

## ANNUAL REPORT 2023/2024







MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT - HON. APPOLO MAPHALALA

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### Pigg's Peak Town Council Councillors



Council Chairperson- Councillor Sipho Shongwe (Ward 1)



Deputy Chairperson - Councillor Lungile Dlamini (Ward 6)



Councillor Muzi Simelane (Ward 2)



Councillor Lucky Tfwala (Ward 3)



Councillor Sicelo Mavuso (Ward 4)



Councillor Bongani Phiri (Ward 5)



 $Councillor\ Tito\ Simelane\ -\ Minister's\ Appointee$ 



 $Councillor\ Dr.\ Glory\ Msibi-Minister\ 's\ Appointee$ 

### PIGG'S PEAK TOWN COUNCIL MANAGEMENT



Mzwandile Ndzinisa - Chief Executive Officer



Londiwe Simelane - Town Engineer



Clement Dlamini - Town Treasurer



 $Bonge kile\ Mkhont fo-Dlamini-Environment\ \&\ Public\ Health$  Of ficer



Thokozani Seyama - Environment & Public Health Officer



Dumsile Gamedze-Mkhonta - Social Services Manager



Bongekile Mabuza - Human Resources Officer



Nelson Mamba - Inspector of Works



Simiso Dlamini - Town Planning Officer



Babazile Simelane - Accountant

The **aesthetics of the town have improved significantly** as a direct result of recent infrastructure developments.



#### HISTORY OF PIGG'S PEAK

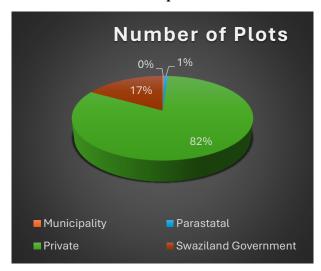
Pigg's Peak is a designated urban area located in the northwestern part of Eswatini. It is approximately 65 kilometres north of Mbabane, the capital city of Eswatini, and 40 kilometres south of the Matsamo Border Post. It also lies about 60 kilometres northeast of the Oshoek Border Post, both leading into South Africa. Pigg's Peak was established around gold and asbestos prospecting in 1884. The town's name is derived from William Pigg, a white settler who settled near the Lufafa Mountains in the 1880s to explore the region's gold deposits. He settled about 15 kilometres from Eswatini's highest point, Bulembu Mountain Peak, which was commonly referred to as 'Pigg's Peak.' The town became renowned for its gold deposits, first recorded in modern times around 1872. Gold mining continued until 1954, but the venture was ultimately unsustainable. Today, the town's main industry is forestry.

The urban area of Pigg's Peak covers 857 hectares, with 287 hectares designated as forested land under the ownership of Peak Timbers, operating Shiselweni Forestry Company, which leaves 570 hectares available for the rest of the urban landscape. Within Pigg's Peak, there are a total of 1,405 plots, of which more than 1,198 are designated for residential Additionally, there are several vacant parcels of land owned by the government, which present opportunities for the establishment of non-residential facilities, including commercial enterprises, educational institutions, and active recreational spaces. This indicates that the government-owned land is adequate to support future commercial developments and meet the social needs of the community, thereby offering potential for these initiatives in both the short and medium term.

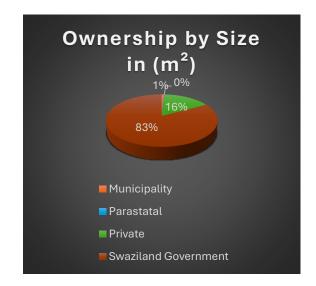
Table 1.1 - Percentage of Land Ownership in Pigg's Peak

Ownership	Count	Percentage	Area Ha	Percentage	
		Count		Area	
Municipality	4	0.28	6.450957	0.75	
Parastatal	12	0.85	2.804966	0.33	
Private	1152	81.99	137.1319	16.01	
Eswatini	237	16.87	710.0454	82.91	
Government					

### Land Ownership Distribution



➤ In Pigg's Peak, around 82% of the land plots are under private ownership, while 17% are owned by the government, and a mere 1% is held by parastatal entities. In contrast, a significant majority of the land area, approximately 83%, is attributed to government encompassing ownership, estimated 710.10 total of hectares of both surveyed and land, with unsurvey the

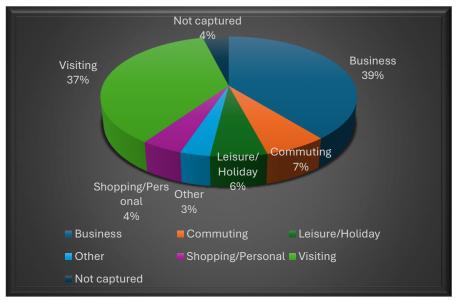


remaining 16% and 1% allocated to private individuals and the municipality, respectively.

### **POPULATION**

Approximately **5 389 people** (2 633 male and 2 756 female) live within the Pigg's Peak Urban Area, (2017 Population census report)

Different reasons people travel to Pigg's Peak



### VISION, MISSION, SLOGAN & VALUES

### **VISION**

To be a vibrant economic hub transforming the Northern Hhohho region into a preferred tourist destination.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

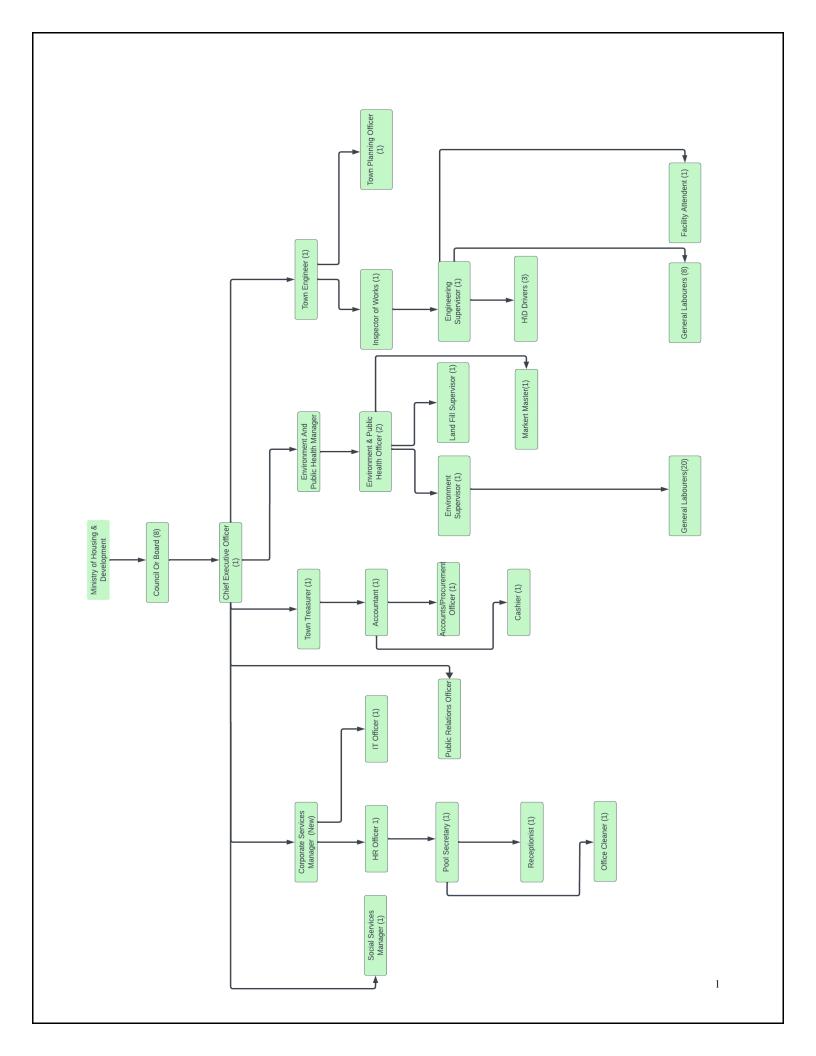
To provide efficient and effective services, using public participation and tourism as engines for economic development of the town to the benefit of all stakeholders.

### **SLOGAN**

IMPROVEMENT IN SERVICES AND QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH UNITY

### Values

- · Accountability
- · Transparency
- · Integrity
- · Quality Service Delivery
- · Concern for People
- · Zero Tolerance to Corruption



#### **GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE**

Pigg's Peak Town Council operates under a two-tier governance structure: the Council and Management. This structure is mandated by the Urban Government Act of 1969.

### **COUNCIL OR BOARD**

As outlined in the Urban Government Act (1969),residents from all six (6) Wards of Pigg's Peak elect representatives to serve as Councillors, forming Council or Board. To ensure diversity in skills and experience, the Minister of Housing and Urban Development (MHUD) appoints additional two Councillors after the local government elections. The tenure for Council members is five years.

Upon assuming their roles, the members of the Council elect one among themselves to serve as the chairperson, commonly known as the Mayor. This position is non-

executive, and the individual holds office for a term of one year. The Town Mayor acts as the political leader of the Council, guiding its activities and representing its interests.

Councillors play a crucial role as policymakers, advocating for the concerns of the town's residents and stakeholders during the decision-making process. ensure To effective execution of their responsibilities, the Board convenes monthly to discuss presented matters Management. Additionally, the Council establishes a Finance Committee from its members to oversee the allocation and utilization of the Council's financial resources. This committee also meets monthly and submits its findings to the Council for further consideration.

### MANAGEMENT

A level below Council is Management which is led by the Town Clerk/Chief Executive Officer (CEO). This individual is tasked with overseeing the comprehensive administration of the organization, executing the resolutions set forth by the Board, and ensuring the attainment of the organization's strategic goals. To fulfill these responsibilities, the CEO collaborates closely with the Management team on a daily basis to effectively oversee the organization's operations.

### Residents and Stakeholder Engagement

effort foster In an to participatory governance, the Council actively involves residents and stakeholders through a series of regular meetings, including Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.)budget and consultation sessions. With the prevalence of increasing digital communication platforms, the Council has also enhanced stakeholder engagement through social media, allowing residents to express their views, concerns, and commendations, thereby playing a vital role in shaping the town's future development.

## FOREWORD BY COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

It is with immense pleasure that I present the municipality's annual performance report for the 2023/24 financial year to all our stakeholders, which encompasses residents, the business community, and ratepayers.

As a Town Council, we place great importance on this platform, which significantly bolsters accountability by allowing the organization to present its achievements in executing projects and programs over the previous year. I am confident that our esteemed stakeholders share a keen interest in understanding our municipality's performance during this reporting period. The report has been meticulously prepared to showcase the approved programs and projects outlined in the organization's annual operating plan (A.O.P) for the 2023/24 financial year, underpinned by the following strategic priorities:

- Enhanced management of land and infrastructure.
- strengthened institutional capacity building and stakeholder engagement,
- Improved financial stability, promotion of socio-economic development, and effective management of environment, health, and safety are the key areas of focus.

These priorities reflect our commitment to fostering a sustainable and prosperous community, ensuring that we meet the needs of our residents while adhering to best practices in governance and project implementation.

I am pleased to announce that, despite this being our first civic year as a Council following the successful election of six Ward Councillors and the appointment of two additional Councillors, we have excelled in service delivery. We are proud to report the following achievements:

- Construction and completion of three roads, with a total estimated cost of E18 977 987.21
- Roll out of the Geographic Information System (GIS).
- Roll out of new performance management system (PMS) to improve employee performance and align performance with organizational strategy.
- Obtaining unqualified audit opinion for audited financial statements.
- Training of 83 small and medium enterprises, programme aimed at enabling them to grow their businesses.

On behalf of the entire Council, I wish to express our sincere gratitude to the Chief Executive Officer, management, and staff for their dedication to enhancing service delivery. Additionally, I would like to convey our heartfelt thanks to the ratepayers, residents of Pigg's Peak, and other essential stakeholders for their ongoing support of the organization. Furthermore, we extend our appreciation to our parent Ministry, Housing Ministry of and Development, for their steadfast support and guidance. The Council remains committed to exploring innovative strategies to ensure that our beautiful and clean town continues to excel in service delivery. We eagerly anticipate another successful financial year ahead.

The Chairperson/ Mayor
Councillor Sipho Shongwe

I Thank You.

### THE OFFICE OF THE CEO



The office of the CEO is responsible for driving the organization's strategy, through ensuring that set strategic objectives are achieved, as well as playing an oversight role in the coordination and operation of all the departments within the Town Council.

#### PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

In executing the organization's responsibilities as outlined in the Urban Government Act of 1969, significant emphasis is placed on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) number 11, which aims to "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable." This focus ensures that the development initiatives in Pigg's Peak align with the strategic goals and objectives of the town while incorporating social. essential economic. environmental considerations.

### <u>RISK ASSESSMENT – CONDUCTING</u> PERIODIC INTERNAL AUDITS

To maintain resilience in an ever-evolving business landscape, the organization undertakes regular internal audits to pinpoint potential risks. Following these assessments, mitigation strategies, including the revision of policies and procedures, are put into action to effectively manage identified risks. During the recent review period, SNG Grant Thornton conducted an internal audit that concentrated on several critical areas. including health, safety, and environmental practices, human resources, and payroll management.

The findings from the audit report indicated that the Council must enhance its internal control systems. Key recommendations include the establishment of a Council-approved health and safety policy, the acquisition of a weigh-bridge scale for the landfill, and the formulation of a comprehensive maintenance plan for Council properties, among other necessary improvements.

## BOARD, FINANCE COMMITTEE AND MANAGEMENT MEETINGS - GOVERNANCE

The Board (or Council) exercises its oversight role by reviewing monthly performance reports prepared by Management. This ensures that projects and programs are implemented according to the approved Annual Operating Plan (A.O.P). Notably, the responsibilities of the Board and Management are clearly defined in the Urban Government Act (1969) to maintain a balance of power and prevent any overlap. The Board, elects and delegates three members to form the Finance committee, responsible for managing the finances of the organization. Both the Board and Finance committee meet once a month to deliberate on issues brought to their attention by Management. Table 1.2 indicates the number of meetings held during the period under review.

TABLE 1.2 MEETINGS HELD DURING 2023/24 FY

TOTAL	NATURE OF MEETING						
NUMBER OF MEETING S	COUNCI L / BOARD	FINANCE COMMITTE E	MANAGEME NT	ANNUAL GENERA L MEETIN G	CONSULTATI VE BUDGET MEETING		
19(33)	9(15)	7(7)	10 (11)	1 (0)	1(1)		

Based on the table above, it must be noted that the Board complied with the statutory requirement of not having too many meetings.

#### N.B

a) The numbers in brackets represents meetings held during the same period last financial year.

To improve participatory budgeting, the Council organized an annual general meeting (AGM) where an annual performance report was shared with residents and stakeholders, facilitating their engagement with the Council on various issues of concern. This meeting also provided residents and stakeholders the chance to submit their budget proposals.

#### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Accountability and transparency are core values of the organization, making it essential for the Council to understand and address legitimate stakeholder concerns. To achieve this, the following practices have been implemented:

Stakeholder description	Issues raised	Our response
Ministry of Housing and Urban Development	Regulatory compliance, e.g., Urban Government Act (1969), Public Finance Management Act (2017), Public Procurement Act (2011), Rating Act (1995)	<ul> <li>Timely submission of Audited financial statements to the Ministry</li> <li>Timely submission of budget or financial estimates to the Ministry</li> <li>Accurate and proper billing and collection of rates</li> <li>Quarterly and annual reporting</li> </ul>
Residents, business community, faith-based organizations, etc.	<ul> <li>Provision of quality service</li> <li>Creation of job opportunities and poverty alleviation</li> </ul>	➤ Roll-out of Quality Management System (ISO 9001) in order to be customer focused- ongoing ➤ Regular engagement with stakeholders and providing feedback, through meetings, information dissemination through social media and mainstream media, such as newspapers, radio, etc.

		Implementation of local economic develop (LED) initiatives, such as training of small and medium enterprises on entrepreneurship
Residents of Macambeni informal settlement	Upgrade of the area into a proper human settlement, wherein residents will have title over land.	<ul> <li>Engaged central government, through Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy, for land valuation - done</li> <li>Development of land allocation criteria, that will facilitate land allocation - done</li> </ul>

### INFORMATION DISSEMINATION AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

In alignment with the values of transparency and accountability, the Public Relations Office of PPTC engaged with residents, stakeholders, and the broader community throughout the year under review. This initiative aimed to disseminate information about the organization, thereby informing, educating, and positively shaping perceptions and attitudes regarding

the services provided. Various channels, including public meetings, mainstream media, SMS, and social media, were utilized to facilitate interaction with stakeholders, allowing them to express their ideas and provide feedback, which in turn assisted **PPTC** in enhancing customer experience. These communication and engagement strategies have notably increased stakeholder awareness of Council's strategic plans, ongoing projects and programs, as well as the challenges faced.



### **Municipal News**

The dissemination of public information, including public notices and content categorized under

### Stakeholder Engagement Meeting

Municipal News was conducted monthly through prominent media outlets, specifically the national newspapers, Times of Eswatini and Eswatini Observer. The full-page features allowed the PPTC to communicate effectively with stakeholders regarding various projects and programs undertaken by the Council. Throughout the year under review, a total of twelve articles were published in the Municipal News page.



### **Website and Social Media**

The Council engages with stakeholders on a daily basis through various social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, and WhatsApp. During this reporting period, these platforms were primarily employed to seek information regarding the services provided by the Council, to submit feedback and complaints, and disseminate information via Public Notices.

The Council's website has been instrumental in conveying information, particularly to cater for the diverse needs of its audience. Through the website, the Council was able to share news updates, announce job vacancies and notices, as well as conduct surveys.

### **Customer Satisfaction Survey**

In the year under review, PPTC undertook a Customer Satisfaction Survey aimed at enhancing customer care and overall experience. The analysis of the gathered data revealed that customers expressed a general satisfaction with the services offered, particularly in the area of waste collection. Nonetheless, the survey also specific highlighted areas requiring improvement, notably in the building application process and stakeholder engagement. In light of these findings, the Council implemented more streamlined

### **Customer Service Week**

Customer Service Week plays a crucial role in recognizing and celebrating the contributions of those responsible for



PPTC employees celebrating the Customer Service Week



Notice is hereby given that Council has passed the budget estimates for 2024/25 financial year in line with the provisions of Section 91 (2) of the Urban Government Act, 1969.

The estimates are now open for the public to inspect free of charge between 08:30hrs and 16:30hrs, from 31st October till 7th November 2023, at Pigg's Peak Town Council civic center.

MZWANDILE S. NDZINISA CEO/TOWN CLERK

processes to improve customer experience, including more effective handling of customer complaints.

customer service, while also promoting the importance of high-quality customer care. This year marked the inaugural celebration of the week by the Council, which engaged employees and informal traders under the

theme "#TEAMSERVICE." This theme underscored the necessity for all customer service personnel to collaborate effectively to provide superior services. To commemorate the occasion, a refreshment booth was established at the entrance of the Civic Office, and appreciation gifts were distributed to both customers and employees.

### THE ENGINEERING AND TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT



The Engineering and Technical Services Department plays a pivotal role in ensuring safe. affordable. sustainable, accessible road and building infrastructure for residents and users within the urban area. The department accomplishes this by promoting integrated land-use development, regulating infrastructure projects, and maintaining infrastructure. To achieve its goals, the department oversees the following units:

- **Development Control Unit:**Manages and regulates infrastructure development proposals.
- Town Planning Unit: Facilitates land use planning that prioritizes integrated and sustainable transportation options.
- Infrastructure Maintenance Unit: Responsible for ongoing

maintenance and repairs to roads and related infrastructure.

• **Fleet Management Unit:** Ensures the efficient and safe operation of the Council's vehicle fleet.

### Capital Improvement Programme (CIP)

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) serves as a key tool for the department in fulfilling its mandate. It outlines strategic investments in infrastructure projects that enhance the quality and efficiency of the town's transportation system.

### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

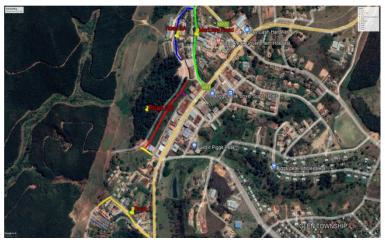
### THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD BEHIND GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, ROAD 1 AND ROAD 2

The contract for the road construction project was awarded to Construction Stefanutti Stocks Eswatini (PTY) Ltd, with oversight provided by Eswatini Consulting Engineers. The total length of the roads is 1,460 meters, comprising a 397-meter stretch behind hospital, a 360-meter segment designated as Road 1, and a 703meter section known as Road 2. The

construction of these executed roads was simultaneously, adhering to a contract duration of five months. This initiative entailed the enhancement of approximately 1.5 kilometers of gravel road, incorporating surface and underground storm-water drainage systems, well as

pedestrian walkways, with estimated total cost of E18,977,987.21. The project delineated four distinct roads, with Road 1 and the segment behind the hospital upgraded to bitumen, while Road 2a (connecting from behind the hospital to the Nurses' home and Plot 563 parking) received a concrete surface.

Additionally, Road 2b (linking EWSC to Plot 563 parking) was regraveled, including provisions for underground storm-water drainage. A practical site handover took place on December 12, 2023, with representatives from the Contractor, Consultant, and Council present.





ROADBED PREPARATION AND COMPACTION ON ROAD 1



STABILIZATION PREPARATION ON ROAD 1



Practical Site Handover

### DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AND TOWN PLANNING

### **BUILDING APPLICATIONS**

During the financial year under review, the Council processed a total of thirteen (13) building applications, which collectively represent an estimated property value of E 4,752,973.00, as detailed in table 2.1 below. The approval of building plans necessitates adherence to multiple statutory requirements as outlined in the Building Act of 1968 and the Town Planning Act of 1961. department remains committed to collaborating with developers to compliance ensure with the stipulations of the

Building Act, 1968, and the Town Planning Scheme, while simultaneously promoting the development of plots within the urban area.

TABLE 3.1: BUILDING APPLICATIONS APPROVED IN THE 2023/2024 FINANCIAL YEAR

	Residential		Commercial		Industrial		<b>Public Facility</b>	
		1				1		
Period	Value (E)	#	Value (E)	#	Value (E)	#	Value (E)	#
APRIL	320 800.00	1						
MAY	519 040.00	2						
JUNE	616 403.00	3						
JULY	286 200.00	1						
AUGUST								
SEPTEMBER								
OCTOBER	1 885 500.00	2						
NOVEMBER								
DECEMBER								
JANUARY								
FEBRUARY	510 000.00	2	45 000.00	1				
MARCH	570 030.00	2						
TOTAL	4 707 973.00	<i>13</i>	45 000.00	1				

### GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

During the year under review, the Council successfully established its Geographic

Information System (GIS), a system that had not been previously implemented. A GIS is fundamentally characterized as a computerbased framework designed for the capture, storage, retrieval, analysis, and visualization of spatial or locational data. The key components of this definition are "spatial" and "analysis," which involve examining locations and features such as boundaries, pipelines. buildings. crime streets. occurrences. authorized activities. and Additionally, it enables the identification of the relative positions of these features and serves the purpose of investigating them, thereby allowing the community to utilize this information for improved decision-making. Implicit in this definition is the necessity for a skilled workforce capable of constructing and utilizing such a system.

A well-planned and executed GIS is crucial for effective service delivery in urban areas, as it seamlessly integrates information with geographical context. This system offers Council employees a more efficient, rapid, and user-friendly means of accessing the map data they require, facilitating the resolution of inquiries and conducting analyses based on Moreover. relationships. spatial empowers users to pose questions regarding spatial relationships that could not be determined through traditional mapping methods. By implementing a GIS, it becomes feasible to centrally consolidate all mapping and database information, thereby creating a comprehensive information resource. One can conceptualize a GIS as an "information infrastructure" that underpins decisionmaking and resource management.

The creation of a Geographical Information Systems Database within the Town Council is essential for ensuring that any department interested in exploring, interpreting, and analyzing spatial data can easily access it. The introduction of GIS has demonstrated significant advantages in enhancing workflow productivity for projects related to research and evaluation.

There are several other additional areas where GIS can be implemented by Local Authorities, these include:

- Land use planning and management
- Infrastructure planning
- Settlement planning
- Integrated development plan formulation
- Assess property for rates and taxes
- Review proposed land sub-division or re-development applications
- Evaluate proposed land use changes for conformance with zoning ordinances
- Maintain roads (e.g., re-paving)
- Inspect properties for compliance with land development ordinances as well as those for public health and safety.

### TOWN PLANNING APPLICATIONS

During the reporting financial year, Council received one town planning application in form of a Subdivision which was approved.

### REGISTRATION OF CROWN GRANTS

Through the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, the department was able to register Crown Grants with the Deeds Registry Office as shown in the table below:

## TABLE 2.2: CROWN GRANTS REGISTERED IN THE 2023/2024 FINANCIAL YEAR

Crown Grants Issued	3
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#### THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Provision and facilitation of comprehensive, pro-active and needs-related services to ensure a safe, healthy and clean urban environment, with the aim of preventing and eliminating diseases, is the main mandate of this department. This is achieved through waste collection & disposal, attending to all public health issues, bush clearing and grass cutting and environmental management issues.

#### WASTE MANAGEMENT

The department is mandated to safeguard the public health of Pigg's Peak Town stakeholders and residents by ensuring compliance with all health and safety requirements. Additionally, the office is responsible for promoting environmental sustainability and enhancing the town's aesthetics. Under its waste management programs, Council's mandate is derived

from Section 55 of the Urban Government Act of 1969 and Regulation 8 of the Waste Management Regulations of 2000. As a result, Council is responsible for the collection, transportation, disposal, and treatment of waste generated within its jurisdiction. Furthermore, Council has provided waste receptacles and skips at strategic locations, ensuring 100% service coverage. During the financial year, 12 983 kg of waste was received into the landfill

and 203 432 kg was collected as recyclables.

#### MEAT HYGIENE AND SAFETY

Meat inspection plays a crucial role in addressing public health, animal health, and welfare concerns. Both ante-mortem and post-mortem examinations are conducted immediately before and after slaughter to protect the public from zoonotic diseases. During the financial year, a total of 56 bovine carcasses were inspected, with no carcasses being detained, although some internal organs were condemned due to various conditions.



### PARTNERSHIPS IN ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS PROGRAMS

MTN Y'ELLO CARE WASTE
MANGAGEMENT TRAINING WITH
YIBUTSE GREEN ACTION

### SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SMES) BUSINESS SKILLS WORKSHOP

During the reporting period, the Office conducted a workshop for 83 small and medium business owners operating in the town. The workshop aimed to stimulate economic growth by empowering both existing and new entrepreneurs, particularly in the informal trade sector. Various organizations in the Local Economic Development (LED) space—such as FINCORP, ENIDC, SEDCO, RDF, and Inhlanyelo Fund—were invited to present their financial products and services.

SMES business workshop

MTN Eswatini, in partnership with Yibutse Green Action and Pigg's Peak Town Council, hosted a workshop for young people titled "Turning Waste into Treasure" at Maguga Lodge as part of the annual 21 Days of Y'ello Care Campaign. A total of 100 youths attended, and the department delivered a presentation on best waste management practices.





### COMMEMORATION OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

PPTC, in partnership with KOBWA, commemorated World Environment Day under the theme "Working Together to Beat Plastic Pollution," based on the 2023 global theme. Various stakeholders,

including local primary school students, participated in activities related to the theme. The event started with a briefing session at the civic centre wherein KOBWA representatives met Council Board and Management, Headteachers and speakers for the event before proceeding to the main arena at the town centre.





### **DUSTBIN FURNITURE**

As a proactive measure to keep the town clean and in response to the legislation safeguarding anti-littering, Council procured 15 swivel street bins to the value of E64 687.50 and fixed in strategic points along the main MR1 road and internal streets.



One of the dustbins fixed along the road

### **CHALLENGES**

Despite the department's efforts to maintain Pigg's Peak's cleanliness and environmental safety, several challenges persist. These include illegal dumping at the old dumpsite and poor management of vacant, overgrown properties.

#### THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

The Human Resources Department serves as a supportive entity for the Pigg's Peak Town Council, tasked with the planning, organization, coordination. leadership, management of the local authority's human resources. Acknowledging the essential role of employees in delivering quality services, the Council approaches its human resources functions with a strategic focus aligned with the Council's Development Integrated Currently, the Council employs a total of fifty (50) individuals distributed across five distinct departments.

### Attracting and retaining human capital

In recent years, organizations have come to the realization that employer attractiveness in the eyes of potential employees is the key to the organizational capacity to attract and retain talents (Collins and Kanar, 2013).

During the year under review, the Council has remained attractive with numerous employable candidates being desirous to join the local authority at both middle and lower Council levels.

# **Employee movement**

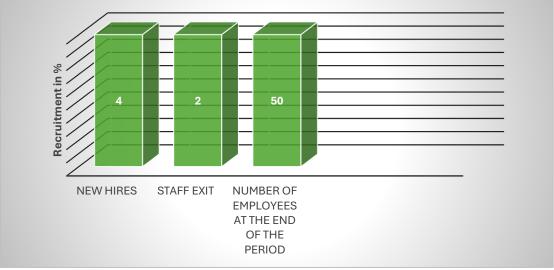


Figure 4.1 Movement of employees

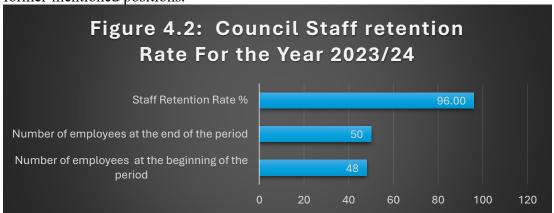
During the 2023/24 fiscal year, the Council filled four vacancies caused by employee exits in the last quarter of the 2022/23 fiscal year through both external and internal

recruitment. The positions filled were Town Treasurer, Accountant, Inspector of Works, Engineering Supervisor, and Environment and Public Health Officer.

In observing the Council Staff Standing Orders, first consideration was given to existing employees that met the jobs specification(s). The latter entailed the Engineering Supervisor and Inspector of Works positions that were filled through an internal recruitment process, thus vertical allowing a employee movement. External recruitment was conducted for the other three former-mentioned positions.

Employee retention:

Retaining competent human capital has remained a strategic objective of the Council. This is achieved by maintaining employee welfare and offering market-competitive remuneration. Figure 4.2 shows that the local authority obtained a high retention rate of 96% at the end of the reporting year.



### Job grading, Salary survey and review project

During the reviewed year, the Council engaged an independent consultant to carry out a comprehensive job evaluation, grading, salary survey, and review program. This initiative aimed to ensure equitable compensation for the organization's workforce. The jobs were classified according to Patterson's job grading system, and the survey included participation from six Local Authorities.

**Survey Results:** The findings of the survey indicated that over 50% of the Council's workforce receives compensation that exceeds the industry average. This outcome reflects the Council's commitment to maintaining

competitive remuneration practices within the sector, thereby enhancing employee satisfaction and retention.

**Implementation of Salary Review Report:** On May 19, 2023, the Council formally adopted the salary review report and subsequently entered into a collective agreement with NAPSAWU on June 9, 2023. A three-year implementation matrix was created and approved by the Council Board, marking the beginning of the Council's first year of executing the recommendations outlined in the report.

### **Employee Satisfaction Survey**

The Council developed a digital employee satisfaction survey and invited internal stakeholders to participate. Further

engagement took place between management and employees, focusing on areas where participants provided negative feedback. The areas of improvement conveyed by the metrics entailed, availing growth opportunities to existing employees, sports recognition in Council's wellness program and change management.

### **Organization Development**

The swift expansion of the Council has led to a predominant reliance on information technology (IT) infrastructure, which has consequently prompted the establishment of an IT Officer position. This role is essential for the effective maintenance of the technological framework and the safeguarding of Council data, ultimately facilitating business continuity.

In addition, a position for the Corporate Services Manager was created to provide oversight for both the IT and human resource departments, ensuring that these critical functions are managed effectively and cohesively.

### **Performance Management System**

In the reporting year, the Council established and implemented a performance management system applicable to all employees, encompassing both management and general staff. To facilitate the effective integration of this revised system, individual consultations were carried out by an independent consultant.

This performance management system will evaluate employees based on four key dimensions: finance, customer focus, internal business processes, and innovation and learning. These dimensions represent the technical competencies, while the behavioral competencies will emphasize the reinforcement of the Council's core values.

The initial phase of this system will be piloted at the managerial level during the 2024/25 financial year, with a comprehensive rollout planned for the 2025/26 fiscal year.

### Ensuring a healthy and vibrant capital

The Council has established a comprehensive wellness policy and an annual program that encompasses a wide range of wellness dimensions, which include, but are not limited to, the physical, spiritual, emotional, social, psychological, and financial facets of employees' lives.

### **Intermunicipal Games**

On July 31, 2023, the Council took part in various sporting events, such as soccer, pool, darts, and volleyball, during the intermunicipal competition held in Mankayane town. The pool and Table Tennis teams achieved commendable success by securing second place and were honored with silver medals for their performance.



**ESIGA 2023** 

### **Adherence to Cultural Activities**

In the year under review, Council female employees under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development's Lutsango, participated in the Buganu Ceremony at Buhleni, presenting gifts (tetfulo) to their Majesties.



PPTC Lutsango ready for Buganu 2024

### **Employment Relations**

The Council fosters healthy relations within the Council structure, that is both horizontally and vertically and an opendoor policy was observed during the year under review. Internal mechanisms, such as the grievance procedure and the recognition agreement (which provides a negotiation forum), allow Management and Council employees to communicate effectively and resolve employee-related issues, ensuring service delivery continues without interruption. The National Allied and Public Workers' Union (NAPSAWU), acknowledged as the Council's social partner, has consistently advocated for the bargaining unit, fostering cooperative relations between the Council's workforce

and its management. Key topics of discussion between the involved parties have included the execution of the Salary Review and the establishment of a Performance Management System. A mutual agreement was achieved regarding a three-year plan for the salary review, alongside the decision to initially test the Performance Management System at the managerial level.

### End of year party

In December 2023, the Council hosted an end-of-year function aimed at fostering unity and positive relations between the Council board and employees at all levels.



Council employees during the end of year party

### Information and Technology Strategic Programs, Initiatives Implemented during the Fiscal Year Under Review

The Council through the Information Technology (IT) function ensures the optimal installation, maintenance and upgrade of all information systems and ensures Council's data security.

Enhance the communication infrastructure within Council to ensure reliable and efficient internal and external communication:

### **PABX System Installation**

During the year under review, the Council installed a Private Automated Branch Exchange (PABX) system, modernizing internal telecommunications. This upgrade has improved call management, connectivity, and significantly reduced communication delays, enhancing the Council's overall responsiveness.

Access Management and Control: this program aims to improve security measures to prevent unauthorized access to critical IT infrastructure and protect sensitive data.

Controlled Access Procedures: The Council implemented stringent measures to ensure only authorized personnel can access the server room. These include the

use of access cards and biometric systems, adding an extra layer of security by verifying the identity of individuals entering the server room.

Online Data Backup Maintenance: The Council conducted regular maintenance of online data backup procedures to ensure that all critical data is securely backed up. This includes daily incremental backups and weekly full backups to maintain up-to-date copies of all essential data.

Offsite Data Storage: The Council has implemented offsite data storage solutions, adding an extra layer of security by storing backups in a separate physical location. This ensures data protection even in the event of a disaster affecting the primary data centre.

#### SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT



The Social Services Department is responsible for coordinating key services such as HIV/AIDS programs, health and social services for vulnerable groups, gender and youth empowerment initiatives, and corporate social responsibility efforts within the Pigg's Peak community.



through data utilization and informed decision-making.

As part of these collaborative efforts, the Pigg's Peak Town Council formalized its commitment by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Youth Enterprise Revolving Fund (YERF) in February 2024. This partnership aims to support the youth of Pigg's Peak by fostering the following:

-involvement in economic ventures -encouraging self-sufficiency

- -facilitating skills development for those receiving loans
- -offering mentorship to youth-led businesses

providing seed funding without collateral requirements

- -financing the expansion of existing youth enterprises
- enhancing connections between youth enterprises and relevant stakeholders.

#### **YOUTH EMPOWERMENT**

In a bid to empower the young population of Pigg's Peak and mitigate the adverse effects of unemployment, which include drug addiction, mental health issues, and criminal activities, the Pigg's Peak Town Council has actively partnered with youthoriented organizations such as the Youth Fund and the Youth Chamber Commerce to enhance the prospects of local youth. In the year under review, the establishment of a Youth Database was initiated to enable young individuals to identify and capitalize on opportunities



PPTCCEO. Mzwandile Ndzinisa and YERF CEO, Mandla Nkambule after signing the MoU

#### **Youth Capacity Building Symposium**

In the course of this reporting period, the PPTC, in collaboration with Pigg's Peak Inkhundla, organized a Youth Capacity Symposium. Building The primary objective of this event was to enhance cooperation between youth development stakeholders and the business community, promoting the sharing information, knowledge, and experiences that would enable young individuals to acquire essential skills for successfully navigating the evolving challenges of the contemporary job market.

Among the key recommendations that emerged from the symposium were the following:

-It is essential for PPTC to collaborate closely with the inkhundla to align their respective responsibilities and capabilities in empowering the youth, where the inkhundla plays a crucial role in securing funding while the Town Council contributes its expertise in generating sustainable business concepts.

-There is a need for the decentralization of youth development services

-There is a need to consider increasing the budget and resources allocated to the coordinating structures and activities focused on youth development.

#### **Training of Peer Educators**

In order to facilitate the effective functioning of the youth-focused program, a training session for peer educators was successfully executed, engaging 20 young individuals. This training provided an opportunity for peer educators to evaluate the program's advancements, deliberate on potential enhancements, and

devise strategies to achieve program objectives through a comprehensive refresher session. The primary goal of the training was to empower peer educators to enhance their mentoring capabilities, particularly in leading dialogue sessions and exercising leadership. Furthermore, it allowed peer educators to establish personal goals and refine their leadership competencies. The training incorporated contributions from the AHF team, including a nurse who addressed critical topics such as HIV prevention through Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP), along with other Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) issues, including family planning.

#### **Social Protection Assessment**

Throughout the reporting period, the Council undertook a social protection assessment in Ward 2 (Mangwaneni) with the objective of enhancing the health and well-being of residents while promoting their active involvement in healthcare decisions. The assessment revealed several challenges, notably the prevalence of poverty, as many residents are unemployed and reside in rented accommodations. Additionally, there was a noted rise in the number of drinking establishments and incidents of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), leading to recommendations for police intervention to mitigate these issues. Other identified challenges included an increase in school dropouts among children, prompting the committee to plan community visits on weekends to educate parents; a lack of awareness and utilization of family planning methods; a rise in crime attributed to unemployment and poverty; and inadequate sanitation facilities, highlighting necessity to promote health-related practices for proper waste disposal to prevent environmental contamination and reduce health risks to the community.

#### **Municipal Health Team**

The Town Council convened a Municipal Health Team (MHT) meeting with all relevant stakeholders in Pigg's Peak, aiming to address various health-related issues and foster collaborative efforts among participants.

#### WORLD AIDS DAY

Observing the World AIDS Day on an annual basis serves as a significant platform for both public and private entities, including the PPTC, to enhance awareness regarding the ongoing pandemic and to promote advancements in the prevention, treatment, and care of HIV/AIDS globally. This day has evolved into one of the most recognized international health events, providing a

crucial opportunity to raise awareness, honor those who have lost their lives to the disease, and acknowledge progress made, such as improved access to treatment and preventive measures. In the recent reporting period, the town celebrated World AIDS Day under the theme "Let Communities Lead in Ending AIDS," attracting thousands of emaSwati from the Northern Hhohho region who gathered in Pigg's Peak to commemorate achievements in the battle against HIV and to obtain vital information concerning HIV/AIDS-related health issues. The event was distinguished by the attendance of notable figures, including His Royal Highness, the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Prince Simelane, and the Hhohho Regional Administrator, Princess Tsandzile, among other esteemed guests.



World AIDS Day commemoration event

#### **MEN'S DIALOGUE**

In the reporting period, PPTC in collaboration with NERCHA hosted men's dialogue with the aim of promoting HIV Testing and male involvement.

#### Outcomes of the dialogue were as follows:

- -there is slow service in hospitals
- -the waiting period to see a doctor is long due to long ques
- -there is shortage of male nurses where they can express themselves freely about their sicknesses
- -they also mentioned that due to lack of jobs they are forced by females to have sexual intercourse, because they want money.

#### MEN DIALOGUE

During the reporting period, the PPTC, in partnership with NERCHA, organized a men's dialogue aimed at encouraging HIV testing and increasing male participation in health matters. The dialogue revealed several key issues, including the slow service delivery in hospitals, extended waiting times to consult with doctors due to long queues, and a notable shortage of male nurses, which hinders men from

openly discussing their health concerns. Additionally, participants expressed that economic hardships often compel them to engage in sexual activities with women in exchange for financial support.

#### SCHOOLS TALKSHOW

In an effort to enhance public speaking skills while addressing social issues that particularly impact the youth, the Council, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education. REPS under the Crime Prevention section, and Health Plus for men, hosted a school talk show. The discussions encompassed various topics, including crime prevention, teenage pregnancy, and substance abuse. The event successfully executed with participation from both primary and high schools in Pigg's Peak, showcasing a lively atmosphere filled with talent. As a followup, a dialogue session with parents was organized at the Peak School a month later, focusing on strategies to protect the future of their children.



Schools Talk show 2023

## Mayor's Tournament - 2023





In a drive to mitigate the adverse consequences of unemployment, including drug abuse, gender-based violence, and crime among young men, the PPTC is dedicated to offering support through empowerment initiatives tailored specifically for men. This dedication is further articulated in the Integrated Development Plan (IDP), which emphasizes the Council's role in disseminating information regarding HIV/AIDS access to tuberculosis services. In alignment with this objective, the Town organizes Council an annual Mayor's Tournament, which aims to achieve several key goals:

-fostering a positive living environment for men within families, workplaces, and communities - promoting a healthy competitive spirit among men of various age groups

-Raising awareness about healthrelated issues pertinent to males, particularly the significance of HIV testing.

The theme for this reporting year, "YOU ARE TOTALLY SNOCKED IF YOU DO NOT KNOW YOUR HIV STATUS." serves compelling call to action for all men to undergo HIV testing in order to remain engaged with the team. In addition to the sporting events, all participating groups also engaged in educational sessions addressing topics such as drug abuse, HIV prevention, and intergenerational sexual relationships.

Pigg's Peak Career Day - 2023



The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, in collaboration with Pigg's Peak Town Council, successfully organized the regional Career Day 2023. This year's career expo was centered around the theme of "Enforcing Skills and Entrepreneurship for Inclusive

Economic Growth in the 21st Century."

Objectives of Eswatini Career Expo:

The primary objective of the Career Expo is to provide information regarding various career pathways, empower youth with insights into business opportunities, and connect their identified skills and talents with current industry demands, while also engaging young individuals from all regions of Eswatini, including those who are out of school.

The information shared during the event encompassed a variety of topics, including available courses and subjects for diverse career options, institutions that facilitate career advancement, opportunities to enhance career success, financial support and business prospects for young people, including those with disabilities, scholarship opportunities both locally and internationally, and the significance of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and STEM careers for girls and women.

# COMMEMORATION OF WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY 2023

The Council collaborated with multiple stakeholders, including the World Health Organization, to observe World No Tobacco Day 2023 at Mhlatane High School, under the theme "Grow Food, Not Tobacco." This initiative successfully engaged approximately 1,400 students and 80 teachers.



#### **VACCINATION DAY FOR MEASLES**

During the reporting period, the Ministry of Health successfully administered vaccinations against measles and rubella to all children at the three designated social centers. Measles is a highly contagious disease that primarily affects the respiratory system and can lead to severe

complications, presenting symptoms such as high fever, cough, runny nose, and a distinctive rash. Vaccination stands as the most effective method for preventing both the disease itself and its transmission to others. The vaccine is proven to be safe and equips the immune system to combat the virus effectively. It is recommended that children who contract the infection remain

at home to mitigate the risk of spreading the illness to others.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

A fundamental aspect of the Council's obligations under Corporate Responsibility is to ensure that orphaned and vulnerable children have access to preschool education and essential daily nutrition. The Council actively supports the indigent and vulnerable populations through the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) program, which operates across three social centres in Pigg's Peak Town. This initiative provides over 300 children with two meals each day, five days a week, while 78 of these children benefit quality preschool education, healthcare services, and psychosocial support.

The Town Council is also committed to assisting disabled residents who struggle to meet their basic needs, such as food. In the fiscal year 2023/24, the Council distributed 41 bags of 30kg rice to individuals with disabilities across all wards.

#### **ECCD Educational trip**



ECCD GRADUATION

All three social centres engaged in an educational trip to Hlane Game Park



and King Mswati III International Airport. The objective of this trip was to foster critical thinking skills and offer the children a chance to explore a variety of subjects, including the nation's geographical regions, wildlife, transportation systems, sugar production, and traffic regulations, from a unique viewpoint. Many of these children do not have the opportunity experience traditional field trips with their families, prompting the Council to provide them with this valuable chance to engage in new and adventurous learning experiences.

Hlane Game-park

The occasion honored the accomplishments of the departing children and recognized their diligent efforts. A representative from the Ministry of Education urged parents to ensure that their children's birth certificates are registered, as this is a prerequisite for enrollment in grade one. Additionally, parents were reminded of their ongoing responsibility for their children's welfare, which includes ensuring that they wear clean uniforms and uphold personal hygiene standards.

A parent representative expressed appreciation to the Pigg's Peak Town Council for the support extended to the children, highlighting that the children

receive both food and education at the centres.

# Assessment of needs for social centre beneficiaries

The Pigg's Peak Town Council undertook an assessment initiative, collaborating with caregivers, Rural Health Motivators, and supervisors to evaluate the eligibility of social centres beneficiaries. Home visits were conducted for all beneficiaries, confirming their qualification for social centre services, as illustrated in figure 5.1 below.

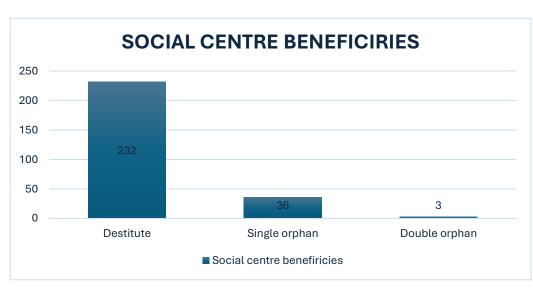


Figure 5.1 Social Centre beneficiaries

#### DISASTER MANAGEMENT

disaster management is essential for well-coordinated ensuring a response to emergencies. In this context, the Pigg's Peak Town Council has partnered with the Disaster Management National Agency (NDMA) to formulate a comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Plan (DRMP) for the area, which is complemented by a

Drought Management Plan. During the development of the DRMP, an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), commonly referred to as a drone, was utilized for data collection, successfully covering all designated areas. In addition, focus group discussions were conducted with key informants from various wards to gather critical information regarding hazards, vulnerabilities, and the capacity levels present in each ward.

# **CRIME PREVENTION AND SAFETY**

In urban settings such as Pigg's Peak, the impact of crime is an unavoidable reality; however, the collaborative initiatives between the Pigg's Peak Town Council (PPTC) and the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) have led to a notable reduction in crime rates over recent years. The crime prevention programs initiated by the Council and REPS began in the middle of the year and included community training sessions, the establishment of community police,

and the implementation of neighborhood watch schemes.

Furthermore, the Council's security team has actively enforced municipal regulations and safeguarded Council assets. Strategies aimed at reducing crime in public transport areas and curbing illegal trade have been developed, with initiatives such as identifying crime hotspots and conducting random raids, thereby enhancing the safety of Pigg's Peak for residents and businesses alike.

#### THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT



The Treasury Department is responsible for billing and collecting rates, managing the Council's budget and expenditure, safeguarding funds, and overseeing the management of Council assets and accounting records.

#### PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

The Treasury department had planned several programmes for the financial year 2023/2024, all drawn from the Integrated Development Plan. The planned programmes include Rates Billing and Collection, Budgeting, External and Internal audit facilitation and the procurement of goods and services in line with the Public Procurement act of 2011 and public procurement Regulation of 2020. During the year under review the department in line with section (10-24) the Rating Act of 1995 conducted the General

Valuation Roll exercise for all properties within the urban area. This exercise was carried out by Christian Amoako & Company to the tune of 0.800 million and was concluded in March 2024. The total value of the town increased by E244 million tallying the value of the town to E1.1 billion from previous valuation of 856 million, this was necessitated by the improvement of infrastructure in the town by Council over the past five years, this includes the CBD drainage road, the three recently constructed road worth 18.9 million. Through the valuation Council

Private properties in commercial and residential also played a huge role on improving their properties over the past five years, a major development was on commercial plots 376 and 398 wherein a shopping mall was constructed. Under the year under review the Council took a loan of E16.5 million with the assistance of Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to fund the construction of the three roads. The loan is to be repaid over a 5-year period on a bi-annual basis and the first instalment was settled on the

31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 to the tune of E2.2 million.



#### **Budgeting**

The department prepared a budget for the year 2023/2024 in line with the Urban Government Act as well as the Public Finance Management Act of 2017. The budget went through the Ministry of Urban and Housing Development wherein it was scrutinized, and it met all the requirements hence it was approved and used to execute Council's goals and objectives for the financial year 2023/2024. The Council budgeted E28,204,104.07 for the year under review.

#### **Rates Billing and Collection**

The department raised rates bills invoices amounting to E20,652,223 for the financial year 2023/24 at the beginning of April 2023. Government rates bill invoices E15,659,079.19 amounted to E10,804,902.00 was collected, being 69% of the bill invoices raised. Private rates billed invoices were E4.618.837.57 and E3,426,291.03 was collected being 75% of billed against E3,391,691.77 collected in 2022/2023 financial year. The previous year's private rates collection for 2022/2023 was at 79% and this shows a decline of 4% due to delay of wind -up of estate that previously paid their rates in the 2022/2023. Overall, vear this year

collection on private rates was more by 0.124 million having collected E4,633,990.09 against E4,509 ,666.99 collected in 2022/2023. Rates defaulters collected were E1,207,699.06 for the year under review against E1,117,974.92 collected in the 2022/2023 financial year.

# PAY YOUR RATES AND WIN CAMPAIGN

In a bid to encourage ratepayers to pay their rates on time and improve on collection. the Finance department conducted the pay your rates and win campaign as guided by the Council's Integrated Development Plan (IDP)-2019-2024. This campaign ran from 01st of April 2023 to 31st July 2023 targeting ratepayers to settle their rates in full during this period and ensured the compliance of the rating act of 1995 since by paying the rates in full and on time, ratepayers avoided the interest charges and penalties. Those who were not able to settle their rates in full were given the option to pay the rates in instalments to avoid incurring interest and penalties charges.

The department was able to collect over E2 million during the campaign which made 44% of private rates billed of E4,6 million of the current financial year. Last year the

Council received E1.9 million during this period and this reflected an increase of E132,016.77 compared to this year's collection. There were 210 ratepayers who

settled their rates in full, about 134 were residential properties and 76 were commercial properties.



A compliant ratepayer being awarded during the pay your rates and win campaign

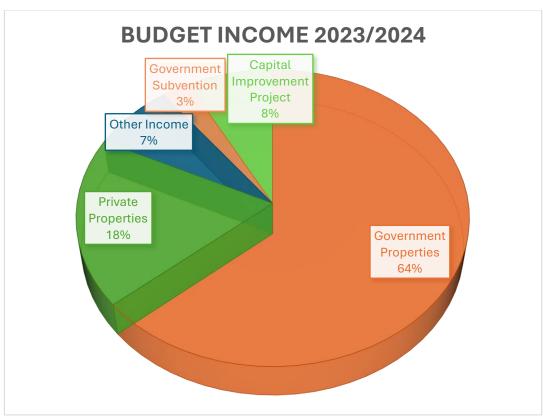
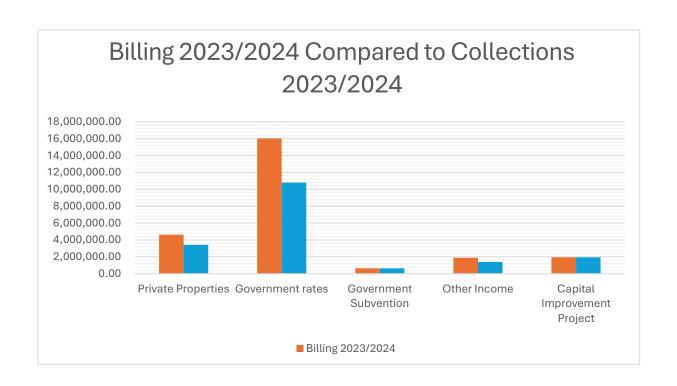


Figure 6.1 Budget Income 2023/24



#### **External Audit**

The Council received an unqualified audit report (clean audit) for the financial year 2023/2024 prepared by external auditors Kobla Quashie and Associates. The Council's net worth shows an increase E20,112,778(E109,486,500:2023/2 024-E89,373,722.00-2022/2023) on the financial position of the Council mainly due the investment on Council 's three roads worth E18.9 million constructed in the year 2023/2024. This project contributed to the economic activity of the town since local individuals and contractors were engaged on the construction of the three roads. Profit for the year under review declined by E3.1 million (1,925,951-2023/2024: E5,091,969-2022/2023) due to high

costs of direct costs and operational expenses including the preparation of the General Valuation Roll which costed **E0.8 million.** (see attached audited financial statement).

#### **Challenges of the Department**

Council is heavily dependent on rates revenue to fund its operations and capital improvements projects; this affects the budget implementation since revenue received comes in trenches and Government is slow in terms of paving rates. meanwhile Government rates constitute 64% of budgeted revenue. The loan for the road upgrade by Council will also stifle the implementation of Capital

Improvement Project in the next 4 years since the loan repayment requires **E4.6 million** per year and the Council no longer receives grant for Capital Improvement Project from central Government but must fund capital projects from own source revenue.

#### **Solution**

The Council engaged a consultant to develop a Financial Viability and Sustainability strategy for the town which will assist on revenue diversification and cost containment thus reducing the risk of depending on rates to fund Council's budget and operations.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (ATTACHED)

#### LIST OF ACRONYMS

AOP: Annual Operating Plan

CEO: Chief Executive Officer

CIP: Capital Improvement Program

DRMP: Disaster Risk Management Plan

ECCD: Early Childhood Care and Development

ESIGA; Eswatini Inter-municipality Games Association

EWSC: Eswatini Water Services Corporation

GBV: Gender Based Violence

GIS: Geographic Information System

IDP: Integrated Development Plan

KOBWA: Komati Basin Water Authority

LED: Local Economic Development

MHUD: Ministry of Housing and Urban Development

MHT: Municipal Health Team

NAPSAWU: National Public Services and Allied Workers Union

NDMA: National Disaster Management Agency

PPTC: Pigg's Peak Town Council

QMS: Quality Management System

REPS: Royal Eswatini Police Service

YERF: Youth Enterprise Revolving Fund



# PIGG'S PEAK TOWN COUNCIL

P. O. Box 479, Pigg's Peak

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Annual financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024



# Kobla Quashie and Associates CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS (ES)

Mallya House, Lot 137, Esser Street P.O. Box 710, Manzini M200, Eswatini Tel: (+268) 2505-4974 Fax: (+268) 2505-4540

E-mail: info@koblaquashie.co.sz Website: www.koblaquashie.com



Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

#### **General Information**

Country of incorporation and domicile

Eswatini

Nature of business and principal activities

Municipality

Councillors - Effective 26 July 2023

Cllr. Sipho B Shongwe -Chairperson / Mayor

Cllr. Lungile K Dlamini - Vice

Chairperson

Cllr. Muzi T Simelane Cllr. Lucky S Tfwala Cllr. Sicelo S Mavuso Cllr. Bongani P Phiri Cllr. Tito Simelane Cllr. Glory Msibi

Interim Councillors - Ended 26 July 2023

Cllr. Absalom Ndlovu - Mayor Cllr. Thembisile Ngcamphalala

**Senior Management** 

Mzwandile Ndzinisa - Town Clerk/CEO

Vacant - Environmental Public Health and Safety

Clement Dlamini - Town Treasurer Londiwe Simelane - Town Engineer

**Business address** 

Plot 1471 & 1473 Piggs Peak

**Postal address** 

P.O. Box 479 Piggs Peak

H108

**Bankers** 

Standard Bank Eswatini Limited

Eswatini Development and Savings Bank

First National Bank of Eswatini

**Auditors** 

Kobla Quashie and Associates Chartered Accountants (SD)

**Legal Advisors** 

Robinson Bertrams



## **Contents**

The reports and statements set out below comprise the annual financial statements presented to the Councillors:

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Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

## Councillors' Responsibilities and Approval

The Councillors are required by Section 102(3) of the Urban Government Act, 1969 and Section 93 of the Urban Government Financial Reporting Regulations of 1969, to maintain adequate accounting records and are responsible for the content and integrity of the annual financial statements and related financial information included in this report. It is their responsibility to ensure that the annual financial statements fairly present the state of affairs of the council as at the end of the financial year and the results of its operations and cash flows for the period then ended, in conformity with International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium Entities (IFRS for SME's). The external auditors are engaged to express an independent opinion on the annual financial statements.

The annual financial statements are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium Entities (IFRS for SME's) and are based upon appropriate accounting policies consistently applied and supported by reasonable and prudent judgments and estimates.

The Councillors acknowledge that they are ultimately responsible for the system of internal financial control established by the council and place considerable importance on maintaining a strong control environment. To enable the Councillors to meet these responsibilities, the council sets standards for internal control aimed at reducing the risk of error or loss in a cost effective manner. The standards include the proper delegation of responsibilities within a clearly defined framework, effective accounting procedures and adequate segregation of duties to ensure an acceptable level of risk. These controls are monitored throughout the Council and all employees are required to maintain the highest ethical standards in ensuring the council's business is conducted in a manner that in all reasonable circumstances is above reproach. The focus of risk management in the council is on identifying, assessing, managing and monitoring all known forms of risk across the council. While operating risk cannot be fully eliminated, the council endeavours to minimise it by ensuring that appropriate infrastructure, controls, systems and ethical behaviour are applied and managed within predetermined procedures and constraints.

The Councillors are of the opinion, based on the information and explanations given by management that the system of internal control provides reasonable assurance that the financial records may be relied on for the preparation of the annual financial statements. However, any system of internal financial control can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Councillors have reviewed the council's cash flow forecast for the year to 31 March 2025 and, in the light of this review and the current financial position, they are satisfied that the council has or has access to adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The external auditors are responsible for independently reviewing and reporting on the council's annual financial statements. The annual financial statements have been examined by the council's external auditors and their report is presented on pages 4 to 5.

The annual financial statements set out on pages 6 to 26 which have been prepared on the going concern basis, were approved by the Councillors on 07 October 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

Chairperson

Town Treasurer

Town Clerk

# KOBLA QUASHIE AND ASSOCIATES CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS (SD)



Maliya House, Lot 137, Esser Street P.O. Box 710, Manzini M200, Eswatini

Tel: (+268) 2505-4974 Fax: (+268) 2505-4540

E-mail: info@koblaquashie.co.sz Website: www.koblaquashie.com

## **Independent Auditors' Report**

#### To the member of Piggs Peak Town Council

#### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Piggs Peak Town Council ("the Council") as set out on pages 6 to 26 which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2024, the statements of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at 31 March 2024, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SME's) and in the manner required by Section 102(3) of the Urban Government Act, 1969 and Section 93 of the Urban Government Financial Reporting Regulations Act of 1969.

#### **Basis of opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Council in accordance with International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Eswatini and we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Other information

The Councillors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Councillors' Report as required. The other information does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the annual financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express and audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the annual financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in

## Responsibilities of the Councillors and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these annual financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and in the manner required by the 102(3) of the Urban Government Act, 1969 and Section 93 of the Urban Government Financial Reporting Regulations of 1969, and for such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the annual financial statements, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management and the Councillors either intend to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Council's financial reporting process.

Partners: Kobla Quashie (Chairman), Daniel Bediako (Managing), Farai Machakata



## **Independent Auditors' Report**

#### Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are
  appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's
  internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going congern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We dommunicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Kobla Quashie and Associates (Chartered Accountants (Eswatini)

07 October 2024

Registered Auditors:Daniel Bediako



## **Statement of Financial Position**

Figures in Lilangeni	Note(s)	2024	2023
Assets			
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	2	86,391,488	63,237,311
Assets under construction	-	-	487,312
	,	86,391,488	63,724,623
Current Assets			
Trade and other receivables	3	22,649,967	17,273,548
Cash and cash equivalents	4	4,140,204	8,375,551
A CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR		26,790,171	25,649,099
Total Assets		113,181,659	89,373,722
Reserves and Fund balances			
Equity			
Capital reserves	5	38,474,618	37,815,837
Revaluation Reserves	6	12,848,400	9,035,735
Retained earnings		42,243,126	40,416,742
		93,566,144	87,268,314
Liabilities		e e	
Non-Current Liabilities			
Borrowings	7	9,830,771	_
Other liabilities	8	340,055	340,055
		10,170,826	340,055
Current Liabilities			
Borrowings	7	4,955,974	_
Trade and other payables	9	2,959,565	588,453
Provisions	10	1,529,150	1,176,900
		9,444,689	1,765,353
Total Liabilities		19,615,515	2,105,408
Total Equity and Liabilities		113,181,659	89,373,722



# **Statement of Comprehensive Income**

Figures in Lilangeni	Note(s)	2024	2023
Revenue		20,698,230	19,368,334
Cost of sales		(3,164,546)	(2,855,842)
Gross profit		17,533,684	16,512,492
Other income		3,017,115	3,870,563
Operating expenses		(19,003,902)	(15,580,598)
Operating profit		1,546,897	4,802,457
Investment revenue		279,487	289,513
Surplus for the year		1,826,384	5,091,970
Other comprehensive income		-	=
Total comprehensive income		1,826,384	5,091,970
Total comprehensive income attributable to:			
Council		1,826,384	5,091,970



# Statement of Changes in Equity

Figures in Lilangeni	Capital reserves	Revaluation reserve	Retained earnings	Total equity
Balance at 01 April 2022	39,154,936	3,199,271	35,324,772	77,678,979
Changes in equity Surplus for the year				
Total changes in capital reserves for the year	(1,339,099)	5,836,464	5,091,970	5,091,970 4,497,365
Total changes	(1,339,099)	5,836,464	5,091,970	9,589,335
Balance at 01 April 2023 Changes in equity	37,815,837	9,035,735	40,416,742	87,268,314
Total comprehensive income for the year Amortisation Additions	(1,293,302) 1,952,083		1,826,384	1,826,384 (1,293,302) 1,952,083
Revaluation as per the valuation roll prepared by Christian Amoako		3,812,665		3,812,665
Total changes	658,781	3,812,665	1,826,384	6,297,830
Balance at 31 March 2024	38,474,618	12,848,400	42,243,126	93,566,144
Note(s)	5	6		



## **Statement of Cash Flows**

Figures in Lilangeni	Note(s)	2024	2023
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	11	1,214,320	(5,200,216
Interest income		279,487	289,513
Net cash from operating activities		1,493,807	(4,910,703)
Cash flows from investing activities			ė.
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	2	(21,661,992)	(5,065,016)
Sale of property, plant and equipment	2	-	1,376,818
Movement in assets under construction		487,312	2,742,878
Net cash from investing activities		(21,174,680)	(945,320)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Movement in capital reserves	5	658,781	_
Movement in borrowings		14,786,745	-
Net cash from financing activities		15,445,526	
Total cash movement for the year		(4,235,347)	(5,856,023)
Cash at the beginning of the year		8,375,551	14,231,574
Total cash at end of the year	4	4,140,204	8,375,551



Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

## **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

#### 1. Presentation of Annual Financial Statements

The annual financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium Entities (SME's), the 102(3) of the Local Government Act, 1969 and Section 93 of the Urban Government Financial Reporting Regulations of 1969.

The annual financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, historical cost basis as modified by the revaluation of land and buildings and incorporate the principal accounting policies set out below. They are presented in Eswatini Emalangeni which is the Council's functional currency. All financial information has been rounded to the nearest one Lilangeni.

#### 1.1 Significant judgements and sources of estimation uncertainty

In preparing the annual financial statements, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts represented in the annual financial statements and related disclosures. Use of available information and the application of judgement is inherent in the formation of estimates. Actual results in the future could differ from these estimates which may be material to the annual financial statements. Significant judgements include:

#### Trade receivables, Held to maturity investments and Loans and receivables

The council assesses its trade receivables, held to maturity investments and loans and receivables for impairment at the end of each reporting period. In determining whether an impairment loss should be recorded in profit or loss, the council makes judgements as to whether there is observable data indicating a measurable decrease in the estimated future cash flows from a financial asset.

The impairment for trade receivables, held to maturity investments and loans and receivables is calculated on a portfolio basis, based on historical loss ratios, adjusted for national and industry-specific economic conditions and other indicators present at the reporting date that correlate with defaults on the portfolio. These annual loss ratios are applied to loan balances in the portfolio and scaled to the estimated loss emergence period.

#### **Provisions**

Provisions were raised and management determined an estimate based on the information available. Additional disclosure of these estimates of provisions are included in note 10 - Provisions.

#### 1.2 Property, plant and equipment

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset when:

- it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the council; and
- the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Property, plant and equipment is initially measured at cost.

Costs include costs incurred initially to acquire or construct an item of property, plant and equipment and costs incurred subsequently to add to, replace part of, or service it. If a replacement cost is recognised in the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment, the carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised.

Property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

Property, plant and equipment is carried at revalued amount, being the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

When an item of property, plant and equipment is revalued, any accumulated depreciation at the date of the revaluation is restated proportionately with the change in the gross carrying amount of the asset so that the carrying amount of the asset after revaluation equals its revalued amount.



Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

## **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

#### 1.2 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

The revaluation surplus in equity related to a specific item of property, plant and equipment is transferred directly to retained earnings when the asset is derecognised.

Property, plant and equipment are depreciated on the diminishing balance method over their expected useful lives to their estimated residual value.

Property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

The useful lives of items of property, plant and equipment have been assessed as follows:

Item	Average useful life
Land, buildings and carports	0%
Road infrastructure	5%
Plant and machinery	10%
Streetlights	10%
Furniture and fittings	10%
Motor vehicles	25%
Office equipment	10%
Computer equipment	33%
Office, market and social centre improvements	10%, 5% & 5%
Pound	5%
Sports ground	0%
Landfill	0%

The residual value, useful life and depreciation method of each asset are reviewed at the end of each reporting period. If the expectations differ from previous estimates, the change is accounted for as a change in accounting estimate.

The depreciation charge for each period is recognised in profit or loss unless it is included in the carrying amount of another asset.

The gain or loss arising from the derecognition of an item of property, plant and equipment is included in profit or loss when the item is derecognised. The gain or loss arising from the derecognition of an item of property, plant and equipment is determined as the difference between the net disposal proceeds, if any, and the carrying amount of the item.

#### 1.3 Financial instruments

#### **Initial recognition**

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised on the council's balance sheet when council becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

#### Subsequent measurement

Financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss are subsequently measured at fair value, with gains and losses arising from changes in fair value being included in profit or loss for the period.

#### **Derecognition**

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the investments have expired or have been transferred and the council has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership.



Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

## **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

#### 1.3 Financial instruments (continued)

#### Impairment of financial assets

At each reporting date the council assesses all financial assets, other than those at fair value through profit or loss, to determine whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets has been impaired.

For amounts due to the council, significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy and default of payments are all considered indicators of impairment.

In the case of equity securities classified as available-for-sale, a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of the security below its cost is considered an indicator of impairment. If any such evidence exists for available-for-sale financial assets, the cumulative loss - measured as the difference between the acquisition cost and current fair value, less any impairment loss on that financial asset previously recognised in profit or loss - is removed from equity as a reclassification adjustment to other comprehensive income and recognised in profit or loss.

Impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss.

Impairment losses are reversed when an increase in the financial asset's recoverable amount can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, subject to the restriction that the carrying amount of the financial asset at the date that the impairment is reversed shall not exceed what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not been recognised.

Reversals of impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss except for equity investments classified as available-for-sale.

Impairment losses are also not subsequently reversed for available-for-sale equity investments which are held at cost because fair value was not determinable.

Where financial assets are impaired through use of an allowance account, the amount of the loss is recognised in profit or loss within operating expenses. When such assets are written off, the write off is made against the relevant allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against operating expenses.

#### Loans to employees

These financial assets are classified as loans and receivables.

#### Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are measured at initial recognition at fair value, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. Appropriate allowances for estimated irrecoverable amounts are recognised in profit or loss when there is objective evidence that the asset is impaired. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default or delinquency in payments (more than 30 days overdue) are considered indicators that the trade receivable is impaired. The allowance recognised is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the effective interest rate computed at initial recognition.

The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account, and the amount of the loss is recognised in profit or loss within operating expenses. When a trade receivable is uncollectable, it is written off against the allowance account for trade receivables. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against operating expenses in profit or loss.

Trade and other receivables are classified as loans and receivables.



Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

## **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

#### 1.3 Financial instruments (continued)

#### Trade and other payables

Trade payables are initially measured at fair value, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and demand deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. These are initially and subsequently recorded at fair value.

#### Bank overdraft and borrowings

Bank overdrafts and borrowings are initially measured at fair value, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the settlement or redemption of borrowings is recognised over the term of the borrowings in accordance with the council's accounting policy for borrowing costs.

#### 1.4 Employee benefits

#### Short-term employee benefits

The cost of all short-term employee benefits is recognised during the period in which the employee renders the related service. The provision for employee entitlement to salaries and annual leave represent the amount the council has a present obligation to pay, as a result of employees' services provided up to the balance sheet date, the provision has been calculated at undiscounted amount based on the current salary rates.

#### Pension obligation

The Council currently operates a defined contribution plan. The Council pays contribution to a privately administered pension plan on a mandatory, contractual or voluntary basis. Once the contribution has been paid, the Council has no further payment obligation. The regular contributions constitute net periodic costs for the year in which they are due and as such are included in staff costs.

#### **Terminal benefits**

Termination benefits are repayable whenever an employees' employment is terminated before the normal retirement date or whenever an employee accepts voluntary redundancy in exchange for these benefits. The Council recognises termination benefits when it is demonstratably committed to either terminate the employment of current employees according to a detailed formal plan without possibility or withdrawal or to provide termination benefits as a result of offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy. Benefits falling due more than 12 months are discounted to present values.

#### **Statutory benefits**

The Council contributes to a statutory fund, Eswatini National Provident Fund (ENPF) in accordance with the Eswatini National Provident Fund Order of 1974.

#### 1.5 Provisions and contingencies

Provisions are recognised when:

- the council has a present obligation as a result of a past event;
- it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; and



Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

## **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

#### 1.5 Provisions and contingencies (continued)

a reliable estimate can be made of the obligation.

The amount of a provision is the present value of the expenditure expected to be required to settle the obligation.

Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

If an entity has a contract that is onerous, the present obligation under the contract shall be recognised and measured as a provision.

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised.

#### 1.6 Government grants

Government grants are recognised when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the council will comply with the conditions attaching to them; and
- the grants will be received.

Grants related to income are presented as a credit in the income statement (separately).

#### 1.7 Revenue

Revenue is recognised when all the following conditions have been satisfied:

- the amount of revenue can be measured reliably;
- it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the council.

Revenue is mainly derived from rates levied in terms of the Rating Act 1995 and service charges. Other income includes Government subvention, interest income, rental income and amortisation of the Government capital grants.

#### Rates

Income is recorded on all rateable properties of the Council in terms of the Rating Act, 1995 and these are recognised on an accrual basis. Rates levied are determined annually and published by the Council.

#### Services charges

These are other fees charged by the Council for services offered to rate payers. These include market and user fees. User fees are recognised on an accrual basis and market fees are recognised on a cash basis.

#### Interest income

Interest is recognised using the effective interest rate on an accrual basis unless collectability is in doubt.

#### **Government capital**

Amortisation of capital reserves are charged at 3.42% into the income statement.

#### 1.8 Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

#### 1.9 Related parties

The major related party to the council apart from its councillors is the Government of Eswatini which exercises a significant influence over its financial and operating decisions as it provides funding for its annual budget. The council received the following allocation for the year under review:



# **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

#### 1.9 Related parties (continued)

Government subvention

630,000

630,000



## Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

Fig. 1. 19		
Figures in Lilangeni	2024	0000
<u> </u>	2024	2023

#### Property, plant and equipment

1	2024			2023		
	Cost / Valuation	Accumulated depreciation	Carrying value	Cost / Valuation	Accumulated depreciation	Carrying value
Land, buildings and carports	26,886,701	-	26,886,701	23,074,036	=	23,074,036
Road infrastructure	57,102,146	(9,900,712)	47,201,434	35,656,334	(8,439,373)	27,216,961
Plant and machinery	5,746,544	(2,210,566)	3,535,978	5,699,735	1-, , ,	3,878,697
Streetlights	4,363,731	(1,834,274)	2,529,457	4,268,019	(1,561,199)	2,706,820
Furniture and fittings	776,115	(395,046)	381,069	751,275	(354,085)	397,190
Motor vehicles	753,190	(677,761)	75,429	753,190	(652,618)	100,572
Office equipment	576,892	(315,703)	261,189	551,047	(289,315)	261,732
Computer equipment	1,237,495	(1,077,153)	160,342	1,214,518	(1,002,893)	211,625
Office, market and social centre improvements	755,165	(316,833)	438,332	755,165	(290,408)	464,757
Pound	111,838	(47,927)	63,911	111,838	(44,563)	67,275
Sports ground	2,923,714	-	2,923,714	2,923,714	(11,000)	2,923,714
Landfill	1,933,932	-	1,933,932	1,933,932	-	1,933,932
Total	103,167,463	(16,775,975)	86,391,488	77,692,803	(14,455,492)	63,237,311

#### Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment - 2024

67,275 2,923,714 1,933,932	- - -	=	(3,364) - -	- - -	63,911 2,923,714 1,933,932
2,923,714	-	-	(3,364)	-	
	-	a <b>-</b>	(3,364)	<b>=</b>	63,911
			**************************************		.50,002
464,757	_	_	(26,425)	_	438,332
211,625	22,976	-	(74,259)	-	160,342
261,732	25,845	-	(26,388)	z <u> </u>	261,189
100,572	-	_	(25,143)	-	75,429
397,190	24,840	-	(40,961)	-	381,069
2,706,820	95,712	_	(273,075)	=	2,529,457
3,878,697	46,809	_	(389,528)	_	3,535,978
27,216,961	20,958,498	487,312	(1,461,337)		47,201,434
23,074,036		_	_	3,812,665	26,886,701
balance		WIP	Doprociation	surplus	Total
Openina	Additions	Transfers from	Depreciation	Revaluation	Total
	23,074,036 27,216,961 3,878,697 2,706,820 397,190	23,074,036 27,216,961 20,958,498 3,878,697 46,809 2,706,820 95,712 397,190 24,840	balance WIP  23,074,036 27,216,961 20,958,498 487,312 3,878,697 46,809 - 2,706,820 95,712 - 397,190 24,840 -	balance         WIP           23,074,036         -         -         -           27,216,961         20,958,498         487,312         (1,461,337)           3,878,697         46,809         -         (389,528)           2,706,820         95,712         -         (273,075)           397,190         24,840         -         (40,961)	balance         WIP         surplus           23,074,036         -         -         -         3,812,665           27,216,961         20,958,498         487,312         (1,461,337)         -           3,878,697         46,809         -         (389,528)         -           2,706,820         95,712         -         (273,075)         -           397,190         24,840         -         (40,961)         -

Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment - 2023



## **Notes to the Annual Financial Statements**

Figures in Lilangeni					7	2024	2023
2. Property, plant and ed	quipment (cont	tinued)					
4.	Opening	Additions	Disposals	Transfers	Revaluations	Depreciation	Total
Land, buildings and	balance 17,237,572				E 027 474		00.074.00
carports	17,237,372	-		-	5,836,464	-	23,074,03
Road infrastructure	23,338,510	1,836,296		3,230,190	_	(1,188,035)	27,216,96
Plant and machinery	3,229,415	2,261,470	(1,298,304)	-	=	(313,884)	
Streetlights	2,097,352	826,087		-	_	(216,619)	
urniture and fittings	351,099	87,715	-	=	-	(41,624)	
Notor vehicles	134,097	:=	-	=	-	(33,525)	
Office equipment	271,545	18,918	-	-	-	(28,731)	261,7
Computer equipment	273,601	34,530	-	=	-	(96,506)	
Office, market and social	492,946	-	-	-	-	(28,189)	464,7
centre improvements	70.015						1000000
ound ports ground	70,815		=	-	-	(3,540)	67,2
andfill	2,923,714 1,933,932	:-1	_	. =	=	-	2,923,7
	52,354,598	5,065,016	(1,298,304)	3,230,190	F 92/ 4/4	(1.050.750)	1,933,9
2_8%	52,334,376	3,063,016	(1,276,304)	3,230,190	5,836,464	(1,950,653)	63,237,3
. Lot 1473 is located next to Peak Pi	rimary School c	and Piaa's Pea	k Maaistrate Co	ourt, off RP		11,020,400	10,600,000
tevens Avenue. The prope Lot 257				our, on Kr		1,505,600	1,400,000
is located next to Pigg's F connecting Pigg's Peak an					)		
. Lot 1485 is located next to Pigg's F property has a market valu			RP Stevens Ave	enue. The		6,482,500	5,600,000
. Lot 1506 is located next to Highlar	nds Inn, along t	he MR1 road c	onnecting Pigg	g's Peak and		1,128,100	1,150,000
awane. The property has . Lot 1507 is located in Mangwener			f E453,401			453,401	227,600
. Lot 933 is located near Pigg's Peo usiness District of Pigg's Pe	ak Fire Station 1	The property is	located within			5,171,700	3,250,000
Osiness District of Figg s Fe	ak rown. me p	Dioperty has a		01 E3,171,700		26,886,701	23,002,600
						20,000,701	20,002,000
Trade and other receives	/ables						
rade receivables							
						22,549,749	17,191,693
						71,691	17,191,693 81,855
taff debtors ther payables - EEC					-	71,691 28,527	



Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

#### Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

Figures in Lilangeni	2024	2023
4. Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash and cash equivalents consist of:		
Cash on hand	45,133	12.017
Bank balances	4,095,071	13,816 8,361,735
ago Persar	4,140,204	8,375,551
3 4V		
Bank balances		
Standard Bank - Current account	416,446	352,734
Standard Bank - CIP current account	104,960	4,022,560
Standard Bank - OPS call current	11,776	3,119,814
Standard Bank - CIP call account	2,124	10,573
Standard Bank - Fixed asset replacement fund	31,176	509,555
Standard Bank - Land sales account	357,568	346,499
Eswatini Development bank - Current account	61,057	_
Standard Bank - Current account -Security for the loan	2,058,793	=
African Alliance - Lilangeni account - Gratuity and ex-gratia	808,089	_
First National Bank - Current account	234,765	=
MTN - Momo account	8,317	-
	4,095,071	8,361,735
5. Capital reserves		
5. Capital reserves		
Opening balance	37,815,837	39,154,936
Addition	1,952,083	-
Amortisation	(1,293,302)	(1,339,099)
State of the state	38,474,618	37,815,837
1 4/2		
Capital reserves	38,474,618	37,815,837

The capital reserves arises from the capitalization of project costs paid out of grants received from the Government of Eswatini and World Bank Projects in the years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 and the capitalisation of assets donated by the Government to the council. The capital reserves are amortised at 3,42%.

The addition of E1,952,083 relates to funds received from the Government of Eswatini towards capital projects. All the funds were utilised in full by end of year.

#### 6. Revaluation reserve

The revaluation reserve arises from the valuation of properties by Christian Amoako & Company in April 2024.



Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

## Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

igures in Lilangeni	2024	2023
3. Revaluation reserve (continued)		
Opening balance	9,035,735	3,199,271
The additions surplus of E3,812,665 is as a result of the 2024 General Valuation Roll which was undertaken by Christian Amoako & Company. The revaluation is on the and and buildings situated on Lots 1471, 1473, 1485, 257, 933, 1506 and 1507.	3,812,665	5,836,464
	12,848,400	9,035,735
Borrowings		
Standard Bank Eswatini	14,786,745	-
the loan with Standard Bank Eswatini was for E16,500,000 (Sixteen Million, Five Hundred housand Emalangeni). The loan was taken for the purpose of upgrading road from gravel to bitumen standard. The loan is for period of 60 months and is repayable semi-annually. It attract interest of prime plus 1% (one percent) and is secured by all of the own Council properties and a pledge and cession restricted to E2,500,000 (Two Million, live Hundred Emalangeni) with Standard Bank Eswatini.		
		_
orrowings	9,830,771	-
Current liabilities		
Sorrowings	4,955,974	-
	14,786,745	-
. Other liabilities		

Auction proceeds arising from unclaimed funds which were received from public auctions of properties whose owners could not be traced. Management through consultations with the Ministry has taken a decision that these funds will be kept in a special account until such a time when the owners or beneficiaries are found.

#### 9. Trade and other payables

	2,959,565	588,453
Other payables	612,735	161,655
Unallocated deposits received	197,812	100,912
Payroll accruals	279,713	(53,719)
VAT	217,463	100,988
Trade payables	1,651,842	278,617



# Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

Figures in Lilangeni	1 P Share Period			2024	2023
1 ,					
10. Provisions					
Reconciliation of provisions - 2024					
Å A					
<u>}</u> 9	Opening	<b>Additions</b>	Utilised during	Adjustment	Total
To NEAS	balance		the year	. tojosii i lorii	TOTAL
Gratuity	848,429	672,830	(725,203)	305,088	1,101,144
Leave days	313,607	26,211	-	-	339,818
Ex-gratia	14,864	73,324	_	iii	88,188
	1,176,900	772,365	(725,203)	305,088	1,529,150
Reconciliation of provisions - 2023					
		Oponina	A dditions	Dikilia and aloudous	<b>*</b> - ! - !
		Opening balance	Additions	Utilised during	Total
Gratuity		706,722	420,692	the year (278,985)	0.40, 400
Leave days		185,957	166,792	(39,142)	848,429 313,607
Ex-gratia Ex-gratia		486,329	14,864	(486,329)	14,864
		1,379,008	602,348	(804,456)	1,176,900
11. Cash generated from operations	-				
Profit before taxation					
Adjustments for:				1,826,384	5,091,970
Depreciation				2,320,481	1 050 /5/
Loss on sale of assets				2,520,401	1,950,656 (78,514
Interest received				(279,487)	(289,513
Movements in provisions				352,250	(202,108
Amortisation of the capital reserves				(1)	(1,339,099
Transfers				1.7	(3,230,192
Changes in working capital:					,
Trade and other receivables				(5,376,419)	(5,973,106
Trade and other payables				2,371,112	(1,130,310
4.				1,214,320	(5,200,216)

#### 12. Contingencies

The Council is being sued by Lucky's Ark Investments an amount of E882,951 in respect of damages claim for burst of water pipe. Possible legal costs for all cases that are currently pending amounts to E60,000.



Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

## Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

Figure 1 - 12		
Figures in Lilangeni	2004	0000
	2024	2023
	Accordance 8	

#### 13. Risk management

#### Financial risk factors

The council's activities expose it to a variety of risk, credit risk, liquidity risk and cash flow interest risk.

The council's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the council.

Risk management is carried out under policies approved by the councillors. The finance department identifies, evaluates and hedges financial risks in operation with the council's operating units. The council provides written principles for overall risk management, as well as written policies covering specific areas, such as foreign exchange risk, interest rate risk, credit risk, use of derivative financial instruments and investment of excess liquidity.

#### Market risk

Market risk includes currency risk, interest rate risk and equity price risk. From time to time derivative financial instruments are entered into to reduce this exposure to market risk.

#### (i) Currency risk

The council was not exposed to significant currency risk at the reporting date.

#### (ii) Interest rate risk

The council's income and operating cash flows are substantially independent of changes in market interest rates and the council primarily borrows and lends at variable rates, and its exposure to interest rate risk is reflected under the respective borrowings.

The sensitivity analyses below have been determined based on the exposure to interest rates for both derivatives and derivative instruments at the end of the reporting period. For floating rate liabilities, the analysis is prepared assuming the amount of the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period was outstanding for the whole year. A 100 basis point increase or decrease is used when reporting interest rate risk internally to key management personnel and represents management's assessment of the reasonable possible change in interest rates.

#### (iii) Legal risk

Legal risk is the risk that the council will be exposed to contractual obligations which have not been provided for.

#### (iv) Operational risk

Operational risk is the risk of direct or indirect loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems or from external events. The initiation of all transactions and their administration is conducted on the foundation of segregation of duties that has been designed to ensure materially the completeness, accuracy and validity of all transactions. These controls are augmented by management and executive review of control accounts and systems, electronic and manual checks and controls, back-up facilities and contingency planning.



Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

## Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

Figures in Lilangeni 2024 2023

#### 13. Risk management (continued)

#### (vi) Liquidity risk

Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash and marketable securities, the availability of funding from an adequate amount of committed credit facilities and the ability to close out market positions. The council remains confident that the available cash resources and borrowing facilities will be sufficient to meet its funding requirements.

#### (vii) Credit risk

Credit risk arises from cash and equivalents, deposits with bank and financial institutions, as well as credit exposures to corporate, government and individual customers, including outstanding receivables and committed transactions.

#### (viii) Cash flow and fair value interest rate risk

The council's income and operating cash flows are affected, but not to a significant extent, by change in the market interest rates. The council's interest rate risk arises from long term borrowings. Borrowings issued at variable rates exposes the council to cash flow interest rate risk. Borrowings issued at fixed rates expose the council to fair value interest rate risk. The council's borrowings are mainly variable interest rate borrowing and as such they expose the council to cash flow risk

#### Fair value estimation

The nominal value less impairment provision of trade payables and receivables are assumed to approximate their fair values. The fair value of financial liabilities for disclosure purposes is estimated by discounting the future contractual cash flows at the current market interest rate available to the council for the council for similar financial instruments.

Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash and marketable securities, the availability of funding through an adequate amount of committed credit facilities and the ability to close out market positions. Due to the dynamic nature of the underlying businesses, council treasury maintains flexibility in funding by maintaining availability under committed credit lines.

#### 14. Comparative figures

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified.



## **Detailed Statement of Financial Performance**

Figures in Lilangeni	Note(s)	2024	2023
Revenue			
Rates revenue		20,068,230	18,738,334
Government subvention		630,000	630,000
		20,698,230	19,368,334
Discoular and a second			17,000,001
Direct costs Transfer from direct cost statement		(2.1/4.54/)	10.055.0401
Gross profit		(3,164,546)	(2,855,842)
•		17,533,684	16,512,492
Other income Amortisation of capital reserves		1 000 000	
Gains on disposal of assets		1,293,302	1,339,099
Interest received		-	78,514
		279,487	289,513
Market fees and user charges Other income		677,932	693,472
Rental income		28,527	440,310
Interest on overdue rates		752,416	1,319,168
indest of everage rates		264,938 <b>3,296,602</b>	4,160,076
		3,270,002	4,100,076
Operating expenses		101 0 %	
Advertising		432,045	310,516
Auditors remuneration		55,660	48,760
Bank charges		90,008	77,993
Cleaning		24,036	30,099
Computer expenses		270,100	167,221
Consulting fees		1,650,961	639,143
Councillors fees		656,934	467,174
Crime prevention and special programmes		19,875	8,760
Depreciation  FSICA Correct		2,320,481	1,950,656
ESIGA Games		82,436	76,866
Elections expenses		-	300,000
Electricity and Water		227,767	273,598
Employee costs		8,483,069	7,560,850
Finance charges		450,460	-
Hospitality Insurance		296,965	290,066
Internal audit		206,280	394,143
Legal fees		174,513	74,583
		361,393	55,745
Motor vehicles expenses - fuel, repairs and maintenance Printing and stationery		761,144	868,957
Protective clothing		124,369	147,400
Public health and environmental awareness		171,747	186,664
Rates incentives		179,675	102,931
Social responsibility and public information		78,209	37,856
Social services expenses		221 400	18,354
Staff welfare and uniform		331,499	380,928
Subscriptions		228,152	67,171
Telephone and fax		32,155	48,753
TOTO PROTECTION		202,445	205,610



# **Detailed Statement of Financial Performance**

Surplus for the year		1,826,384	5,091,970
		19,003,902	15,580,598
Travelling and subsistence allowances		985,918	656,780
Training of staff and councillors		105,606	133,021
Figures in Lilangeni	Note(s)	2024	2023



## **Statement of Direct Costs**

Figures in Lilangeni	Note(s)	2024	2023
Electrical contractor		89,485	77,969
Floodlights and Streetlights electricity	*	849,913	731.718
Refuse management		40.080	10,000
Repairs and maintenance - council structures		134,762	60,138
Repairs and maintenance - public structures		450,501	476,119
Road and sidewalk maintenance		246,064	276,810
Security rangers		1,029,521	816,794
Streetlights maintenance		313,260	277,530
Weed control chemicals		10,960	128,764
		3,164,546	2,855,842
Direct costs for the year		3,164,546	2,855,842



# Detailed Statement of Financial Performance - Budget Vs Actual

	iai i chomiance	- budger vs	ACTUAL
Figures in Lilangeni	Note(s)	2024	2023
Income		Albert Disposer Albert	
Rates revenue	20 529 223	20 068 230	
Government subvention	630 000	630 000	460 993
		830 000	-
	21 159 223	20 698 230	460 993
Direct Cost			
Electrical contractor	127 800	89 485	38 315
Floodlights and streetlights electricity	840 331	849 913	(9 582)
Refuse management	130 565	40 080	90 485
Repairs and maintenance - council structu	208 770	134 762	74 008
Repairs and maintenance - public structur	521 674	450 501	71 173
Road and sidewalk maintenance Security rangers	321 391	246 064	75 327
Streetlights maintenance	793 638	1 029 521	(235 883)
Weed control chemicals	333 622	313 260	20 362
Treed comor chemicals	114 143	10 960	103 183
Gross profit	3 391 934 17 767 289	3 164 546	227 388
Other Income	17 767 289	17 533 684	233 605
Amortisation of capital reserves	_	1 293 302	(1 293 302)
Interest received	60 000	279 487	(219 487)
Market fees and user charges	559 800	677 932	(118 132)
Other Income	-	28 527	(28 527)
Rental income Interest on overdue rates	1 338 721	752 416	586 305
interest on overque rates		264 938	(264 938)
	1 958 521	3 296 602	(1 338 081)
Operational expenses			
Advertising	469 742	132 045	07.407
Auditors remuneration	92 220	432 045 55 660	37 697
Bad debts	25 000	-	36 560
Bank charges	92 000	90 008	25 000 1 992
Cleaning	25 776	24 036	1 740
Computer expenses	214 460	270 100	(55 640)
Consulting fees	1 662 471	1 650 961	11 510
Councillors fees	614 804	656 934	(42 130)
Crime prevention and special programme	16 200	19 875	(3 675)
Depreciation	=	2 320 481	(2 320 481)
Electricity and water	348 606	227 767	120 839
Employee costs	8 488 851	8 483 069	5 782
Finance charges	-	450 460	(450 460)
Hospitality	354 124	296 965	57 159
nsurance	197 999	206 280	(8 281)
nternal audit	171 940	174 513	(2 573)
egal fees	353 611	361 393	(7 782)
Motor vehicles expenses - fuel, repairs and	1 193 004	761 144	431 860
Printing and stationery	124 791	124 369	422
Protective clothing	200 864	171 747	29 117
Public health and environmental awarene Rates incentive	220 831	179 675	41 156
ESIGA Games	80 000	78 209	1 791
Social services expenses	75 686	82 436	(6 750)
taff welfare and uniform	426 384	331 499	94 885
Subscriptions	267 597	228 152	39 445
elephone and postage	69 200	32 155	37 045
raining of staff and councillors	202 445	202 445	* ***
ravelling and subsistence allowance	151 594 1 031 594	105 606	45 988
	17 171 793	985 918 <b>19 003 902</b>	45 676 (1 832 109)
urplus for the year	2 554 017	1 826 384	727 633
	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH		