

# **uBuhlebezwe Municipality**

(Registration number KZN 434)

Trading as UBUHLEBEZWE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2016

## **Accounting Policies**

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### **1.3 Significant judgements and sources of estimation uncertainty (continued)**

Specifically, whether the Municipality, when goods are sold, had transferred to the buyer the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods and when services are rendered, whether the service has been performed. The management of the Municipality is satisfied that recognition of the revenue in the current year is appropriate.

#### ***Provision for Staff leave***

Staff leave is accrued to employees according to collective agreements. Provision is made for the full cost of accrued leave at reporting date. This provision will be realised as employees take leave or when employment is terminated.

#### ***Componentisation of Infrastructure assets***

All infrastructure assets are unbundled into their significant components in order to depreciate all major components over the expected useful lives. The cost of each component is estimated based on the current market price of each component, depreciated for age and condition and recalculated to cost at the acquisition date if known or to the date of initially adopting the standards of GRAP.

### **1.4 Materiality**

Material omissions or misstatement of items are material if they could, individually or collectively, influence the decision or assessments of user made on the basis of the financial statement. Materiality depends on the nature or size of the omission or misstatement judged in the surrounding circumstances. The nature or size of the information item, or a combination of both, could be the determining factor. Materiality is determined as 1% of total expenditure.

### **1.5 Investment property**

Investment property is property (land or a building - or part of a building - or both) held to earn rentals or for capital appreciation or both, rather than for:

- use in the production or supply of goods or services or for
- administrative purposes, or
- sale in the ordinary course of operations.

Owner-occupied property is property held for use in the production or supply of goods or services or for administrative purposes.

Investment property is recognised as an asset when, it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential that are associated with the investment property will flow to the municipality, and the cost or fair value of the investment property can be measured reliably.

Investment property is initially recognised at cost. Transaction costs are included in the initial measurement.

Where investment property is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, its cost is its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

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### 1.5 Investment property (continued)

Costs include costs incurred initially and costs incurred subsequently to add to, or to replace a part of, or service a property. If a replacement part is recognised in the carrying amount of the investment property, the carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised.

Property held for sale in the ordinary course of operations or in the process of construction or development for such sale, in which case property held exclusively with a view to subsequent disposal in the near future or for development for resale is classified as inventory.

#### Subsequent Measurement

Subsequent measurement to initial recognition, items of investment property are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Land is not depreciated as it is deemed to have an infinite useful life.

The annual depreciation rates are based on the following estimated useful lives

Item	Average useful life
Land	Infinite
Buildings	25 - 30

### 1.6 Property, plant and equipment

#### Initial Recognition

Property, Plant and Equipment are tangible, non-current assets (including infrastructure assets) that are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, rental to others, or for administrative purposes, and are expected to be used during more than one period.

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

- it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the municipality; and
- the cost of the item can be measured reliably

Where an item of property, plant and equipment is acquired in exchange for a nonmonetary asset or monetary assets, or a combination of monetary and non-monetary assets, the assets acquired is initially measured at fair value (the cost).

If the acquired item's fair value is not determinable, its deemed cost is the carrying amount of the asset(s) given up.

Major spare parts and servicing equipment qualify as property, plant and equipment when the Municipality expects to use them during more than one period. Similarly, if the major spare parts and servicing equipment can be used only in connection with an item of property, plant and equipment, they are accounted for as property, plant and equipment.

#### Subsequent Measurement – Cost Model.

Subsequent to initial recognition, items of property, plant and equipment are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Land is not depreciated as it is deemed to have an indefinite useful life. Where the Municipality replaces parts of an asset, it derecognises the part of the asset being replaced and capitalises the new component. Subsequent expenditure incurred on an asset is capitalised when it increases the capacity or future economic benefits or service potential associated with the asset.

#### Depreciation.

Depreciation is calculated on the depreciable amount, using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Depreciation of an asset begins when it is available for use, i.e. when it is in the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management. Components of assets that are significant in relation to the whole asset and that have different useful lives are depreciated separately. The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at each year end, with the effect of any changes in estimate accounted for on a prospective basis. The annual depreciation rates are based on the following estimated useful lives:



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

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

Item	Depreciation method	Average useful life
Land	Straight line	Infinite
Buildings	Straight line	25 - 30
Finance Lease Assets	Straight line	3
Plant and Equipment	Straight line	10 -20
Furniture and office equipment	Straight line	5-15
Motor vehicles	Straight line	7
Computer equipment	Straight line	5-10
Infrastructure - Cemeteries	Straight line	15-30
Machinery and equipment	Straight line	5-15
Infrastructure - Electricity	Straight line	15 -30
Infrastructure - Road	Straight line	15 - 55
Infrastructure - Solid Waste Disposal	Straight line	10 - 55
Heritage Asset	Straight line	Infinite
Specialised vehicles	Straight line	10-20

Property, plant and equipment are reviewed at each reporting date for any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. The impairment recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance is the excess of the carrying value over the recoverable amount.

An impairment is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment been recognised. A reversal of impairment is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

#### De-recognition.

Items of property, plant and equipment are derecognised when the asset is disposed or when there are no further economic benefits or service potential expected from the use of the asset. The gain or loss arising on the disposal or retirement of an item of property, plant and equipment is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value and is the Statement of Financial Performance.

### 1.7 Intangible assets

#### Initial Recognition

- is separable, i.e. is capable of being separated or divided from an entity and sold, transferred, licensed, rented or exchanged, either individually or together with a related contract, identifiable assets or liability, regardless of whether the entity intends to do so; or
- arises from binding arrangements (including rights from contracts), regardless of whether those rights are transferable or separable from the municipality or from other rights and obligations.

A binding arrangement describes an arrangement that confers similar rights and obligations on the parties to it as if it were in the form of a contract.

An intangible asset is recognised when:

- it is probable that the expected future economic benefits or service potential that are attributable to the asset will flow to the municipality; and
- the cost or fair value of the asset can be measured reliably.

The municipality assesses the probability of expected future economic benefits or service potential using reasonable and supportable assumptions that represent management's best estimate of the set of economic conditions that will exist over the useful life of the asset.

Where an intangible asset is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, its initial cost at the date of acquisition is measured at its fair value as at that date.

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### 1.7 Intangible assets (continued)

Expenditure on research (or on the research phase of an internal project) is recognised as an expense when it is incurred.

An intangible asset arising from development (or from the development phase of an internal project) is recognised when:

- it is technically feasible to complete the asset so that it will be available for use or sale.
- there is an intention to complete and use or sell it.
- there is an ability to use or sell it.
- it will generate probable future economic benefits or service potential.
- there are available technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the asset.
- the expenditure attributable to the asset during its development can be measured reliably.

#### Subsequent Measurement – Cost Model.

Intangible assets are subsequently carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairments losses. The cost of an intangible asset is amortised over the useful life where that useful life is finite. Where the useful life is indefinite, the asset is not amortised but is subject to an annual impairment test.

#### Amortisation and Impairment

Amortisation is charged so as to write off the cost or valuation of intangible assets over its estimated useful lives using the straight line method. Amortisation of an asset begins when it is available for use, i.e. when it is in the condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management. Components of assets that are significant in relation to the whole asset and that have different useful lives are amortised separately. The estimated useful lives, residual values and amortisation method are reviewed at each year end, with the effect of any changes in estimate accounted for on a prospective basis. The annual amortisation rates are based on the following estimated useful lives.

Internally generated brands, mastheads, publishing titles, customer lists and items similar in substance are not recognised as intangible assets.

Internally generated goodwill is not recognised as an intangible asset.

Amortisation is provided to write down the intangible assets, on a straight line basis, to their residual values as follows:

Item	Useful life
Computer software, internally generated	5 years

Intangible assets are derecognised:

- on disposal; or
- when no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its use or disposal.

The gain or loss is the difference between the net disposal proceeds, if any, and the carrying amount. It is recognised in surplus or deficit when the asset is derecognised.

### 1.8 Heritage assets

Assets are resources controlled by an municipality as a result of past events and from which future economic benefits or service potential are expected to flow to the municipality.

Carrying amount is the amount at which an asset is recognised after deducting accumulated impairment losses.

Cost is the amount of cash or cash equivalents paid or the fair value of the other consideration given to acquire an asset at the time of its acquisition or construction or, where applicable, the amount attributed to that asset when initially recognised in accordance with the specific requirements of other Standards of GRAP.

Heritage assets are assets that have a cultural, environmental, historical, natural, scientific, technological or artistic significance and are held indefinitely for the benefit of present and future generations.



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### **1.8 Heritage assets (continued)**

The Municipality classifies assets as Heritage Assets where the significance as a heritage asset can be determined. In regards to land and buildings all graded sites are classified as a Heritage Assets, furthermore land with a natural significance is not componentised but seen as a single Heritage asset due to all parts contributing together to make up its significance

#### **Recognition**

The municipality recognises a heritage asset as an asset if it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the asset will flow to the municipality, and the cost or fair value of the asset can be measured reliably. Heritage assets are initially recognised at cost on its acquisition date or in the case of assets acquired by grant or donation, deemed cost, being the fair value of the asset on initial recognition. The cost of an item of heritage assets is the purchase price and other costs attributable to bring the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the municipality. Trade discounts and rebates are deducted in arriving at the cost. The cost also includes the necessary costs of dismantling and removing the asset and restoring the site on which it is located.

Where an asset is acquired by the municipality for no or nominal consideration (i.e. a non- exchange transaction), the cost is deemed to be equal to the fair value of that asset on the date acquired.

The cost of an item of heritage assets acquired in exchange for a non-monetary assets or monetary assets, or a combination of monetary and non-monetary assets is measured at the fair value of the asset given up, unless the fair value of the asset received is more clearly evident. If the acquired item could not be measured at its fair value, its cost is measured at the carrying amount of the asset given up.

#### **Initial measurement**

Heritage assets are measured at cost.

Where a heritage asset is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, its cost is measured at its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

#### **Subsequent measurement**

Subsequent expenditure relating to heritage assets is capitalised if it is probable that future economic benefits or potential service delivery associated with the subsequent expenditure will flow to the entity and the cost or fair value of the subsequent expenditure can be reliably measured. Subsequent expenditure incurred on an asset is only capitalised when it increases the capacity or future economic benefits associated with the asset. Where the municipality replaces parts of an asset, it derecognises the part of the asset being replaced and capitalises the new component.

Subsequently all heritage assets (excluding Heritage assets which are land and buildings) are measured at cost, less accumulated impairment losses. Heritage assets are not depreciated.

Subsequent to initial recognition, land and buildings which qualify as Heritage Assets are carried at cost.

De-recognition of heritage assets.

The carrying amount of an item of heritage assets is derecognised on disposal, or when no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its use or disposal.

The gain or loss arising from the de-recognition of an item of heritage assets is included in surplus or deficit when the item is derecognised. Gains or losses are calculated as the difference between the carrying value of assets (cost less accumulated impairment losses) and the disposal proceeds is included in the Statement of Financial Performance as a gain or loss on disposal of heritage assets.

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### **1.9 Receivables**

Receivables are classified as financial assets at amortised cost, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

For amounts due from debtors carried at amortised cost, the Municipality first assesses whether objective evidence of impairment exists individually for financial assets that are individually significant, or collectively for financial assets that are not individually significant. Objective evidence of impairment includes significant financial difficulties of the debtor, Probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation and default or delinquency in payments (more than 90 days overdue). If the Municipality determines that no objective evidence of impairment exists for and individually assessed financial assets, whether significant or not, it includes the assets in a group of financial assets with similar credit risk characteristics and collectively assesses them for impairment. Assets that are individually assessed for impairment and for which an impairment loss is, or continues to be, recognised are not included in a collective assessment of impairment.

If there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows (excluding future expected credit losses that have not yet been incurred)

The carrying amount of the assets is reduced through the use of an allowance account and the amount of the loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance. Interest income continues to be accrued on the reduced carrying amount based on the original effective interest rate of the asset. Loans together with associated allowance are written off when there is no realistic prospect of future recovery and all collateral has been realised or has been transferred to the municipality. If, in a subsequent year, the amount of the estimated impairment loss increases or decrease because of an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the previously recognised impairment loss or increased or reduced by adjusting the allowance account. If a future write off is later recovered, the recovery is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

The present value of the estimated future cash flows is discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate, if material. If a loan has a variable interest rate, the discount rate for measuring any impairment loss is the current effective interest rate.

### **1.10 Payable and Annuity Loans**

#### **Payables and Annuity Loans**

Financial liabilities consist of payables and annuity loans. They are cauterised as financial liabilities held at amortised cost, and are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using an effective interest rate, which is the initial carrying amount, less repayments, plus interest.



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### 1.11 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash includes cash on hand (including, petty cash) and cash with banks). Cash equivalents are short-term highly liquid investments, readily convertible into unknown amounts of cash that are held with registered banking institutions with maturities of three months or less and are subject to an significant risk of change in value. For the purposes of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, highly liquid deposits and net of bank overdrafts.

The Municipality categorise cash and cash equivalents as financial assets carried at amortised cost. Bank overdrafts are recorded based on the facility utilised. Finance charges on bank overdraft are exposed as incurred. Amounts owing in respect of the bank overdrafts are categorised as financial liabilities carried at amortised cost.

### De-recognition of Financial Instruments

#### Financial Assets

A financial asset (or, where applicable a part of a financial asset or part of a group of similar financial assets) is derecognised when:

- The rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired; or
- The Municipality has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from the asset or has assumed an obligation to pay the received cash flows in full without material delay to a third party under a 'pass-through' arrangement; and either

a) The Municipality has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, or

b) The Municipality has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the assets, but has transferred control of the asset.

When the Municipality has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from an assets or has entered into a pass-through arrangement, and has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset nor transferred control of the asset, the old asset is derecognised and a new asset is recognised to the extent of the Municipality's continuing involvement in the asset. Continuing involvement that takes the form of guarantee over the transferred asset is measured the lower of the original carrying amount of the asset and the maximum amount of consideration that the Municipality could require to repay. When continuing involvement takes the form of a written and or/ purchased option (including a cash settled option or similar provision) on the transferred asset, the extent of the Municipality's continuing involvement is the amount of the transferred asset that the Municipality may repurchase, except that in the case of a written put option (including a cash settled option or similar provision) on an asset measured at fair value, the extent of the municipality's continuing involvement is limited to the lower of the fair value of the transferred asset and the option exercise price.

#### Financial Liabilities

A financial liability is derecognised when the obligation under the liability is discharged or cancelled or expires. When an existing financial liability is replaced by another from the same lender on substantially different terms, or the terms of an existing liability are substantially modified, such as exchange or modification is treated as a de-recognition of the original liability and the recognition of a new liability, and the difference in the respective carrying amounts is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

### Offsetting of Financial Instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the Statement of Financial Position if, and only if, there is a currently enforceable legal right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or to realise the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously.

### 1.12 Financial instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or a residual interest of another entity.

Financial instruments recognised on the Statement of Financial Position include receivables (both from exchange transactions and non-exchange transactions), cash and cash equivalents, annuity loans and payables (both from exchange and non-exchange transactions) and non-current investments.



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### 1.12 Financial instruments (continued)

#### Initial recognition

The entity recognises a financial asset or a financial liability in its statement of financial position when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument plus, in the case of a financial asset or financial liability not at fair value, transactions costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of the financial asset or financial liability.

#### Subsequent measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities

The entity measures all financial assets and financial liabilities after initial recognition using the following categories:

- Financial instruments at fair value.
- Financial instruments at amortised cost.
- Financial instruments at cost.

All financial assets measured at amortised cost, or cost, are subject to an impairment review.

### 1.13 Tax

#### Taxes - Value Added Tax

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amounts of value added tax. The net amount of Value Added Tax recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position

### 1.14 Leases

A lease is classified as a finance lease if it transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership. Property, plant and equipment or intangible assets (excluding licensing agreements for such items as motion picture films, video recordings, plays, manuscripts, patents and copyrights) subject to finance lease agreements are initially recognised at the lower of the asset's fair value and the present value of the minimum lease payments. The corresponding liabilities are initially recognised at the inception of the lease and are measured as the sum of the minimum lease payments due in terms of the lease agreement, discounted for the effect of interest. In discounting the lease payments, the Municipality uses the interest rate that exactly discounts the lease payments and unguaranteed residual value to the fair value of the asset plus any direct costs incurred. Subsequent to initial recognition, the leased assets are accounted for in accordance with the stated accounting policies applicable to property, plant and equipment, investment property or intangibles assets. The lease liability is reduced by the lease payments, which are allocated between the lease finance cost and the capital repayment using the effective interest rate method. Lease finance costs are expensed when incurred.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the leased assets are accounted for in accordance with the stated accounting policies applicable to property, plant and equipment, investment property or intangibles assets. The lease liability is reduced by the lease payments, which are allocated between the lease finance cost and the capital repayment using the effective interest rate method. Lease finance costs are expensed when incurred. The accounting policies relating to de-recognition of financial instruments are applied to lease payables.

A lease is classified as an operating lease if it does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership. Operating leases are those leases that do not fall within the scope of the above definition. Operating lease rentals are recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant lease. The difference between the straight-lined expenses and actual payments made will give rise to a liability. The Municipality recognises the aggregate benefit of incentives as a reduction of rental expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis unless another systematic basis is representative of the time pattern of the lessee's benefit from the use of the leased asset.

### 1.15 Inventories

#### Initial Recognition

Inventories encompass goods purchased and held for resale including, for example, merchandise purchased by an entity and held for resale, or land and other property held for sale. Inventories also consist of raw materials, work in progress, consumables and finished goods, which are valued at the lower of cost, determined on the first in first out basis, and net realisable value, except for goods which are valued at the tariffs charged.



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### **1.15 Inventories (continued)**

Investment property is recognized as an asset when and only when:

- a) It is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential that are associated with the item will flow to the Municipality, and
- b) The cost of the inventories can be measured reliably.

#### **Measurement at Recognition**

Inventories are initially measured at cost except where inventories are acquired through a non-exchange transaction, then their costs are their fair value as at the date of acquisition. Subsequently inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and current replacement cost where they are held for;

- distribution at no charge or for a nominal charge; or
- consumption in the production process of goods to be distributed at no charge or for a nominal charge.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of operations less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale, exchange or distribution.

Current replacement cost is the cost the municipality incurs to acquire the asset on the reporting date.

The cost of inventories comprises of all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the inventories to their present location and condition.

The cost of inventories of items that are not ordinarily interchangeable and goods or services produced and segregated for specific projects is assigned using specific identification of the individual costs.

#### **Measurement After Recognition**

Where it is held for distribution or consumption at no charge or for a nominal amount, inventories are valued at the lower of cost and current replacement value. Cost of inventories comprises all costs of purchase, cost of conversion, and other costs incurred in bringing the inventories to their present location and condition.

Redundant and slow moving inventories are identified and written down to their estimated net realisable values. Consumables are written down according to their age, condition and utility. Differences arising on the measurement of such inventory at the lower of cost and net realisable value are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance in the year in which they arise. The amount of any reversal of any write-down of inventories arising from an increase in net realisable value or current replacement cost is recognised as a reduction in the amount of inventories recognised as an expense in the period in which the reversal occurs.

When inventories are sold, the carrying amounts of those inventories are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related revenue is recognised. If there is no related revenue, the expenses are recognised when the goods are distributed, or related services are rendered. The amount of any write-down of inventories to net realisable value or current replacement cost and all losses of inventories are recognised as an expense in the period the write-down or loss occurs. The amount of any reversal of any write-down of inventories, arising from an increase in net realisable value or current replacement cost, are recognised as a reduction in the amount of inventories recognised as an expense in the period in which the reversal occurs.

### **1.16 Impairment of non-cash-generating assets**



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### 1.16 Impairment of non-cash-generating assets (continued)

#### Cash-generating asset

Cash-generating assets are assets held with the primary objective of generating a commercial return. The Municipality assesses at each reporting date whether there is an indication that an asset may be impaired. If any indication exists, or when annual impairment testing for an asset is required, the Municipality estimates the asset's recoverable amount. In assessing whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired, the municipality considers the following indications

##### *a) External sources of information.*

- During the period, an asset's market value has declined significantly more than would be expected as a result of the passage of time or normal use.
- Significant changes with an adverse effect on the Municipality have taken place during the period, or will take place in the near future, in the technological, market, Economic or legal environment in which the Municipality operates or in the market to which an asset is dedicated .
- Market interest rates or other market rates of return on investments have increased during the period, and those increases are likely to affect the discount rate used in calculating an asset's value in use and decrease the asset's recoverable amount materially.

##### *b) Internal sources of information*

- Evidence is available of obsolescence or physical damage of an asset.
- Significant changes with an adverse effect on the Municipality have taken place during the period, or are expected to take place in the near future, in the extent to which ,or manner in which, an asset is used or is expected to be used. These changes include the asset becoming idle, plans to discontinue or restructure the operation to which an asset belongs, plans to dispose of an asset before the previously expected date, and reassessing the useful life of an asset as finite rather than indefinite.
- Evidence is available from internal reporting that indicates that the economic performance of an asset is, or will be, worse than expected.

An asset's recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's or cash-generating units (CGU) fair value less costs to sell and its value in use and is determined for an individual asset, unless the asset does not generate cash inflows that are largely independent of those from other assets.

Where the carrying amount of an asset or CGU exceeds its recoverable amount, the assets are considered impaired and is written down to its recoverable amount. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. In determining fair value less costs to sell, an appropriate valuation model is used. Impairment losses are recognized in the Statement of Financial Performance in those expense categories consistent with the function of the impaired asset.

An assessment is made at each reporting date as to whether there is any indication that previously recognized impairment losses may no longer exist or may have decreased. If such indication exists, the Municipality estimates the asset's or CGU's recoverable amount. A Previously recognized impairment loss is reversed only if there has been a change in the assumptions used to determine the asset's recoverable amount since the last impairment loss was recognized.

The reversal is limited so that the carrying amount of the asset does not exceed its recoverable amount, nor exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation, had no impairment loss been recognized for the asset in prior years. Such reversal is recognized in the Statement of Financial Performance.

#### Non-cash-generating assets

Non-cash-generating assets are assets other than cash –generating asset. The Municipality assesses at each reporting date whether there is an indication that an asset may be impaired.

If any indication exists, or when annual impairment testing for an asset is required, the Municipality estimates the asset's recoverable amount. In assessing whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired, the Municipality considers the following indications:

##### *a) External sources of information*

- Significant changes with an adverse effect on the Municipality have taken place during the period, or will take place in the



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### 1.16 Impairment of non-cash-generating assets (continued)

near future, in the technological, market, economic or legal environment in which the Municipality operates or in the market to which an asset is dedicated. Cessation, or near cessation, of the demand or need for services provided by the asset.

- Significant long-term changes with an adverse effect on the Municipality have taken place during the period or will take place in the near future, in the technological, legal or government policy environment in which the Municipality operates.

#### *b) Internal sources of information*

- Evidence is available of physical damage of an asset.  
- Significant long-term changes with an adverse effect on the Municipality have taken place during the period, or are expected to take place in the near future, in the extent to which, or manner in which, an asset is used or is expected to be used. These changes include the asset becoming idle, plans to discontinue or restructure the operation to which an asset belongs, or plans to dispose of an asset before the previously expected date.

- A decision to halt the construction of the asset before it is complete or in a usable condition

- Evidence is available from internal report that indicates that the service performance of an asset is or will be, significantly worse than expected. An asset's recoverable service amount is the higher of a non-cash-generating asset's fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. If the recoverable service amount of an asset is less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable service amount. That reduction is an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

The value in use of a non-cash-generating asset is the present value of the asset's remaining service potential. The present value of the remaining service potential of the asset is determined using any one of the following approaches, depending on the nature of the asset in question:

**Depreciation replacement cost approach** - the present value of the remaining service potential of an asset is determined as the depreciated replacement cost of the asset. The replacement cost of an asset is the cost to replace the asset's gross service potential. This cost is depreciated to reflect the asset in its used condition. An asset may be replaced either through reproduction (replication) of the existing asset or through replacement of its gross service potential. The depreciated replacement cost is measured as the reproduction or replacement cost of the asset, whichever is lower, less accumulated depreciation calculated on the basis of such cost, to reflect the already consumed or expired service potential of the asset.

**Restoration cost approach** - the cost of restoring the service potential of an asset to its pre-impaired level. Under this approach, the present value of the remaining service potential of the asset is determined by subtracting the estimated restoration cost of the asset from the current cost of replacing the remaining service potential of the asset before impairment. The latter cost is usually determined as the depreciated reproduction or replacement cost of the asset, whichever is lower.

**Service unit approach** - the present value of the remaining service potential of the asset is determined by reducing the current cost of the remaining service potential of the asset before impairment, to conform to the reduced number of service units expected from the asset in its impaired state.

As in the restoration cost approach, the current cost of replacing the remaining service potential of the asset before impairment is usually determined as the depreciated reproduction or replacement cost of the asset before impairment, whichever is lower.

Fair value less costs to sell is the amount obtainable from the sale of an asset in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties, less the costs of disposal.

The Municipality assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that an impairment loss recognised in prior periods for an asset may no longer exist or may have decreased.

If any such indication exists, the Municipality estimates the recoverable service amount of that asset. An impairment loss recognised in prior periods for an asset is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the asset's recoverable service amount since the last impairment loss was recognised. If this is the case, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to its recoverable service amount

The increased carrying amount of an asset attributable to a reversal of an impairment loss does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined (net of depreciation or amortisation) had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior periods. Such a reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.



# **uBuhlebezwe Municipality**

(Registration number KZN 434)

Trading as UBULEBEZWE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2016

## **Accounting Policies**

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### **1.17 Employee benefits**

#### **Short-term employee benefits**

The cost of short-term employee benefits, (those payable within 12 months after the service is rendered, such as paid vacation leave and sick leave, bonuses, and non-monetary benefits such as medical care), are recognised in the period in which the service is rendered and are not discounted.

The expected cost of compensated absences is recognised as an expense as the employees render services that increase their entitlement or, in the case of non-accumulating absences, when the absence occurs.

The expected cost of surplus sharing and bonus payments is recognised as an expense when there is a legal or constructive obligation to make such payments as a result of past performance.

#### **Defined contribution plans**

Council employee's contribution to the Natal Joint Municipal Pension Fund. The retirement benefit fund is subjected to the Pension Fund Act, 1956, with pension being on the pensionable remuneration.

A defined contribution plan as a under which the municipality pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. The Municipality has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions if the fund does not hold sufficient asset to pay all employees the benefits relating to service in the current or prior periods. The municipality's contribution to the defined contribution funds are established in terms of the rules governing those plans. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance in the period in which the service is rendered by the relevant employees. The municipality has no further payment obligations once the contributions have been paid.

#### **Defined benefit plans**

A defined benefit plan is a post-employment benefit plan other than a defined contribution plan. The municipality and its employees contribute to the Natal Joint Municipal Pension Fund which is a defined contribution fund. The e payment of retirement benefits are charged against income in the year they become payable. Natal Joint Superannuation & Retirement Funds are defined benefit funds. The Natal Joint Provident Fund is a contribution fund

The schemes are funded through payments to fund administrator or trustee-administered funds, determined by periodic actuarial calculations. The Municipality has both defined benefit and defined contribution plans..

Defined benefit plans have been accounted for as defined contribution plans in accordance with the requirements on multi-employer plans where sufficient information is not available to account for such plans as defined benefit plans. As the fund administrators do not have sufficient information available to allocate the shortfall on liabilities to individual employers, no liability is recognised for any shortfall of fund asset as compared to fund liabilities. Any surcharges that may be levied by the fund from time to time in order to compensate for shortfalls, are recognised as expenses in the period in which they become payable to the fund. As surcharges are advised long in advance, based on actuarial valuations of the fund as a whole, the necessary provision for the payment thereof is made in the course of the municipality's normal budgeting processes.

### **1.18 Provisions and contingencies**

Provisions are recognised when the Municipality has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resource embodying economic benefits or service potential will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate of the provision can be made

Provisions are reviewed at reporting date and adjusted to reflect the current best estimate of future outflows of resources. Where the effect is material, non-current provisions are discounted to their present value using a discount rate that reflects the market's current assessment of the time value of money, adjusted for risks specific to the liability.

The Municipality does not recognise a contingent liability unless the probability of an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits or service potential is remote.