard	86,9	90,1
Traditional dwelling/hut/structure made of traditional materials	2,5	0,4
Flat in block of flats	1,4	1,8

Town/cluster/semi-detached house (simplex: duplex: triplex)	0,8	3,1
House/flat/room in back yard	1,3	0,7
Informal dwelling/shack		
In back yard	1,8	1,9
Not in back yard e.g. in an informal/squatter settlement	4,8	2,1
Room/flatlet not in back yard but on a shared property	0,4	-
Caravan or tent	0,1	-
Private ship/boat	0,0	-
Workers' hostel (bed/room)	-	-
Other	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>

## Ages Categorization

Table B: 3 Details the age split within the population. The percentage of the population aged 20 – 65 is effectively the biggest margin illustrating the increased number of people looking for employment opportunities.

Table B 3: Ages categories

Categorization by Age grouping	Population Size		Total Population	% of TLF F&M
	Female	Male		
0 – 19	7735	7508	15243	42.9%
20 – 34	3913	3908	7821	22.0%
35 – 64	5612	4754	10366	29.2%
65 and above	1312	797	2109	5.9%
	18572	16967	35539	

Source: Census 2001

## 2. ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

In reviewing and analysing the economic environment in Emthanjeni Municipality it is apparent that the Municipality lacks comprehensive and accurate economic data. Emthanjeni Municipality is in the process of developing an Economic Development Strategy that will be aligned to the District Municipality's current study on the way.

The Emthanjeni Municipality Local Economic Development Strategy will be developed with the aim of accelerating growth, job creation and empowerment. The plan will not be an independent plan, but rather set out medium term goals in support of the achievement of overarching objectives of the IDP.

### 2.1 Emthanjeni Municipality's Economy

De Aar is the main town of Pixley ka Seme serving a total of 24 other towns. De Aar is also the venue of the annual Central Karoo Show which takes place in January - February each year, and is a red letter event, drawing entries from all over the country.

De Aar is a potential industrial growth point with ample industrial sites, reasonable prices and tariffs, affordable labour and the necessary infrastructure. De Aar is therefore the ideal place to establish industries, a fact which can be borne out by various major industries which have already established themselves here. The

central location and excellent rail and road links have resulted in several chain stores opening branches.

The Emthanjeni area is increasingly becoming the centre for supplying the whole country with the famous “Karoo” mutton with its unique flavour and quality. Emthanjeni has several abattoirs in De Aar: one solely for sheep with a capacity of 1000 carcasses per day, supplying meat to all the provinces. The second abattoir has a capacity for 550 sheep carcasses and, in addition to beef, supplies meat far beyond our region, even as far a field as Durban. The third abattoir specialises in venison for export.

All the courier services operating nationally serve the towns comprising Emthanjeni municipal area.

There is also a synoptic weather station in De Aar gathering climatic data and literally putting De Aar on the world map. The towns of Emthanjeni Municipality boast a pleasant country atmosphere, doing full justice to the motto of the Upper Karoo Region “where tranquillity is only surpassed by the hospitality”.

Sheep, wool and mutton are the main farming activities in Britstown while hunting of small game (springbuck) is also very popular.

The Smartt Syndicate Irrigation Scheme situated 25 kilometres west of Britstown, provides water to Lucerne and wheat farmers. There is a museum in the former Anglican Church next to the Municipal offices.

Hanover is also well endowed with qualified construction industry artisans. Like the other towns in this region, wool is exported to Port Elizabeth without being processed. We note with great concern the opportunities for local people in relation to the second economy but we also further identified the need for the municipality to become involved with the empowerment of SMME’s and the roll out of cooperatives. This should enable the second economy initiatives to become active contributors to the economy of Emthanjeni as well as the entire district.

## **2.2. Investments**

The Emthanjeni Municipal Council is working towards a sustainable Local Growth and Development Strategy which would be aligned to the Provincial Growth and Development Strategy. The aim of Local Economic Development is to create employment opportunities for local residents, alleviate poverty, and redistribute resources and opportunities to the benefit of all local residents. It is therefore very important to know that Local Economic Development is an ongoing process, rather than a single project.

The Council and the Local Economic Development Unit is constantly in discussion with members of the community and developers about new projects and developments. The smallest project or business concern is equally as important as major developments. The prospect of a new hospital has certainly created an upsurge in interest and development in Emthanjeni Municipal area. Project proposals have already been received for a filling station and business centre for De Aar and an Ultra City for Britstown. Residential erven in Rantsig are also in high demand. Assessment rate rebates are also offered for new developments.

It is worth mentioning that delays with the completion of the Hospital are causing investors to be sceptical to invest in the area. We have been overwhelmed with two private companies advancing with housing development within in our municipal area (De Aar). This housing stock will cater for the middle income group and upwards. We have in recent years noted the rapid increase in those income groupings. We are, however, also in the preparation stage with regards to Urban Renewal Strategy to deal with the segment of improving the economy by concentrating on the improvement of our townships and closing of buffer zones.

Areas where Council wants to contribute to increase the economic value of Emthanjeni Municipal area are as follows:

- Upgrading of existing buildings and ensuring that dilapidated private property is addressed.
- Cleaner public environment
- Additional parking
- Provision of public toilets
- Promotion and marketing
- Tourist attractions
- Attracting new businesses to Emthanjeni
- Transportation (air, rail and road)
- Promotion of BBBEE
- SMME Development

Other future planning and projects which Emthanjeni also concentrate on to increase Economic Development are:

- Development of N10 Corridor.
- Upgrade of landing strip
- Hanover and Britstown sewerage sites.
- Revitalization of Rail
- Upgrading of Nature School (Poortjie)
- Development of industrial sites (Hanover / Britstown).
- Urban Renewal Programme (Renewal of Townships)
- Town Houses and Chalets Development (near new Hospital)
- Lucerne Project
- Toilet Paper Plant
- Upgrading of Museums and Caravan Parks.
- Chicken Farm
- Paragliding (Annual Series Event)
- Water Purification
- Iron, Ore and Manganese Smelter Plant
- Upgrading and maintenance of parks in Emthanjeni
- Accommodation and Conference facilities
- Amusement and Fun park

We have been informed that Fly De Aar Paragliding will be hosting a World Series pre-event within the De Aar area. This will be a major event on the calendar of the municipality. We have agreed that the support to the organisation should be on an annual basis. A primarily have major economic spin-offs for the municipality and its



people. We expect enormous impact in the tourism sector. We are committed, as Municipality, to being a positive contributor to the success of the event. This obviously poses a challenge to the province as a whole to actually to ensure the success of the event.

The rate of unemployment within the area of Emthanjeni Municipality is extremely high and according to the Stats SA the levels are as follows:

Table B 4:  
**BASIC ECONOMIC DATA (STATS SA - CENSUS 2001)**

EMPLOYMENT CATEGORY	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL F & M	% OF TLF F & M	% OF POPULATION F & M
EMPLOYED	3178	4271	7449	33.3%	21.0%
UNEMPLOYED	2848	2320	5168	23.1%	14.5%
NOT ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE	5538	4182	9720	43.5%	27.4%
<b>Total Labour Force (TLF)</b>			<b>22,337</b>		

### Major Economic Sectors

The major economic sectors within the area of Emthanjeni Municipality are as follows:

- Services sector
- Manufacturing
- Retail
- Agriculture
- Transport
- Tourism

As a result of Transnet scaling down its activities as well as smaller businesses closing down from time to time economic activity in the area is stagnating. The future economic attractions/planning for Emthanjeni area are:

- The new Hospital
- N12 new garage (Britstown)
- Possible upgrading of railway station
- Development of Industrial sites in all three towns
- Renewal of more residential sites in all towns
- Town houses and chalets for new hospital
- Development N10 corridor (development of strategy)
- Water pipeline from Orange River over 15 years
- Shopping complex and filling station opposite new hospital.

### 2.3 Agriculture

Currently there is not a great deal of development in the area but numerous possibilities exist which could still be investigated. The most important economic activities in the area are related to agriculture and the future possibilities of processing local products in the area. The central location and excellent transport

system linking Emthanjeni with the rest of the country are some of the main advantages of the region. The tourism sector could provide large returns for local residents with initiative, expertise and creativity e.g. the processing of horns from game into various products.

We further should be in a position to provide much more assistance to the emerging farmers who show keen interest in growing in the industry. The municipality is providing land for the emerging farmers to further their aspirations but much more is required to ensure that they actually meet their targets.

The Smart Syndicate Dam could possibly provide a permanent water supply to the area in future, if it were possible to realise its potential.

### **3. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

#### **Co-operation Agreement**

The Council has entered into a development co-operation agreement with Karlstad in Sweden. The agreement provides for assistance in Agenda 21 issues, and HIV/Aids issues. The agreement has temporarily been discontinued until we find new grounds for the agreement to be re-engineered. We can indicate that the results of the agreement provided the municipality with clear results that were incorporated in the planning of the municipality. We did however reap rewards within the water management department (an award in 2008 is testimony to this effect). The other innovations remain on the agenda of the municipality, as and when the correct time presents itself to be utilized to the betterment of the communities of Emthanjeni Municipality.

#### **Youth Development**

This domain has not been central to the priorities of the municipality, but with the introduction of a fully fledged Council Committee on youth this is starting to change. We have been able to ensure that a dedicated person is appointed to lead youth development in the municipality. What will transpire in the municipality is that a local youth council will be established to take forward the interest of young people. Children form a critical component of young people and require just as much attention. It remains high on the agenda of the committee and that we should find ways of engaging the Education Department and Social Services Department as to what should be our different roles.

We are also waiting on the transfer of the Youth Advisory Centre, currently under the control of the District Municipality, but the Municipality is earmarked to take over the management of the centre. The centre is providing the necessary services to the youth and we can only complement these services. We will continue to improve on the proportion that should or must be earmarked for the youth through the budget and IDP processes. We, however, require all the assistance that can be availed to the municipality to achieve its objectives.

## **HIV/AIDS Integrated Programme**

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- All workers with the disease shall be involved in all prevention, intervention and care strategies.
- No worker / employee nor their families and colleagues shall be discriminated against due to their HIV status.
- The status of female employees / women shall be confirmed, to prevent discrimination against them.
- Confidentiality and informed consent of all employees with respect to HIV testing and test results shall be protected.
- Services provided, i.e. Education, counselling and health care should consider the sensitivity of employee's culture, language and social circumstances.
- The municipality has a crucial responsibility to provide education, care and welfare to all employees.
- Capacity building will form the cornerstone to speed up HIV / Aids prevention and control measures.

### **A set of primary indicators and surveillance data**

Emthanjeni needs a set of key indicators that can be used to track the overall response of the community to the epidemic. This means not only tracking the course of the epidemic over the next five years, but also tracking changes in attitudes, social values, health care practices, socio – economic conditions and behaviour that act as pre-disposing factors of the epidemic.

The following list of indicators is proposed as a combination of various indicators that collectively can be used to judge how well the community is doing in terms of tackling the HIV epidemic.

Where necessary, mechanisms to collect the required data will be developed.

### **General trends of the epidemic**

- Prevalence of HIV amongst antenatal clinic attendees (using national sentinel surveillance procedure)

### **Youth**

- Prevalence of HIV amongst antenatal clinic attendees below the age of 18 years (using national sentinel surveillance procedure)
- Teenage pregnancy incidence and rate

### **Prevention**

- Proportion of STD cases effectively managed using syndrome treatment in the community.
- Percentage of sexually active women using condoms
- Proportion of children leaving primary school who are fully informed of the causes and methods of transmission of HIV

### **Socio-economic indicators predisposing to HIV transmission**

- Proportion of household living below the minimum poverty line
- Unemployment rate

### **Abuse of women**

- The number of reported rape cases
- The number of cases of workplace abuse related to employees contracting HIV

### **Social values, human rights and acceptance in the community**

- The number of VTC clients
- The number of homeless children, as a proxy indicator of the capacity of society to care for
- AIDS orphans
- The number of people “coming out” as people living with AIDS

### **Proposed objective-level indicators to use for the IDP:**

- Prevalence of HIV amongst antenatal clinic attendees (using national sentinel surveillance procedure)
- Prevalence of HIV amongst antenatal clinic attendees below the age of 18 years (using national sentinel surveillance procedure)
- Teenage pregnancy incidence and rate
- What indicators for impact on families etc?

### **Strategies**

These strategies should be emphasised:

- An effective, scientifically proven and culturally appropriate information, education and communication (IEC) strategy.
- Escalating accessibility and acceptability to voluntary HIV testing and counselling to all employees as well as the community.
- Improve STD management and promote increased condom use to reduce STD and HIV transmission among all employees and the whole community, more condom distribution.
- To provide a support system for all who live with the disease.

The Strategic Plan is structured according to the following four areas:

- Prevention
- Treatment, care and support
- Human and legal rights
- Monitoring, research and surveillance

In addition, the youth will be broadly targeted as a priority population group, especially for prevention efforts.

### **Priority Area 1: Prevention**

- \* Strategy 1: Promote safe and healthy sexual behaviour
- \* Strategy 2: Improve the management and control of STDs
- \* Strategy 3: Reduce mother-to-child transmission (MTCT)
- \* Strategy 4: Address issues relating to blood transfusion and HIV
- \* Strategy 5: Provide appropriate post-exposure services
- \* Strategy 6: Improve access to Voluntary HIV Counselling and Testing (VCT)
- \* Strategy 7: Increase condom distribution (more condom points)

### **Priority Area 2: Treatment, care and support**

- \* Strategy 8: Provide treatment, care and support services in health-care facilities
- \* Strategy 9: Provide adequate treatment, care and support services in communities
- \* Strategy 10: Develop and expand the provision of care to children and orphans

### **Priority Area 3: Human and legal rights**

- \* Strategy 11: Create a supportive and caring social environment
- \* Strategy 12: Develop an appropriate legal and policy environment

## **4. GOOD GOVERNANCE**

### **Administration and Strategic Planning**

#### **Human Resource Development**

##### **Human Resource Strategy**

We are in need of a Human Resource Strategy which addresses all HRM, as well as HRD matters. Currently we are in negotiations with a service provider who can draft it for the municipality. This need to be a district venture seeing that the expectation for this strategy is also with other local municipalities in the district.

##### **Human Resource Manual**

A draft HR manual was developed which would be a guiding document in all HR related matters of the municipality.

#### **Institutional Support**

##### **Support to Council**

- The Directorate provides institutional support to Council and its committees.
- It ensures that the municipality has comprehensive HRM policies and ensures implementation.
- It further boosts the moral amongst employees

## **Administration and Strategic Planning**

### **Work Skills Plan (WSP)**

The municipality submits a WSP on an annual basis. In the document training needs are identified as well as providing plans on how to address them.

### **Employment Equity Plan (EEP)**

Council adopted an EEP which is valid for a term of three years (3). During this year a new plan will be forwarded to be endorsed by Council. Annually EEP reports are submitted to both Department of Labour and the Employment Equity Forum meeting in the province.

### **By-laws**

The Rules Committee of Council is currently in the process of scrutinizing of the draft By-Laws as well as draft policies. We then envisage submitting the work of the Rules Committee to Council for adoption.

### **Staff**

The Corporate Services Department under the Director Corporate, Community and Development Services, has 16 officials who are responsible for all administrative work, agendas and minutes, personnel matters, archives, telephone systems, typing, translation and messengers.

There are also 10 employees working at the town and community halls of Emthanjeni Municipality

7 Employees work at the three libraries in De Aar and 2 each in Britstown and Hanover.

The Traffic Department has a Chief Traffic Officer and 4 Traffic Officers as well as 2 employees carrying out administrative duties and 1 general worker.

At the Vehicle Testing Station 2 officials are employed.

## **Finance**

### **Background**

A revised organisational structure was adopted by Council and organised Labour, SAMWU and IMATU. The structure makes provision for 31 permanent employees of which 2 positions are vacant in the financial department of Emthanjeni Municipality. The position of Chief Financial Officer has been filled due to the resignation of the previous CFO. All staff members are accommodated in the new organisational structure and they are settling into their positions.

Emthanjeni Municipality currently utilizes the Abakus system for financial processes and procedures comprising the following systems: consolidated debtors, creditors, stores, ledger, assets (incomplete) and cash book. With the new releases on the

financial systems, the supply chain, assets and national treasury reporting modules will be released before the beginning of the new financial year. These modules will be fully electronic and will integrate into the FMS totally.

### Structure

The Department has three divisions headed by Accountants, namely Revenue, Expenditure and Supply Chain Unit. All these divisional heads report to the Manager: Financial Services. The Supply Chain Unit head's position will be advertised before the end of the financial year 08/09. The Office Heads of Hanover and Britstown also report directly to the Manager: Financial Services. The Manager Financial Services reports to the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) directly on all the operations of the financial department.

### Financial Viability

The Total Budget of the municipality amounts to **R130 million** total revenue and **R143 million** total expenditure and has a potential to be financially viable but is constrained by consumer priorities in terms of accounts payments. For that reason, plans are already in place to gradually introduce pre-paid meters for all residential properties and, ultimately rolling that over to water. Before the roll out of pre-paid water meters, Council will consult with all communities to explain the benefits of the initiative for maximising revenue collection – especially through aligning bulk purchases and sales and minimising bad debts.

Implementing this initiative on full scale is currently hampered by funding constraints and the aim is therefore to approach provincial and national governments and other funding sources to fund the initiative.

### Debt Collection

The Municipality has appointed a Debt Collection company to collect all outstanding amounts that are more than 60 days in arrears. The process is currently underway and the community was initially very upset about the collection efforts, but realised that they need to pay their arrear accounts. Council also employed Debt Collectors in the various wards to motivate consumers to pay their accounts. These Debt Collectors are assisting VVM Debt Collection company to collect part of the R45 million that is outstanding.

### BUDGET: 2009/2010

The Total Budget for 2009/2010 is **R130, 215,745 revenue and R143, 747,418 expenditure**, which can be summarised as follows:

Table B: 5

Revenue Source	By Budget Amount	Expenditure Categories	Budget Amount
Property rates	13,580,000	Salaries	41,278,163
Services	57,788,294	Repairs & maintenance	7,584,000
Interest received	313,400	General expenses	41,396,380

Interest on debtors	716,000	Provisions & contribution to funds	12,246,875
Fines & penalties	5,460,800	Bulk purchases	21,800,000
Licences & permits	1,084,530	Interest & Redemption	2,800,000
Operating grants & subsidies	26,056,000	<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>127,105,418</b>
Capital grants & subsidies	10,467,000	Capital expenditure: own	4,270,000
Other income	14,749,721	External	12,372,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>130,215,745</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>143,747,418</b>

### Future Plans

The establishment of the Supply Chain Unit remains a top priority for the Finance Department. Office space remains a huge challenge for the centralisation of the service so that it could interlink between the other divisions of the department.

Financial reform where the conversion process in terms of the financial statements from IMFO format to GAMAP/GRAP will be undertaken after the Annual Financial Statements have been prepared and submitted to the Office of the Auditor General during August 2008. The most important part of this process will be to have a compliant Asset Register. The Asset Register needs to be ready and must reconcile with the balances in the general ledger. A total cost of between **R250 000 and R400 000** has been allocated for this process.

The upgrade of all computer equipment together with proper computer training of financial staff will be addressed in order to improve on systems development, systems reporting and, most of all, to serve the consumers better. The upgrade of the customer care together with the credit control section will be finalised in the following months. The total estimated cost of **R200 000** will be internally provided for these activities.

The replacement of pre-paid electricity meters in Britstown will continue. This effort will reduce the possible electricity losses that we experienced due to a lack of proper monitoring which the current meters could not provide because of the age of the meters. This will also enhance credit control efforts as electricity meters will be connected to the new Prepaid Electricity Financial Systems.

Each ward will have its own cashier point where services can be paid. Although no final decision has been taken, it is most likely that cashier points for **Wards 1, 2, 3 and 4** will be open for only two days a week.

The processes of general valuations according to the provisions of the Municipal Property Rates Act have been initiated and valuers appointed. In 2007/2008 the actual data gathering and valuation processes will be initiated. It is currently estimated that on completion and implementation the new valuation roll will contribute an increase of about 35% to current revenue from property rates. The



whole process of advertising the Valuation Roll will begin during the first quarter of the 2008/2009 financial year. All processes such objections, comments; etc will be completed during the 2008/2009 financial year. Commencement is expected in the 2009/2010 financial year.

The process of upgrading the pre-paid electricity vending system was completed during the 2007/2008 financial year. The financial system is operating smoothly but the ESKOM load shedding influence system operations. Prepaid electricity is available on a 24 hour basis, and it is very much appreciated by our customers.

Financial reforms will take place on a continuing basis. Proper adherence and compliance with the MFMA, MFMA Circulars and reporting will be prioritised throughout the financial year.

## **5. INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **Infrastructure Services**

#### **Introduction**

The Infrastructure and Housing Services Directorate consists of the following departments.

- Technical Services
- Electricity
- Housing and Project Management

#### **Technical Services:**

The Technical Services Department consists of the following divisions each with its own foreman or supervisor.

- Water Services
- Streets and Storm Water. (including private sidings, commonage, airfield)
- Parks and Buildings
- Sport and Recreation (Caravan parks, swimming pools and sport grounds)
- Town Planning and Building Control
- Waste Water (Sewerage)
- Waste Management
- Cemeteries
- Mechanical Workshop

#### **Water**

#### **Policy and Statutes**

- a) National Water Act 1998, no 36 of 1998
- b) Water Services Act 1997, no 108 of 1997
- c) Regulations relating to Compulsory National Standards and Measures to Conserve Water. (Water Services Act, No 108 of 1997)
- d) Water Services Plan for Emthanjeni Municipality, Draft 2006
- e) Annual Water Audit and Report – 2005/2006 financial year
- f) Regulations on Fluoridating Water Supplies (Regulations under the Health Act, No 63 of 1997)

## g) Strategic Framework for Water Services – September 2003

**Water Sources**

De Aar, Hanover and Britstown is dependant on groundwater from the following number of boreholes for each town:

- De Aar : 55 boreholes with a total monthly yield of 230 000 kl.
- Britstown : 9 boreholes with a total monthly yield of 26 000 kl.
- Hanover : 4 boreholes with a total monthly yield of 25 000 kl.

In the case of Hanover and Britstown the boreholes are located on the commonage. In De Aar

the boreholes are scattered right around the town in all directions, with the furthest lying 35 km

from De Aar. Most of De Aar's boreholes are located on private farms and the water is purchased from the landowners. The purchase price ranges from 17c to 40c per kilolitre, depending on the existing contracts.

No water purification is done in any of the three towns.

**Water Network**

- Reticulation – Currently there are 7400 water connections as well as 147 km of water pipes in the reticulation network.
- Supply – At present there are 126 km of main water pipes, 68 boreholes, 6 pump stations, 5 reservoirs, 48 water level monitors and a telemetry borehole control system.

**Water Quality**

Water in De Aar, Britstown and Hanover is hard and the biggest problems are experienced with bathing, washing (water does not foam easily) and electrical appliances such as kettles and geysers. The high magnesium content of the water causes a bitter taste. The following water analysis is carried out:

- Bacteriological analysis - monthly
- Chemical analysis - annually

The following documents are used to process / interpret the analysis:

- SABS 241 – 1984 Water for domestic use
- Quality of domestic water supplies: Volume 1-3 (Department of Water Affairs and Department of Health)

The proposed analysis could be increased if necessitated by circumstances. The following water samples are taken:

- Bacteriological - at reservoirs and various places in town
- At reservoirs, various places in town, and every borehole separately.

**Current level of water and sewerage services for occupied premises – 2007:**

Table B: 6

A) Sewerage				
	No of Occupied Premises			
	De Aar	Britstown	Hanover	Total
Flushing toilets	5368	0	151	5519
Vacuum tanks	40	427	128	595
Buckets	43	18	411	472
Dry sanitation	1	543	224	768
TOTAL	5452	988	914	7354

B) Water				
	No of Occupied Premises			
	De Aar	Britstown	Hanover	Total
In House	4412	427	297	5136
On site	1003	496	603	2102
Communal Standpipes	37	65 (informal)	14	116
TOTAL	5452	988	914	7354

**Water Balance (losses) and Consumption**

An annual water audit, to determine water loss from boreholes to the end consumer is carried out in Emthanjeni Municipality.

Water leakages, the major contributing factor to water losses, are repaired immediately and the public (consumer) is regularly encouraged to report leakages. All water leakage repairs are recorded on a prescribed form. A Water Conservation and Demand Management Study was completed during 2004 and it contained various recommendations to reduce and manage water losses. See attached executive summary.

Water demand management is an ongoing process implemented to limit water losses and thus provide a cost effective service. A water audit was carried out for the 2006/2007 financial year and the water losses for the past three years are detailed below:

Table B: 7

	2003/04		2004/05		2005/06		2006/07	
	KL	%	KL	%	KL	%	KL	%
Total abstraction	2 454 383	-	2 537 450	-	2 418 483	-	2 569 958	-
Total sales	1 726 338	-	1 841 562	-	1 824 756	-	1 959 174	-
Bulk losses	222 942	9,1	277 416	10.9	192 571	8.0	176 442	6.9
Distribution losses	505 103	22.6	418 472	18.5	401 156	18.0	434 342	18.1
Total losses	728 045	29.7	695 888	27.4	593 727	24.5	610 784	23.8

These losses occur from borehole to consumer and include all forms of loss i.e. financial, faulty meters, leakages, un-metered supply etc.

The water losses show a considerable decline during the past three years.

Meters are read on a monthly basis. Those stands still dependant on stand pipes in the streets or un-metered water connections are charged a basis tariff.

## **Resource Protection**

Over-utilization of boreholes is currently prevented by keeping abstraction within the prescribed abstraction rates and monthly maximum abstraction capacity of the boreholes. In the case of Britstown it is possible that some of the boreholes are being over-utilized due to peak demand during the summer months. In order to address these problem additional boreholes will have to be developed in Britstown. A geohydrological survey was done in Britstown and Hanover during 2004/2005. Sufficient water was found in Hanover but the Britstown survey will have to be extended.

All boreholes have been provided with water meters which are read monthly and comparisons made with the abstraction capacity of the boreholes in order to prevent over-utilization of individual boreholes.

## **Roads and Storm-water**

Emthanjeni at present has 202 km of streets within the towns of De Aar, Britstown and Hanover, of which 131 km (65%) are gravel and 71 km (35%) are tarred. The gravel roads are graded on a quarterly basis.

### **Current Condition of Roads:**

The gravel and tarred roads are in a poor condition and upgrading and resurfacing is urgently required. The tarred roads are especially a source of concern as very little resurfacing has been done during the past 20 years. As a result the road surfaces are crumbling.

It is for this reason that Council committed the municipality to budget for the improvement of roads.

## **Private Sidings**

Only De Aar has private sidings and they are in a reasonable condition at present. Due to the high cost involved, no preventative maintenance is carried out and faults are repaired only when a problem arises.

The total length of the railway line is 1.54 km and serves 15 industrial sites. The private siding is current underutilized and is only being used by 1 industry.

## **Airfields**

### **De Aar**

De Aar has two airfields, one of which has a concrete runway. The municipal airfield has dirt runways and is registered with the South African Civil Aviation Authority and is inspected by them annually. A landing fee is charged according to the size of the aircraft.

The second airfield with the concrete runway is situated 12 km west of De Aar's central business district and is used by the Defence Force. The public however have limited use. The Airfields presents potential for the municipality.

## Britstown and Hanover

Both these towns have airfields with dirt runways which are not registered. These runways are used at own risk and the airfields are seldom used.

## Storm-water

Only the western part of De Aar has underground storm-water drainage. The rest of De Aar, Hanover and Britstown do not have any storm-water drainage. This causes great inconvenience for the residents during and after rain. Low-lying areas in these towns have also experienced flooding in the past. A master plan for storm-water in De Aar is already agreed to, so that the problem can be addressed systematically when funds are available.

Storm water drainage improvement is seen as critical for the municipality and it was agreed that it should be implemented with road construction.

## Commonage

All three towns currently have commonage areas which are leased on a monthly basis, as well as land which has been made available to emerging farmers. All commonage land in De Aar is available to emerging farmers. The process of placement of farmers is in progress. The same processes are followed in Britstown and Hanover.

The size of the commonage areas is as follows:

Table B: 8

<b>TOWN</b>	<b>COMMONAGE</b>
De Aar	2907 ha
Hanover	8308 ha
Britstown	9736 ha
<b>Total</b>	<b>20951ha</b>

## Town Planning and Building Control

### Policy and Statutes

- a) National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act, 103 of 1977
- b) SABS Code 0400, application of Act 103 of 1977
- c) Series of General Regulations PG 245/1945
- d) Regulations Relating to Public Garages PG 871/1973
- e) Regulations Relating to Keeping of Bees PK 166/1967
- f) Regulations for Preventing Conditions likely to Cause of Further the Spread of Fires PG 828/1959
- g) By-law relating to Antenna Systems for Citizen Band Radio's PG 456/1980
- h) Standard Regulations Relating to Advertising Signs and Defacement of Street Fronts or Frontages PG 593/1958, PG 774/1965
- i) By-law relating to Industrial Effluents PG 688/1986
- j) Regulations Relating to the Prevention and Suppression of Nuisances PG 798/1972
- k) By-law relating to Liquefied Petroleum Gas PG 311/1980
- l) By-law relating to Unsightly and Neglected Buildings and Premises PG 491/1992
- m) Northern Cape Development and Planning Act, No 6/1998.

### Structural plans

- a) De Aar Town Planning Scheme May 1985
- b) Framework Plan : Future Extension De Aar East 1986
- c) De Aar Area : Urban Structural Plan
- d) Britstown and Hanover: Land Use Planning Ordinance, No 15 of 1985.  
Section 8 : Scheme Regulations
- e) Nonzwakazi : Local Structural Plan, August 1994
- f) Hanover, Tornadoville : Local Structural Plan
- g) Emthanjeni Scheme Regulations - 2004

### Staff

Building control and town planning matters are dealt with by Manager Infrastructure Services and the Technical Officer who is also the building control officer. Planning of new extensions is handled by private consultants appointed by the Council.

The staff involved in town planning and building control provides information to other departments as well as consultants regarding proposed developments and land transactions on a continuous basis.

### Building Plans

During the 2006/2007 financial year a total 67 building plans for an estimated value of R 9 159 722 was approved. Comparative figures for building plans approved during the past 3 years are set out below:

<b>2003/2004</b>	<b>51 building plans</b>	<b>R 2 841 494</b>
<b>2004/2005</b>	<b>64 building plans</b>	<b>R 4 628 821</b>

<b>2005/2006</b>	<b>67 building plans</b>	<b>R 4 079 820</b>
<b>2006/2007</b>	<b>88 building plans</b>	<b>R 9 159 722</b>
<b>2007/2008</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

The earthworks at a cost of R 20 million have commenced for the new hospital which is being built.

### **Mechanical Workshop**

#### **Statutes**

Road Transportation Act 74 of 1977

#### **Vehicle Replacement**

A new fleet of vehicles was purchased for De Aar, Britstown and Hanover. The vehicle fleet operation, maintenance and replacement strategy (Aug 2004 to June 2009) now forms a sectoral plan in the IDP. See attached Recommendations of Vehicle Fleet Operation, Maintenance and Replacement Strategy at the back of the document.

#### **Vehicles and Equipment: Maintenance**

The Workshop takes care of all repairs, services, certificates of fitness and roadworthy certificates, as well as fuel pumps.

#### **Staff**

The Workshop has 5 staff members:

- Qualified Mechanics – 2
- Artisan Assistants – 3

#### **Finance**

The costs of the Workshop are defrayed against the various divisions.

#### **Electricity**

#### **Policy and Statutes**

Electricity is supplied according to Electricity Act 41, Municipal By-laws as published and amended from time, and the Occupational Health and Safety Act 85/1993, additional regulations as approved by the Council as well as the conditions lay down by the Manager Infrastructure Services.

#### **Summary**

De Aar, Britstown and Hanover purchase all their electricity from Eskom at 22 kV. The maximum demand for 2006 reached nearly 10.7 MVA for De Aar, 1.0 MVA for Hanover and 0.5 for Britstown. The energy purchases for the various towns are 44.4 GWh (De Aar), 2.2 GWh (Hanover) and 4.3 GWh (Britstown) respectively.

De Aar has a well planned and developed primary infrastructure which can handle the current, as well as an additional demand of about 3 MVA (based on firm supply capacity).

In De Aar basically all erven are serviced with electricity. Each year extensions are made to the infrastructure to accommodate new developments. In the case of Tornadoville and Kwezi residential areas in Hanover, the electricity distribution is handled by Eskom.

The maintenance of the electrical infrastructure has fallen behind in recent years (as in most small towns), due to the lack of funds, equipment and expertise. This serious scenario is a major threat and it is essential that this problem is addressed with real urgency.

The problem with unauthorized use of electricity is a challenging exercise and constant monitoring and adjustment is required to be successful. It is believed that the situation is reasonably under control, although the lack of reliable information from the Financial Department is a major concern.

De Aar has an industrial area with reasonable spare capacity. On the other hand, a section of this network is not in a healthy condition and capital investment is urgently needed to prevent a potential black out.

### **Staff**

The Electro- technical Department consists of 26 employees:

- Asst : Electro technical Services (vacant)
- Network Superintendent
- 3 Foremen (1 vacant)
- 3 Artisans with assistants
- Team of General Workers

At present there is a staff shortage of qualified electricians in the department and no preventative maintenance is carried out currently. Apart from meter inspections and new installations the only maintenance work done relates to complaints received or faults which occur.

### **Vehicles/Equipment/Store**

The Department has vehicles and the essential equipment to maintain the existing network and carry out limited network extensions. Minor construction work is normally handled internally but major work is done with the assistance of private contractors.

The Department has its own Store with equipment and material for everyday, as well as strategic use.



## Distribution Network

### Supply

Electricity is purchased from ESKOM at 22kV. ESKOM supplies the De Aar Sub-station at 132kV from the Hydra Sub-station (the largest sub-station in die Southern Hemisphere). The ESKOM Sub-station is equipped with 1X20 MVA 132/22 kV step down transformer with expansion facility for the future.

In the case of Britstown and Hanover the supply is obtained from the 22kV rural networks.

### Primary Networks

The primary system voltage in De Aar, 22 kV. A 22kV ring network supplies the main intake substation (2 x 10 MVA) and two 1 x 5 MVA substations in De Aar East with capacity for a third 5 MVA substation.

The distribution is done at 6.6 kV in De Aar & Industrial Area and 11 kV network on the other hand is overwhelming an overhead network.

Electricity is also supplied to Transnet, Sewage Disposal Works, small holdings, a number of farms and two of De Aar's borehole fields (10 boreholes and 2 booster pump stations) providing drinking water to De Aar.

A load control system is used to regulate the maximum demand in the town. The maximum demand is lowered by about 15% by switching geysers off and on.

In the case of Hanover, the primary distribution is also at 22kV. All the boreholes on the outskirts of town are also supplied from the network. The network was upgraded a few years ago and is currently in a reasonable state. ESKOM is the distributor in Kwezi and Tornadoville.

Britstown's internal high voltage distribution network is also 22kV and serves Britstown, Mziwabantu, Jansenville as well as a rural network supplying the municipal boreholes. Partially upgrading of the network over recent years did ensure that accepted system reliability could be maintained, although further upgrading in the future is essential.

### **The following schedule contains the main infrastructure in the various towns:**

Table B: 9

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DE AAR</b>	<b>HANOVER</b>	<b>BRITSTOWN</b>
22/6.6 kV Power Transformers	2 x 10 MVA	N.A.	N.A.
22/11 kV Power Transformers	5 MVA	N.A.	N.A.
Total length of Overhead Power lines (6.6/11/22kV)	63 km		
Total length of Underground Cables (6.6/11/22kV)	40 km		
Number of distribution sub-stations @ 400 V	66		
Number of distribution transformers	130		
Installed capacity of distribution transformers	31 MVA	Unknown	Unknown

## Secondary Network

The 230/400 volt network consists mainly of overhead networks with underground networks in certain of the more affluent residential areas. The estimated total number of consumers is 7000 (2005), excluding disconnected consumers. Meter and load control relays are inspected on a preventive basis. Meters are tested on request or where faulty readings are suspected.

The secondary network comprises the following:

Table B: 10

DESCRIPTION	DE AAR	HANOVER	BRITSTOWN
LV overhead power lines	44 km		
Underground cables	78 km		
Service connections	143 km	27 km	4.5 km

## Street and Area Lighting

De Aar has about 1700 street lights and 9 (30/40 m) high mast lights. Over recent years the streetlight network was extended together with reticulation projects. Some ad hoc streetlight extensions have also taken place over recent years; however a substantial amount of capital is required to upgrade and extend the street and area light networks.

Many out-dated and ineffective streetlight units exist in Hanover and Britstown and some areas in De Aar. These need to be replaced as soon as possible as they are also expensive to maintain.

A great concern is the funds required to maintain the extensions of street and area light networks.

## Electrification

In the case of De Aar en Britstown it could be assumed that all dwellings do have access to electricity. The network is extended on a yearly basis to accommodate new dwellings.

Tornadoville and Kwezi in Hanover are part of ESKOM's distribution network. ESKOM is therefore responsible to extend the network as required. ESKOM is further requested by the Municipality on a yearly basis to accommodate potential new consumers.

## Electricity Purchases and Sales

The following statistics were available for 2005/2006.

Table B: 11

	De Aar	Britstown	Hanover
Maximum demand	10,7 MVA	1082 kVA	490 Kva
Total energy purchased	44,4 Gwh	4271 kWh	2186 kWh
Total energy sold	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Total system loss	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

## Quality of electricity

Consumer faults are attended on a daily ad hoc basis and restored as soon as possible. Due to the lack of qualified and experienced personnel and the correct equipment, limited repair work is possible on 6.6 kV and higher voltage networks.

Specialists are employed to assist with power failures, when required. What ever the cause, an attempt is made to provide a service of high quality to ensure satisfied consumers.

## Restructuring: Electricity Distribution Industry (EDI)

Emthanjeni Municipality falls under RED 2 will comprises the whole of the Free State, the eastern part of the Northern Cape and a portion of Gauteng. Several meetings and workshops have already been attended and a number of working groups have been established to determine the road ahead for RED 2. Emthanjeni Municipality is now required to do a MSA Section 78 investigation. The biggest challenge is to carry out the Section 78 investigations using our own officials.

## Housing

Emthanjeni Municipality applied in April 2006 to the MEC of Housing and Local Government to be granted Level 1 Accreditation in terms of the Housing Accreditation Programme for Municipalities.

A consulting firm was retained by the Department to assist us in preparing a business plan as part of the pre-accreditation support programme. The purpose of the business plan was to constitute the accreditation application to the MEC.

The Municipality was successful in its application, to the extent that we were conditionally accredited for level 1 by the MEC in October 2006. Much has been done since then by both the Municipality and the Department of Housing and Local Government to respond to the areas that required intervention. Much remains to be done. The Municipality is in the process of drafting a Housing Policy that would be able to clarify the stance of the Municipality pertaining to the delivery of housing within its jurisdiction. The following is a brief synopsis of the condition of housing in the municipal area that requires to be addressed;

### Informal Housing:

De Aar	127
Britstown	103
Hanover	120
<b>Total</b>	<b>350</b>

Municipal Housing needs for the entire Emthanjeni Municipal area is **3008** and it is continuing to increase

It must be indicated that we experienced visible since the introduction of the Housing Unit of the municipality.

The Department of Cooperative Government, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs (Department of Housing and Local Government) already approved the following:

**2009/2010**

Hanover	100 houses
Hanover	50 planning of erven
Britstown	33 houses (igloos)

**Future Application**

2010/2011	1000 houses
2011/2012	1000 houses
2012/2013	1008 houses

These are based on the current housing backlog of 3008.

**The Expanded Public Works Programme**

The socio-economic status and conditions of Emthanjeni, with its high level of poverty cannot be overemphasized. For this reason, it is characterized by a high level of unskilled and unemployed number of residents.

This Expanded Public Works Programme is exemplified as an all-embracing inter-governmental exercise which aims to mutually improve service delivery through efforts by the three spheres of government, Non-governmental Organisations, Community Based Organisations, Governmental Departments and other development protagonists to address the above-mentioned issue. The latter mentioned stakeholders and role-players will develop and absorb the unemployed residents into productive and meaningful employment through training and empowerment activities.

The Emthanjeni Municipality is committed to being an Agent of Change within its area of jurisdiction. Since the launch of this programme, the Municipality has been engaged with the Department of Public Works in terms of operational and implementing the EPWP.

We would further be applying for counter funding as the municipality already set aside funds (own capital) for the upgrading of municipal roads (labour intensive process to be followed).

**6. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Policy and Statutes**

- Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act and Regulations (No 54/1972)
- Health Act 1977 (No 63/1977)
- Tobacco Products Control Act (No 83/1993)
- Tobacco Products Control Amendment Act (No 12/1993)
- National Water Act (No 36/1998)
- Occupational Health and Safety Act (No 85/1993)
- Health Service Professions Act (No 56/1974)
- Agricultural Pests Act (No 36/1983)
- Hazardous Substance Act (No 15/1973)

- Animal Slaughter, Meat and Animal Products Hygiene Act (No 87/1967)
- Businesses Act (No 71/1991)
- Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act (No 107/1998)
- National Environmental Management Act (No107/1998)
- Environment Conservation Act (No 73/1989)
- Meat Safety Legislation (No 40/2000)
- Abattoir Hygiene Regulations (No 121/1992)
- Waste Management Act

### **Staff**

The Department of Social Services has 71 employees at present.

#### **DE AAR**

Environmental Health Officer (1)

- Professional Nurses (Phasing out)
- Drivers (3)
- Shift Workers (4)
- General Workers (39)
- Clerk (1)
- Cleaner (1)
- Cleaning Superintendent (1)
- Operator (Front-end Loader (1)
- Operator: Compactor (2)
- Vacancies (12)

#### **BRITSTOWN**

- Foreman (1)
- Drivers (2)
- General Worker (6)
- Vacancies (3)
- Casual workers (4)

#### **HANOVER**

- Foreman (1)
- Drivers (2)
- General Worker (6)
- Vacancies (3)

### **Vehicles and Equipment**

At present the Council has several compactors, vacuum tankers, night soil removal trucks, tractors with trailers and a front-end loader for the provision of essential services.

## **Cemeteries**

The Council has 6 cemeteries where burials take place. Most of the burials take place on weekends as people work during the week. In some cemeteries graves are dug in advance and again filled with loose soil. In other cemeteries the graves are dug on request or the community digs the graves themselves to save costs. At all the cemeteries problems are experienced with people damaging gravestones or removing fences.

The Council is currently busy upgrading the cemeteries in Emthanjeni. The cemeteries are being cleaned and the fences repaired or replaced. The vandalizing of graves has been discussed with the SAPS. The SAPS has been requested to visit the cemeteries during weekends when most of the vandalism takes place. The public has also been urged to become involved and the problem is also regularly highlighted in the local newspaper again.

## **Primary Health Services - Provincialisation**

In the municipal area there are 6 centres where preventative and curative services are provided to the community free of charge. Three of the centres are municipal property and the other centres are staffed and operated by the province. All the centres are very busy. Nurses take care of the screening and serious cases are referred to the doctor. The quality of services is determined by the subsidy received annually from the province as well as the availability of medication.

Each clinic is visited by a community doctor everyday. At present there are several doctors available in De Aar and the Upper Karoo Area. Doctors rotate between the clinics and there is also a doctor on call 24 hours per day at the Central Karoo Hospital. Patients can be diagnosed by Professional Nurses and other seriously ill patients, are attended to by the doctors. Specialist visits De Aar monthly. Patients are referred to the specialist by the doctors or Professional Nurses. Medication is freely available at the clinics which are ordered from the suppliers in Kimberley. Problems occurred in some cases where the suppliers in Kimberley could supply the clinics with medicine.

The MTCT project, which is organised by the Department of Health, is still functioning. Briefly the project is about the Transmission of HIV from a HIV positive mother to the unborn child. The Day Hospital between Nonzwakazi and Malay camp is targeted as a Pilot Station" where pregnant mothers can visit the clinic have they blood tested for HIV and receive special treatment and counselling on the birth of the baby. The baby will be tested again at the age of two years. The following staffs is available in De Aar

- 7 Doctors
- 2 Dentists
- 2 Pharmacists
- 1 Dietician
- 1 Speech Therapist
- 1 Physiotherapist
- 1 Occupational Therapist

## **Doctor's Visits**

Each clinic is visited by a community doctor every day. At present there are three community doctors in De Aar. These doctors rotate between the clinics. There is also a doctor on call 24 hours per day at the Central Karoo Hospital. Patients who cannot be diagnosed by the Professional Nurses and seriously ill patients are attended to by the doctors.

## **Specialist Clinics**

Specialists visit De Aar every 5 weeks. Patients are referred to the specialist clinic by the community doctors. These patients report to the clinics to receive their medication. Specialist items not on the EDI list are then ordered from Sekunjalo.

## **Staff Shortage**

It sometimes happens that there is only one professional nurse per clinic. The patient load for the professional nurse to attend to is 50 – 80 per day.

- Patients use all the health facilities
- Laboratory tests are sometimes duplicated / high cost involved
- Many duplicated tuberculosis notifications
- There is no way to keep track of patients
- Auxiliary service officials are no longer able to do house calls as they are used as clerks
- Patients visit the clinics for trifling matters
- Free service encourages misuse of centres.

## **Preventative Services**

- Immunization and healthy baby clinic
- Tuberculosis
- Family Planning
- Aids counselling and guidance
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Ante-natal clinics

## **Curative services**

- Primary health care
- Hypertension treatment
- Diabetes mellitus
- Minor ailments
- Chronically ill patients
- Dispensary services provided by the Senior Professional Nurse

## **Specialist Services**

Each month one of the professional nurses at the clinic is required to assist at the Specialist Clinic.

## **Food Premises**

Inspections and investigations are carried out weekly. Personnel tried their outmost to service the premises weekly. All the premises that prepare foodstuffs received certificates of acceptability after they complied with the specifications and requirements. A great deal of attention is paid to the tidiness of the kitchens and other workplaces where foodstuffs are prepared. Special attention is also paid to the condition of the ablution facilities. Medical reports of food handlers are also controlled and training in health and hygiene is provided continuously. Inspectors also monitor the condition of the structure of the premises. Natural and artificial lighting and ventilation play a very important role in the building as well as the availability of hot and cold water at hand wash basins and sinks. Samples of food and used cooking oil are taken frequently and sent to the labs where the samples are tested. Inspections at payout points are also carried out to ensure that the informal businesses also provide safe and healthy foodstuffs to the community.

In order to ensure that all foodstuffs are of good quality the responsible officials are required to implement the following:

- Confiscation, detaining and supervision of destruction of foodstuffs.
- Registration of food premises by the proper local authority
- Co-ordination and investigation of all cases of food poisoning.
- Training and guidance of all staff at food premises.
- Taking of food samples at outlets for bacteriological tests.
- Control of all malpractices

## **Water Samples**

To ensure that all domestic water supplies from municipal reservoirs and boreholes used for human consumption are of a high standard bacteriological testing and chemical analysis is done at regular intervals.

## **Hygiene Evaluation System Applied at Abattoirs**

Meat inspections are carried out on a weekly basis at Eldorado Pig Abattoir. A service is also sometimes provided at private abattoirs – De Aar Abattoir and Môreson Abattoir.

## **Important Trends, Problems and Characteristics**

### **Problems**

- Crime (especially house breaking)
- HIV/Aids, especially along N1 route
- Alcohol abuse

### **Challenges**

- To get more communities involved in social / community affairs
- To obtain funds to address problems
- To involve business



- To alleviate poverty through job creation and other empowerment programmes
- To encourage greater integration between various departments, municipalities and organisations
- To create a data base for needs strategies and timeframes.

## **7. Environmental**

### **Waste Management**

Essential services are provided on a regular basis throughout the entire municipal area. Refuse removals take place once or twice per week and black refuse bags or tarpaulins are used to remove domestic refuse from premises. Businesses and schools are serviced twice per week in De Aar

Various specialised refuse removals are done every day in respect of garden refuse and building rubble. The Council also carries out various cleaning projects during which residential areas are cleaned. Littering is prevalent and causes numerous problems. Refuse is dumped at the refuse tips. Forms have already been completed for the registration of the sites. Consulting Engineering firms have already upgraded and brought the tip sites in De Aar up to standard. Problems are experienced at the sites as people have been removed the fencing and there is no management and control. A contractor has been appointed for the first phase, once funds have been received.

Further we want to point out that a local recycling concern is busy with recycling at the tip site. Recycled articles are removed on a daily basis from the site and light material is covered with soil.

New vehicles have been purchased for the removal of refuse in Britstown and Hanover. The same staffs are used to remove household refuse and night soil. The refuse is removed by refuse carriers once per week and dumped at the refuse tip. No recycling is done. Cleaning up campaigns are also carried out in Britstown and Hanover. Adequate equipment is not available and manual labour has to be used or a front-end loader has to be dispatched to the towns.

Keep Emthanjeni Clean Committees have been established. Sub-committees have also been established and the whole community will be involved.

There are still some residential areas within the municipal area making use of buckets. The buckets are removed twice per week. The contents are discharged into oxidation ponds. Buckets are washed and disinfected daily.

Buckets are still used in the following townships

De Aar = Waterdal - 19  
3 Churches Nonzwakazi,

Hanover = 412

Britstown = 501

Dry sanitation was also installed in Hanover and Britstown. In Britstown 69 houses have dry sanitation and 25 in Hanover. In other cases the only occupants of the houses were women. There were also houses only occupied by elderly people. The

houses in Britstown are provided with a bag to collect the waste material. This bag is suspended in a frame. The bag is unfortunately difficult to handle in some cases and someone has to climb down into the structure to remove the bag. It was then decided that the General Workers would handle all aspects of the service. Even then the community was still dissatisfied with the system and the night soil buckets are still in use. In some cases the community had to handle the waste and they did not want to be involved in the process. The site where the bags are dumped is in the vicinity of the oxidation ponds. The site will be fenced in the near future as part of the job creation projects.

The system in Hanover operates differently. No bags are used there. The waste material is raked back and removed in containers when dry. Fewer complaints and problems are experienced here and the reason may well be because the occupants do not have to handle the waste.

### **Sewage Purification**

De Aar has conventional purification works situated about 16km north east of De Aar. An activated sludge process is used to purify about 2850 m<sup>3</sup> of water daily. The purified water is used to irrigate tree plantations.

### **Alien Vegetation and Weeds**

Various alien plants and trees are to be found in the Emthanjeni Municipal area on private and municipal property.

Examples found in the area:

Silver-leaf bitter apple (De Aar Sports Ground and De Aar East).

Spiny Cockle Bar (Waterdal and Commonage)

Jointed cactus

Oleanders (mostly private properties and parks)

Prosopis trees (commonage, private and municipal properties, parks etc).

Syringa trees

The alien plants and weeds must be eradicated and combated for the following reasons:

- They use more water than indigenous plants and trees and this poses a danger to our groundwater.
- They displace natural vegetation and grazing and also result in a loss of biodiversity.
- They increase the danger of soil erosion and veld fires.

Currently the Department of Water Affairs is busy with a ongoing programme to eradicate Prosopis trees in the rural areas but it is also very important to combat propagation in our towns.

Alien plants are regularly controlled on the advice of the Department of Agriculture and knowledgeable organisations.

It is the Council's policy not to plant Syringa trees anymore and where they die to replace them with indigenous trees.

## **Environmental Hazards**

The whole of the Emthanjeni area, including 3 towns and rural areas, is dependant on groundwater for domestic and agricultural use and it is of the utmost importance that these subterranean sources are protected.

## **Possible Pollution Hazards**

### **Sewage Purification Works – DE AAR**

The sewage effluent is currently within the prescribed limits of the permit. The permit also demands that the purified water be used for irrigation, which is not currently being done. The possibility that the nearby boreholes on Paardevlei could be polluted is very unlikely but preventative measures should be implemented to preclude any such possibility.

The likelihood of polluting the nearby Brak River is not known as no studies have yet been undertaken.

### **Pollution of Groundwater – BRITSTOWN (MZIWABANTU)**

Mziwabantu is dependant on one borehole for domestic use.

This borehole is situated 50 metres from the nearest houses, which would necessitate the right choice of a future sewerage system. The houses nearby have a vacuum tank sewerage system and sewer blockages will have to be addressed immediately. Care will also have to be taken to ensure that the vacuum tank is emptied regularly and is not allowed to overflow. The sewage oxidation ponds in Britstown are situated approximately 1 km from this borehole and it is unknown whether they pose a pollution hazard for the borehole. The borehole water should be tested regularly for any sign of pollution.

### **Landfill Site – DE AAR**

The landfill site is situated next to the De Aar Country Club and near to the town's reservoirs. The possibility of polluting the nearby municipal borehole for domestic use as well as the boreholes of the Country Club should be investigated.

A detailed report on the lifespan and proposed management of the refuse tip, has been prepared as part of the co-operation agreement between Emthanjeni and Karlstad, Sweden.

Funding has been approved for the upgrading of the De Aar landfill and the project has already been started.

### **Groundwater pollution – HANOVER**

Notwithstanding the existence of septic tanks with French drains in Hanover, groundwater surveys have shown that the level of the groundwater table is shallow and that future sewerage systems would have to be chosen carefully to prevent pollution of groundwater. There are also stands in Hanover with private boreholes and windmills that have to be protected.