

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
Overview of the Municipality	1
The Municipal Vision	1
Mission	2
Legislative Framework	2-3
Mayoral Foreword	3
Foreword by the Municipal Manager	4-7
Richtersveld Municipal Councilors	8
Integrated Development	8
Five Years Local Government Strategic Agenda	9
Organisational Performance Management System	9-10
Basic Service Delivery & Infrastructure:	10-20
• Water	
• Sanitation	
• Electricity	
• Refuse Removal	
• Roads and Storm water	
• Parks and Cemeteries	
• Sporting Facilities	
• Fire fighting and emergency services	
• Traffic Services	
• Fleet Management and Workshop	
• Local Tourism	
• Libraries	
• Housing	
Local Economic Development	20-22
• Richtersveld / Ais-Ais Transfrontier Park	
• Ramsar Site Working for Wetlands	
• Richtersveld World Heritage Site	
Museum – Biodiversity Centre	23
Financial Viability and Management	24-28
• Department of Finance	
• Audit Committee	
• Financial Misconduct Incidents	
• Financial Information	
• Statement of Financial Position	
• Statement of Financial Performance	
Human Resources	28-29
Vir die nuwe lesers	29-30
Sosiale Ontwikkelings Koördineerder	31-32
Totsiens – Mnr Geldenhuys	33
Something to think about	34



OVERVIEW OF THE MUNICIPALITY

The towns of the Richtersveld Municipality are:

Port Nolloth, Lekkersing, Eksteenfontein, Kuboes, Sanddrift, Alexander Bay (busy in discussions and planning for official established)

THE MUNICIPAL VISION

The Municipality has adopted the Vision from the Richtersveld Transitional Council as expressed in the RTC IDP (2002). The Vision for the Richtersveld Local Municipality reads as follows:

Daar moet voortdurend gestreef word om al die Richtersveld se bronne, insluitende die natuur, die kultuur en menslike hulpbronne, op 'n volhoubare manier te ontwikkel sodat die mense van die streek daarby sal baat en ons toekoms verseker is.

Translation: We should continuously strive to develop all of the resources of the Richtersveld, including its natural, cultural and human resources, in a manner that is sustainable and benefits the people of the region so that our future will be secure.



MISSION

To maintain optimal standards of professional practice leading to the highest possible quality of service delivery.

To provide and render direct services, education, support and advocacy for customers, stakeholders and employees involved in service delivery. To meet the individual needs of each customer without regard to race, colour, national origin, religion, sex, age, handicap, indigent status or ability to pay for services

To respect the customer and his/her family as individuals, assuring the right for confidentiality, respect and dignity.

To integrate community consultation in all service delivery.

To promote and encourage professional growth of all staff members.

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

The work of municipalities is guided by a variety of laws, regulations and policy frameworks as well as strategy papers. A non-exhaustive list of some of the most important documents is listed hereunder. Starting from the national Constitution, great emphasis is placed on the involvement of the beneficiaries of development interventions and the building of participatory democracy. Local communities resident in municipalities are therefore granted the right and responsibility to fully participate in all phases of planning, right from the conceptualization phase up to its final review and redesign. Legislation also places an additional responsibility on municipalities to undertake capacity-building exercises to enhance the participation of individuals in municipal affairs.

1. Constitution of South Africa; Act 108 of 1996
2. Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000
3. Development Facilitation Act
4. Spatial Development Framework
5. Municipal Structures Act 33 of 2000
6. Municipal Electoral Act 27 of 2000
7. Promotion of Administrative Justice Act 3 of 2000
8. Inter Governmental Relations Act 13 of 2005
9. Promotion of the Access to information Act 2 of 2000
10. Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002
11. Promotion of the protection of the Rights of Cultural, Religious and Language Community Act 19 of 2002
12. Municipal Demarcation Act 27 of 1998
13. Organised Local Government Act 52 of 1997
14. Remuneration of Public Office Bearers Act (Act 20 of 1998)
15. Organised Local Government Act (Act 52 of 1997)
16. Municipal Property Rates Act (Act 6)
17. National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998)
18. Water Services Act (Act 108 of 1997)
19. White Paper on Integrated Waste & Pollution Management Act
20. National Environmental Management Act (Act 39 of 2004)

Unemployment and poverty affects a large number of people within the Municipal Area. An estimated 44% of residents are unemployed.

Key features of the Local Economy:

- Mari-Culture Park
- Working for the coast
- Heritage site
- Diamond Quartzite Processing
- Richtersveld/Ais-Ais Transfrontier Park (Tourists Access Facility)

Tourism is another element that we added to the economy base of the Richtersveld Municipality. Local, national and foreign tourists are attracted to this area for its mountain desert, river, sea biodiversity with regard to fauna and flora culture history Richtersveld National Park.

The whole Richtersveld Municipal area has features of biodiversity importance and not just the national park or World Heritage site areas.

MAYORAL FOREWORD



2008 is reeds geskiedenis en sal aangeteken word as 'n besondere jaar in plaaslike regering. Ons ag dit as belangrik om elke inwoner in te lig oor die stand van plaaslike regering. Veral ten opsigte van die prestasies wat behaal is, maar ook die uitdagings wat as die hoof moet bied.

We therefore wish to thank everybody who contribute to the achievements of this municipality in whatever way.

Richtersveld Munisipaliteit is gedurende 2008 aangewys as die derde beste munisipaliteit in die Noord Kaap en nommer 23 in Suid Afrika uit 281 munisipaliteite. Hierdie prestasies behoort aan elke verantwoordelike inwoner en die uitdaging bly steeds om hierdie standaard te handhaaf. In ons inetraksie met gemeenskappe deur die begroting en die IDP het ons konstant mense bewus gemaak van ontwikkelingsinisiatiewe binne ons gebied van jurisduksie. Die voltooiing van huise in Sanddrift, Lekkersing en Eksteenfontein is 'n ligpunt. Die aanlê van infrastruktuur vir die bou van 100 huise in Nollothville en die bou van 100 huise in Sizamile verloop volgens plan. Die Richtersveld Munisipaliteit het dit reggekry om die skade, wat veroorsaak was tydens 'n abnormale styging in die watervlak, vroegtydig te herstel. Toeriste en plaaslike mense het gedurende die feestyd op McDougalsbaai toegesak en weereens bewys dat die gebied oneindig potensiaal het.

Downscaling at workplaces, especially in the mining sector, because of the worldwide economic circumstances make us face difficult challenges. It is important that all of us must priorities our financial expenditure. A healthy culture of payment is critical because we cannot compromise the quality of service delivery. Electricity must always be use in a responsible manner and residents must buy in into the sparingstrategy of the Municipality that seeks to decrease the consumption of electricity nationwide.

As ons suksesvol wil wees is samewerking deur die breër gemeenskap deurslaggewend. Waardetoevoeging deur die Distriksmunisipaliteit, Provinsiale en Nasionale regering en ons ontwikkelingsvennote word hoogs waardeer.

Let all of us make sure that we participate in the upcoming Provincial + National election and contribute towards deepening our democracy.

In closure I wish you all well together with your family and friends. Do not engage in crime in whatever way. Surely it doesn't pay.

FOREWORD BY THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER



For this report under review we have achieved a great deal. The challenge for us is to what extent have we as Local Government succeed in developing the Richtersveld Municipal Area in terms of infrastructure the economy, social, etc.

For the year under review 2008 our Council and Staff shared a firm commitment to work together, with our communities, to achieve our mutual goals and to realise our vision for the Richtersveld. Therefore let me share some of the achievements for this year (2008):

- 839 household registered as indigents
- 100% of indigent households have access to free basic electricity
- 100% of indigent households have access to free basic water
- Free basic water (6kl for indigents and 3kl for other residential consumers) and free electricity (50 units)

We are in the process of finalizing our Property Valuations in terms of the Municipal Property Rates Act, but experience problems with the appointment of the Valuation appeal board still outstanding:

- Implemented components of GRAP/GAMAP
- The Drop Inn Centre currently accommodate various departments as a one stop centre.
- The allocation of Pilot Blue Flag Status for McDougalls Bay beach, a first for the Northern Cape.

- The Richtersveld has also been awarded World Heritage Status, becoming the eighth such site in the Country and the only one in the Northern Cape.
- As part of our investigation for alternative energy Third Planet Enterprises erect a 60m Mast on one of our farms to measure wind for the possible generating of Wind Energy.
- Town Establishment for Alexander Bay are progressing as the investigation for this process has been completed.
- At the IDP Engagement, Richtersveld Municipality received an excellent rating for a credible and implementable IDP for 2008.
- Establish Section 78 investigation for water services.
- Launch of ward based projects identified by ward committee members.
- Conducted a successful ward training session with all ward committees in the Municipality.
- Start of new cycle for working for the Coast project.
- Build wall at old Cemetery.

On the 1st and 2nd of September 2008 the Northern Cape Coast, Port Nolloth was subjected to a severe coastal storm with waves in excess of 7 meters that caused extensive damage to the coastal zone. The projects funded by DEAT at the coast relates to the stabilizing of the coastal dune and embankment, construction of a Board walk, parking and beachfront park, caravan park, roads jetty were damaged.



Because of the extent of the damage caused by the coastal storm and due to the limited capital budget its council intention to access funds through the Disaster

Fund via the Department and the Namakwa District Municipality to give effect to major repairs that must be undertaken before the December holiday season start.



Inclosing I would like to sincerely express my gratitude to all staff members for their dedication and hard work. Without them, the achievements as mentioned in this report could not have been accomplished. My sincerest thanks also to all Councilors for their unselfish service to the Richtersveld Communities. I am confident that if our Municipality continues to work closely with all community partners and residents then the new financial year 2008/2009 will be more successful.

J.G. CLOETE
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

RICHTERSVELD MUNICIPAL COUNCILORS



Back (from left to right): C.F.D. Richter; G. Links; T. Swartbooï; D. Singh
Front (from left to right): P. Sobuwa; Hon. L.R. Ambrosini (Mayor); E. Hausiku

INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

The IDP Steering Committee in consultation with the Mayor undertook the annual revision of the Municipality's Integrated Development Plan (IDP). The process started with the consultation of the community through meetings in Sanddrift; Kuboes; Eksteenfontein; Lekkersing and Port Nolloth and with the ward committees. Meeting with the stakeholders forum were also held to obtain inputs from the various role players. Meeting with the Youth of the Richtersveld at the Youth SMME Summit in the Luvuyo drop inn centre.

The Municipal Manager, in close collaboration with the Mayor, then developed a draft IDP. After Council approved this draft IDP for Public release, the mayor again held community meetings to discuss and gain inputs into this draft report.

After this consultation process the IDP was finalized and submitted to Council who approved it in May 2008.

The Mayor and the Municipal Manager attend the IDP engagement session in Upington on 5-6 May 2008.

After the IDP engagement session our IDP was rated 3rd best in the Province as a credible and implementable IDP.

FIVE YEARS LOCAL GOVERNMENT STRATEGIC AGENDA

1 Institutional Capacity & Municipal Transformation

The successful implementation of any strategic plan requires the availability of the requisite and appropriate skilled personnel. The Richtersveld Municipality currently have a staff component of 122 consisting representative of all language groups in the area namely Afrikaans, English and Xhosa. Despite this, the organization is still Afrikaans – dominated and still displays the existence of its former organizational culture. Due to the dominance of Afrikaans speakers in its ranks the Richtersveld Municipality still struggle to respond to request to have all documentation available in the official languages of the Northern Cape Province. Employment Equity and multi-lingualism in particular warrants further attention in order to ensure a fully representative administration able to provide accessible services to all of the communities of the municipality. These challenges must be actively challenged in the coming period. Much progress has been made with regard to financial management training under National Treasury's Internship Programme and the foundation has been laid for consistent compliance with the prescripts of the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA).

Given the geographical spread of the municipality, decentralized service delivery remains a challenge. Staff development, morale and career progression are other matters that continue to demand focused attention. The outstanding issue of the TASK Job Evaluation conducted in 2006-2007 is a continuing cause of concern as the Job Evaluation Committee in the Northern Cape did not complete total job evaluations. The Richtersveld Municipality places high premium on staff development and has a formal work place skills plan in place. It is also able to implement the said programme but expansion is needed in order to be able to fully claim back the maximum levies from the LGWSETA.

ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM:

The organisation's performance management system that forms an integral part of its operational processes, must still be fully completed and rolled out and diligently apply if the objectives of the municipality is to be achieved.

In terms of Chapter 6, Sec 38 of the Municipal Systems Act 2000, a municipality must:

- a. Establish a performance management system
- b. Promote a culture of performance management amongst it's political structures, political office bearers, councilors and its administration
- c. Administer its affairs in an economical, effective, efficient and accountable manner.

The Municipal Performance Management Regulations in terms of the Municipal Systems Act determines that at least the following key performance areas should be measured:

- Infrastructure and Services
- Social and Economic Development
- Institutional Transformation
- Democracy and Governance
- Financial Management

It is important to apply the following principles when we implement the PMS:

- The transfer of skills is essential to ensure that the responsible staff will be able to implement the PMS
- That management takes full ownership and accountability for implementing and sustaining the process
- That a responsible person is appointed that will be responsible for the coordination and management of the PMS
- That the process is not consultant driven and that delegated staff member's takes responsibility for gathering data. (if consultants are appointed the consultants will only provide hands-on support but delegated staff needs to take responsibility for the process)
- That all staff members including union representatives are fully appraised on the system to ensure their support and cooperation in implementing the system
- Service Providers namely Northern Cape Management Solution are currently in the process of establish a PMS for the Richtersveld Municipality.
- A system of delegations was drawn up for consideration by the council.
- A document was drafted to clarify the roles and responsibilities of Political office bearers.

2 Basic Service Delivery & Infrastructure



WATER

Port Nolloth

Alexcor provides the water, which is then pumped into the Holgat reservoir about 40km from the point of abstraction. Due to the shortage in the supply of the water from Alexcor, three boreholes are also currently in use. The water from the Julieshoogte borehole is problematic and is saline. The water from the other boreholes also does not comply with the water quality requirements and cannot be used in the long term for human consumption. The blending of water will have to be investigated. Constant water shortages are currently experienced and the municipality reported that lack of water supply to consumers is experienced weekly. The fact that the area is growing and several new developments are taking place increases the pressure on the water supply. KaiKai coastal development makes provision for an additional 200 stands. The development of the Mariculture Park will place extra pressure on Municipal Resources particularly water. This will require an additional 40 000 kl of water per month.

The Alexkor pipeline has reached its capacity. The only option is to improve the capacity of the pipeline. Alexcor cannot afford the upgrading of the pipeline and the municipality will have to take the responsibility.



Kuboes

Floods washed away part of the pipeline and to replace this network it will cost in the region of R4.2 million. The Municipality, Namaqua Diamond Trust Fund and Trans Hex contribute towards a project to build a new pipeline from Sanddrift to Kuboes. Nammic Engineering services was appointed to build this new water pipeline.

Lekkersing & Eksteenfontein

Still have brackish water and experienced regularly pump failures but never the less water is there.

Sanddrift

We are experiencing problems in Sanddrift where Trans Hex is the service provider, with supply of water to the Sanddrift towns itself. We are grateful to resolve the challenge.



Water Quality

Richtersveld Municipality budgeted for monthly water samples to be taken in every town and sent to a laboratory in Cape Town. Records of monthly results are available.

Possible solutions (Water)

Alternative solutions that have to be investigated are the following:

- Water demand management and loss control systems should be put in place to ensure that losses are minimized (through funding from the Development Bank of Southern Africa, Bvi was appointed to this investigation and are currently in process)
- Construction of a desalination plant to improve the water quality of boreholes
- Desalination of seawater (to help with the Mariculture Activities)
- Extension of the Namakwa Water pipeline
- Extension of the Kleinzee pipeline
- Pipeline from Vioolsdrif on the Orange River
- Pipeline from Alexander Bay on the Orange River

Estimated Cost

The cost implications for some of the alternatives are not yet known.

It is estimated that the pipeline from Alexander Bay will cost in the region of R50 million and the desalination of sea water will cost approximately R15 million.

Provision of Free Basic Water

All indigents households received 6kl water per month. Communities in rural towns like Sizamile, Lekkersing, Eksteenfontein, Kuboes and Sanddrift did not pay for any water consumption. The municipality levied only availability charges.

SANITATION

The installation of dry pit toilets is completed. All buckets are also eradicated. There are still ten houses without toilets in Lekkersing, material for this are available but we still battling with funding for the labour. We experience major problems in Nollothville and Sizamile with pump failures mostly caused by foreign objects in the pipeline.



ELECTRICITY

All the rural towns in the Richtersveld are directly supplied with electricity from Eskom. Eksteenfontein constantly has problems with its supply even though it has been upgraded. In Port Nolloth electricity is supplied in bulk by Eskom to the town and directly to Sizamile whose residents make use of prepaid meters. Port Nolloth's low tension network is in a very poor condition and needs upgrading or replacing. Alexander Bay has a problem with its high tension network and its electricity operates off the same sub-station used for the mine. Thus for the town to be managed as a separate entity it needs to have its own sub-station. All the houses and most of the public facilities do not have a certificate of compliance and therefore will need to be rewired for Alexander Bay to be upgraded to municipal standards.

PERSONNEL

The Municipality had to battle through the entire year without a qualified electrician. Attempts were made to find a qualified electrician, but without any success.

