

Message from the Executive Mayor

The first quarter of the 2008/09 financial year was completed with especially lots of activity taking place on the LED/Tourism front.

We have successfully signed a Memorandum of understanding with Unisa to use the talented unemployed graduate students from the district to help fight unemployment and poverty within disadvantaged communities.

School learners have been given further opportunity through the business plan competition run in September to give them a taste of what the real world has to offer.

I had the opportunity to be part of the Older Persons Day on the 3rd October 2008. It is an existing myth today that our older generation no longer contribute to society.

Increasingly, however, we find seniors

who continue to be outstanding in their career fields, starting new careers and making the world better. I take my hat off to them.

I am very pleased to say that the district municipality is well on tract to deliver on its mandate and myself, Council and the administration are working diligently to improve even further on service delivery.

Let me also take this opportunity to wish our matric students all the success with their upcoming finals and also all the other learners who will be preparing for their respective grade exams. The youth is our future and therefore occupies a very important place in society.



**The Executive Mayor
Mr Achmat Florence**

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From the Municipal Manager's Desk

It gives me great pleasure to reflect on the first quarter of the 2008 financial year. Contrary to taking things slow during the first quarter, ours has been business unusual.

The financial statements for the 2007/08 financial year were prepared and submitted to the Auditor General Office. The auditing has started and should be completed within three months. We are hopeful to maintain a clear audit report following the clear bill of health, a feat that was achieved by only two municipalities in the Province.

Our Council Imbizo went on smoothly. This consultative process enables Council to engage with the communities in the district with regard to their needs and also to allow them to assess our performance as a municipality.

This is a good mechanism to gauge the feeling of communities on service delivery. During the period under review we prepared a budget process plan as per requirement of the MFMA which requires the process to commence 10 months before the start of the financial year.

In the same breath, the IDP framework plan was also developed to guide local municipalities with the IDP preparation.

Council through the IDP review process determines strategic objectives for service delivery and development for the next three-year budgets including review of provincial and national government sector and strategic plans. Both these processes are linked together and have to unfold in a parallel manner.

The municipality has again entered the Vuna Awards for Excellence Performance. We have won the award two years in succession, ac-

cumulating an amount of R1.5m for the municipality. Winning it again will be a moment to cherish.



**Municipal Manager,
Mr Thabo Nosi**

EVENTS CALENDAR

20 - 26 Oct:

Imbizo Focus Week

06 Nov:

Product Owners meeting in Dikgatlong (Guesthouse & hotel owners, tourguides, SMMEs, etc)

08 Nov:

National Children's Day (to be held in the District)

19 Nov:

Outreach Programme: Agri-tourism Workshop (DMA)

25 Nov - 10 Dec:

16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children Campaign

26 Nov - 08 Dec:

Metropolitan Cosafa U20 Championship (hosted in Kimberley)

01 Dec:

World Aids Day

Crisis sparks new electricity dispensation

The electricity supply crisis in South Africa at the start of 2008 has not only strongly focussed the broader public, business and multilevel government attention on the energy regime, but has set in motion a process that is already changing the entire nature of the electricity dispensation in the country.

Minister of Minerals and Energy Buyelwa Sonjica said in July, at the time of introducing a new Energy Bill in parliament, that South Africa would put in place measures to ensure that diverse energy resources in sustainable quantities and at affordable prices would be made available to the country's economy.

While South Africans can expect dramatic changes on the electricity front, some of which are already in progress, not all will occur overnight and the country is not out of the woods as far as the electricity crisis is concerned. In June this year Jacob Maroga, CEO of Eskom Holdings said that "this is a five-to-eight-year emergency" and added that "we may well have to change key institutions to be able to manage this properly. We cannot assume that the current institutions, in their current form, will be able to get the job done."

Eskom's stranglehold

One of the major changes already occurring - driven by economic, environmental and practical realities of the day - is the lightening of Eskom's stranglehold on the supply side. Increasingly, business corporations and even government are making their own plans to not only lessen their reliance on Eskom-generated electricity, but in some instances to also explore the possibility of delivering surpluses over and above their own

needs into the national supply grid.

During a seminar in April in Cape Town between South African and Russian energy experts, it was suggested that Russia's model of public-private partnerships could make a contribution locally to solving electricity supply problems. The Russians had an arrangement where the state controlled nuclear energy and 80% of hydroelectric power, while gas and coal power were in the hands of private enterprise.

In the South African context, however, there are still certain obstacles in the way of a large-scale private sector contribution to solving electricity supply-side constraints. The electricity regulatory environments in the country are big obstacles to cogeneration projects because the private sector was not going to invest in projects when it knew Eskom would only sign contracts for five years until it could replace such generation with its own capacity. In this regard, the existing pricing structure would need to be addressed to make private sector participation economically viable on a large scale, beyond limited generation aimed only at self-reliance.

New electricity mix, new players

It is not, however, only on the private sector front where there is a move away from a complete reliance on Eskom. As part of Cape Town's largest ever housing project - the N12 Gateway project - the Department of Housing was pioneering energy efficiency methods that could reduce the reliance on fossil fuels and ease the demand for electricity from state-owned Eskom.

On the local government front, the City of Johannesburg Mayor Amos Masondo earlier this year said there

are plans to make 745MW of electricity available to the national grid over the next 18 months.

Muddled distribution

Finding ways to boost South Africa's electricity generation capacity alone does not mean that the country will reach the end of the dark electricity tunnel. With so much emphasis being placed on the present electricity generation constraints, there is a risk that electricity distribution would be neglected further.

There are still some obstacles in the way of a large-scale private sector contribution

A Nersa audit into 11 distribution utilities found that large municipal distribution utilities like Johannesburg's City Power and those in other bigger cities were faltering and that smaller distribution utilities were significantly under-resourced and that the skills shortage was core to the problems they were experiencing. Distribution is in the process of being restructured into six regional electricity distributors (REDS), through EDI Holdings into which municipalities and Eskom were transferring their electricity distribution business.

The process is aimed at addressing problems stemming from inefficiencies due to fragmentation, inadequate maintenance of networks, inequitable tariffs from area to area, and slow and inconsistent roll-out of free basic electricity.

Each RED would be owned by the government, with a 51% share held by national government and 49% shared by the municipalities within the particular region and proportional to their individual share of distribution turnover.

Article courtesy of Piet Coetzer (Service: Leadership in Local Government)

The IDP Planning & Review Process

Integrated Development Plans (IDPs) are required to be undertaken by all District and Local Municipalities.

The IDPs set out the development vision for the municipality and aligns this to dedicated projects to be undertaken over the life span of the IDP (5 years). IDPs are constructed to a five year plan but are required to be reviewed periodically.

Why is it necessary to do an IDP?

There are six(6) main reasons why a municipality should have an IDP:

1. Effective use of scarce resources

The IDP will help the local municipality focus on the most important needs of local communities taking into account the resources available at local level.

The local municipality must find the most cost-effective ways of providing services and money will be spent on the causes of problems in local areas. For example, a municipality may decide to allocate resources to building a canal that will prevent homes being damaged during the flood season. This will reduce the financial burden placed on the municipality's emergency services.

2. It helps to speed up delivery

The IDP identifies the least serviced and most impoverished areas and points to where municipal funds should be spent. Implementation is made easier because the relevant stakeholders have been part of the process.

The IDP provides deadlock-breaking mechanisms to ensure that projects and programmes are efficiently implemented. The IDP helps to develop realistic project proposals based on the availability of resources.

3. It helps to attract additional funds

Government departments and private investors are willing to invest where municipalities have clear development plans.

4. Strengthens democracy

Through the active participation of all the important stakeholders, decisions are made in a democratic and transparent manner.

The preparation of the IDP review process is regulated by the Municipal Systems Act, 2000. Sections 27 and 28 of the Municipal Systems Act set out for the adoption of a Framework for integrated development planning and a Process Plan. Section 21 of the Municipal Finance Management Act of 2003 states that the mayor must, at least 10 months before the start of the budget year, table to Council a time schedule outlining key deadlines for the annual review of the IDP.

5. Helps to overcome the legacy of apartheid

Municipal resources are used to integrate rural and urban areas and to extend services to the poor.

6. Promotes co-ordination between local, provincial and national government

The different spheres of government are encouraged to work in a co-ordinated manner to tackle the development needs in a local area.

For example: The Department of Health plans to build a clinic in an area.

It has to check that the municipality can provide services like water and sanitation for the effective functioning of the clinic.

The Process Plan and Framework are two distinct documents which are talking to each other. The **Process Plan** is a management tool which guides the planning, drafting, adoption and review of the IDP. It is prepared by both the District and the local municipalities. The **Framework** which is prepared by the District is a coordination tool which helps to ensure interrelated parallel planning processes at district and local level.

Frances Baard District Municipality adopted the Process Plan and the Framework for the Review 2008/09 and Planning 2009/10 on the **30th July 2008**.

The District municipality, in consultation with the local municipalities in its area of jurisdiction drafted the IDP Process Plan and Framework Plan to guide and manage the 2008-2009 IDP Review process and Planning for 2009-2010. (see table)

MONTH	PHASE	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	TARGET DATE	LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS
July-Sept	Preparation (Analysis Phase)	Assessment of the implementation of the 2007-2008 IDP projects.	July 2008	
		Identify the limitations and shortcomings of the 2007-2008 IDP's.	August 2008	
		Undertake an assessment of the implementation of all Sector Plans and Integrated Programmes	August 2008	
		Prepare and present for discussion a draft IDP Process Plan to the District IDP Steering Committee.	August 2008	
		Submit the draft IDP Process Plan to Council for adoption.	August 2008	Section 28 (1) Municipal Systems Act 2000
		Identify all updated and available information for Statistics SA and other stakeholders for all municipalities.	August 2008	
		Identify, discuss and adopts proposals from the IDP Analysis report, IDP Engagements and the Guidelines for the preparation of IDP's.	September 2008	
July-Sept.	Consultation (Strategy)	Identify all sector plans Integrated Programmes to be reviewed.	September 2008	
		Facilitate and organise local municipalities IDP Rep Forum workshops to discuss priority issues for the next financial year (2009/10) Facilitate the identification of priority issues, strategic objectives and strategies for each municipality.	September 2008	Section 29(1)(b) – Municipal Systems Act 2000
		Consolidate municipal issues and develop district-wide priority issues and strategies. Undertake consultation with Sector Departments and other stakeholders.	September 2008	
Oct - Dec	Consultation (Projects)	Formulate IDP projects for 2009-2010 financial year.	October 2008	
		Align local municipal IDP projects with Sector Strategic plans/budgets	October 2008	IDP Guidelines
		Align proposed municipal projects with Dept. Sector Plans and other stakeholders.	October 2008	IDP Guidelines
		Convene a district-wide workshop that includes Sector Departments to discuss proposed IDP projects from each municipality.	November 2008	IDP Guidelines
		Undertake strategic Planning workshop for the district municipality.	November 2008	IDP Guidelines
		Convene IDP Representative Forum workshop to discuss potential funded IDP projects for 2009-2010 financial year.	November 2008	
		Identify and consolidate district-wide IDP projects.	December 2008	
January	Drafting (Integration)	Prepare and finalise Draft District Integrated Development Plan	January 2009	
		Present Draft District IDP to IDP Steering Committee, Municipal Managers, HOD's and Managers	January 2009	
Feb – June	Approval	Present the Draft District Integrated Development Plan to the District IDP Representative Forum (for comments)	February 2009	Section 29(1)(b)(ii) Municipal Systems Act 2000
		Advertise Draft District IDP in local news, media for scrutiny and comments	February 2009	Section 21A Municipal Systems Amendment Act 2003 Section 15(3) – Municipal Planning and Performance Management Regulations 2001
		Present final District IDP to Council for adoption	30 March 2009	Section 17 (2) (d) Municipal Finance Management Act 2003
		Submit copies of approved District IDP to MEC for Local Government.	May / June 2009	Section 32 (1) (a) Municipal Systems Act 2000
		Submit copies of approved District IDP to Provincial Sector Departments, DPLG and other stakeholders.	June 2009	
		Post the approved District IDP to the website of the municipality.	June 2009	Section 21A – Municipal Systems Amendment Act 2003

Schools compete for top honours

The LED / Tourism Unit of the Frances Baard District Municipality hosted a high school business plan competition in September 2008 and an awards ceremony took place on September, 30th 2008.

Competition Objectives

The aim of the competition was to promote tourism development and to sensitize learners with regard to the importance of tourism. Through this competition the LED / Tourism Unit aspired to promote entrepreneurship amongst learners and encourage them to think creatively about the role of information and communication technologies in tourism development.

Sectors for the competition

► Guest House

An existing home, a renovated home or a building that has been specially designed to provide overnight accommodation. A Guest House will have public areas for the exclusive use of its guests. A Guest House is a commercial operation enterprise and as such the owner or manager may live on the property.

► Tourism and Transport

The provision of any services, products or facilities to domestic or international tourists. Render services on aspects of transportation of passengers or goods.

► Agri-Tourism

A working farm or any agricultural, horticultural or agri-business operation for the purpose of enjoyment, education or active involvement in the activities of the farm or operation.

► Leisure –Tourism

The following tourism activities can be considered i.e. Spa, Cultural Village, Outdoor Activities

The competition presented learners with the opportunity to practically develop their business plan writing skills and have their business plans evaluated by experts.

► Mining- Tourism

Small / large scale mining operation affording tourists an opportunity to experience the different processes and methods of diamond mining. Can be coupled with historic mining information such as buildings, machinery and equipment, graveyards , museums, etc.

Criteria

Entrants could enter a business plan focussing on the guesthouse, transport and tourism, agri-tourism, leisure-tourism and mining-tourism industries. The business plan had to cater for a new enterprise.

The entries were judged by a panel of business plan writing and tourism experts who evaluated each business plan in terms of physical presentation, market understanding and analysis, innovativeness and creativity, nature of product or service, marketing and sales strategy, quality of financial data/projections, use of technology in the business and likely viability of business.

Prizes / Awards

Sponsors for the prizes have been sourced by the LED / Tourism Unit. All participants were awarded with a certificate for participation and the overall winning business plan will be submitted for funding within the business sector it entered.

The Winners

Overall Winner:	
Tshireleco High School	R20,000
First Runner-up:	
Boresetse High School	R12,500
Second Runner-up:	
Boresetse High School	R8,000
Category Winner (Guest House):	
Tshireleco High School	R5,500
Category Winner (Mining-Tourism):	
Boresetse High School	R5,500
Category Winner (Agri-Tourism):	
William Pescod High School	R5,500

Category Winner (Leisure-Tourism):

Elizabeth Conradie School R5,500

Runner-up (Leisure-Tourism):

Kby. Girls High School R5,500

Winning Business Plan:

Tshireleco High School: "Phatsimo Guest House"

Way Forward

The LED Unit will be setting up meetings with various institutions such as SEDA, ABSA and DEAT to discuss the winning business plan and how it can be further developed. The idea is to bring the business plan up to standard so as to meet the requirements for seeking further funding.



The Judges: Seated from left to right:
Mr Brandon Baatjies (ABSA), Ms Drienie Samson (DTEC), Ms Sharon Lewis (NCTA), Mr The-kisho Manjinja (SEDA), Ms Sharon Steyn (NOCCI), Ms Neo Poolo (Sol Plaatje - Tourism)



Overall Winner: Tshireleco High School



Category Winner (Guest House): Tshireleco High School



Category Winner (Agri-Tourism): William Pescod High School



Category Winner (Mining-Tourism): Boresetse High School



Category Winner (Leisure-Tourism):
Elizabeth Conradie School



COUNCIL MEETS THE PEOPLE 2008

This year's programme took place from 18 - 21 August 2008 in Ganspan (Jan Kempdorp), Warrenton, Delpportshoop and Riverton.

Issues raised

The issues that formed a central point throughout the four venues were housing, infrastructure, electricity and water.

Heartening was the fact that the community did show an interest in how processes and programmes worked by asking questions such as, 'what is the difference between a capital and an operational budget'. Increasingly people also questioned how the IDP process works and indicated that they were eager to contribute in this activity.

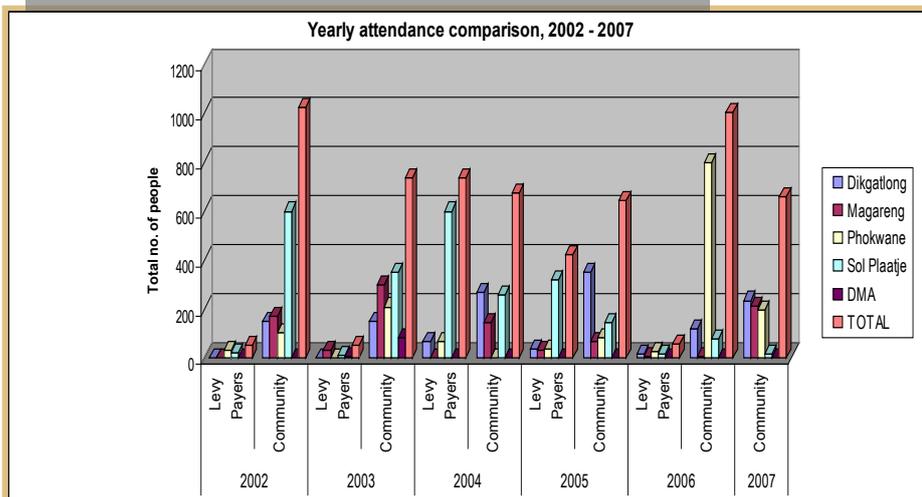
There were also huge interest in Local Economic Development (LED) and what is being done to create job opportunities for the unemployed.

What became clear is the very important role that is played by ward councillors and the degree of contact that is maintained with their constituencies. These councillors and the community development workers are critical links to ensure that the needs of ordinary people are heard and responded to.

At all the meetings the local councillors had an opportunity to really interact with their community and some discussions even continued after the meeting had been adjourned.

Date	Town	Venue
Community Meetings		
18/08/2008	Jan Kempdorp (Ganspan)	Ganspan Community Hall
19/08/2008	Warrenton	Warrenvale Community Hall
20/08/2008	Delpportshoop	Proteahof Community Hall
21/08/2008	Riverton	Riverton Tea Room

Attendance per municipality	
Dikgatlong	166
Magareng	120
Phokwane	276
Sol Plaatje	88
TOTAL	650



Partnership for entrepreneurship development through higher education

The FBDM and UNISA signed a memorandum of understanding to utilise Unisa students and unemployed graduates from the District to service youth interested in entrepreneurship development.

Through the Partnership for Entrepreneurship Development in Higher Education (PEDHE) Unisa hopes to bring about among unemployed students and graduates a mindset change.

PEDHE is intended to keep unemployed Unisa students productively occupied while they study part-time, and at the same time it contributes to the greater challenge of job creation.

What it entails

PEDHE is a partnership between Unisa and various organisations to facilitate entrepreneurship promotion and development amongst university students and their communities.

It is geared at mobilising resources and people to promote student role in community development through entrepreneurship, motivated by the need to fight unemployment and poverty within disadvantaged communities.

Projects undertaken as part of PEDHE

► **STEP** (Skills Training for Entrepreneurship Promotion):

This takes the form of three days workshop focusing on entrepreneurship awareness and skills to identify business opportunities and start a new enterprise.

► **SIFE** (Students in free enterprise):

This is a community outreach initiative targeting all interested students to promote entrepreneurship in their communities.



The Executive Mayor, Cllr. Achmat Florence and the Speaker, Cllr. Maria Chwarisang with the students who have completed the interviews, Unisa and other key role players.

"We aim to encourage young people with brilliant ideas to translate these into entrepreneurship so they can help create jobs instead of look for jobs".

- Seomanele Mashishi

► Business Plan competition

In order to encourage STEP participants in pursuing their business ideas we run Annual business plan competition. This is aimed at measuring skills, creating awareness, providing support to design plans, and also linked to business funding.

Benefit to the District?

The LED Unit of the FBDM can use the program to reach out to the communities through the mobilisation of unemployed youth into the program.

Together with Unisa co-establish the program and develop training focus areas. Utilise Unisa students and unemployed graduates to service youth interested in entrepreneurship development.

Interviews for graduates were scheduled on 28 August 2008 and a total of 16 candidates were interviewed, which will form the group to be deployed to the local municipalities. A two week induction/training programme is scheduled to take place next.

The official launch of the programme was held on the 15th September 2008 at the Flamingo Casino. Role players who attended included Banks, Department of Economic Affairs, Agriculture, local LED Managers, SEDA, UNISA representatives and the Mayor and Speaker of FBDM.



Maturation Pond

Refurbishment of Waste Water Treatment Plant

The existing Waste Water Treatment Plant of the Magareng Municipality has been in need of serious refurbishment whilst funding is being secured for the construction of a new waste water treatment plant.

Due to operation and maintenance problems the existing works deteriorated to such an extent that the treatment processes were either not fully functional or totally ceased.

With funding commitments from Frances Baard District Municipality, the Northern Cape Department of Housing and Local Government and the Northern Cape Regional Office of Department Water Affairs and Forestry the project to refurbish the works were implemented.

The implementation team consists of individuals from the following institutions:

- Frances Baard District Municipality
- Magareng Municipality
- Department Water Affairs and Forestry
- Department Housing and Local Government
- The Development Bank of South Africa
- Stabilis Consulting Engineers

DID YOU KNOW....

South Africa is a water-scarce country, and the demands on this resource are growing as the economy expands and the population increases. For the country to continue to develop economically, while meeting the wide-ranging needs for water, urgent steps must be taken to protect the quality of the resource. It is well known that water sources are subjected to frequent dramatic changes in microbial and chemical qualities as a result of the variety of activities on the watershed. These changes are caused by discharges of municipal raw waters or treated effluent at a specific point-source into the receiving waters such as streams, rivers, lakes, ponds etc. (Gieldereich, 1990). Point-source pollution problems not only increase treatment costs considerably, but also introduce a wide range of potentially infectious agents to waters that may be supplied to many rural and urban communities, thus resulting in incidences of waterborne diseases with far reaching socio-economic implications (Craun, 1991).



Reactivated sludge pumps and sump



One of four horizontal shaft aerators that will be replaced with internal pasveer ditch wall to be repaired



Buccaneer type Free Flow Chlorination System



New installed walkway over grit channels to ease the cleaning of the screens.



Sludge Dry Beds with minor plant re-growth

Inlet Works

Only outstanding activity is the supply and installation of a flow meter. Procurement is in process. After installation of the flow meter the inlet will be acceptably functional.

Pasveer Ditch

New aerators must be ordered. Supply, installation and commissioning of aerators will take twelve to sixteen weeks from date of order. The existing blowers will have to suffice until the aerators are installed.

Clarifier

The clarifier has been emptied. The concrete structure is sound and no defects were detected on the concrete. The contractor at present is replacing the scrapers, repairing the total drive chain and securing the inner plate. Work done on the clarifier will be completed by end of September 2008.

Reactivated Sludge Pumps and Sump

Works will include supply, refurbishment and / or replacement of pumps, flow meter and switch gear.

Sludge Dry Beds

The sludge dry beds were initially cleaned and all plant growth removed. Minor plant re-growth has occurred. All the valves to the dry beds were serviced and only need to be painted.

Maturation Pond

The maturation pond must still be cleaned to remove anaerobic matter and return the pond to an aerobic state. The cleaning of the maturation pond will coincide with the acquiring and installation of the aerators.

Chlorine Dosing and Contact Channel

A new chlorination system has been installed at the contact channel. The Buccaneer type Free Flow Chlorination System has been installed with two pumps on a manual alternative duty function. The effectiveness of the chlorination process has been questioned due to the state of the maturation pond. A sample was taken by Department Water Affairs and Forestry and the results are awaited.

STAFF NEWS

External Appointments



Kagisho Marwane
IT Technician



Masego Gaseemelwe
Environmental Health
Practitioner



Tumelo Ndlazi
HR Practitioner



Eric Thlageng
Asst. Accountant
(Supply Chain)



Jimmy Loff
IT Intern



Lerato Oor
IT Intern



Thapelo Mariba
Audit Intern



Boitumelo Kgomangwe
Audit Intern

Long service awards

Name	Appointment Date	Years
S Jansen van Rensburg	01/08/1993	15 yrs
L Parage	01/06/1998	10 yrs
K Mocumi	01/06/1998	10 yrs
M Pienaar	01/07/1998	10 yrs
J Njovu	04/08/1998	10 yrs

Resignations / Terminations

Name	Resignation Date
A Ralph	30/06/2008
D Goso	29/08/2008
K Feder	04/09/2008
M King	30/09/2008

Internal Appointments

Name	Position
F Mdee	Director: Planning & Development
P Thabane	Reprographer
A Segapo	Senior Reprographer
J Njovu	Secretary: Speaker
L Ndlazi	Clerk: Supply Chain
G Makoti	Senior Clerk: Asset Management
C Hoffman	Secretary: Planning & Development

Editorial Note

The focus in this edition was very much on the youth and entrepreneurship development.

More and more we see government shifting its focus to helping especially young people to "help themselves" through exactly the kind of partnerships as undertaken with Unisa.

This is evident in the developmental programmes cutting across key government areas to encourage the formation of youth focal points within municipalities.

Also featured in this issue was the CMP programme which is part of community participation to ensure that the public is kept abreast with what the district municipality and its local municipalities are doing towards addressing the issues they identify through these contact sessions.

The issue also dealt with water treatment plants and the impact it has on our water supply.

Your comments are welcome as we would like to make this publication informative and interesting.

Gerline Roman

Editor



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Mark started at the FBDM in 1996 as a mechanic. He remained in the employ of Council for 12 years but is sadly leaving us at the end of September 2008. He will be missed for his wit and good humour by all his colleagues.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- Lerato Goeieman who obtained her B Tech: Tourism Management
- Clifford Jones who obtained his Diploma in Disaster Management
- Nomama Kgantsi who obtained her Masters Degree: Public Administration