



UBUHLEBEZWE MUNICIPALITY

2017/2018 - DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

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MAYOR'S FOREWORD



The year under review, 2017/18, welcomed a few changes, both at an administrative and political level. This was the year that the 'new' Councillors got to truly experience how a Municipality functions. It has indeed been a year of growth. At the end of 2017, we were able to have all section 54A and 56 management positions filled, and the biggest challenge therefore, was to ensure stability within the institution during this transitional phase.

The Municipality recorded progress in achieving objectives in terms of the six key performance areas applicable to local government, Council prioritised projects that would have a lasting impact and those which could be a catalyst within our communities. Our objective as Council is to see a change in our communities, an improvement in the lives of our people.

In 2017/18, we prioritised the construction of new gravel roads namely, Harold Nxasana, Butateni, Mkhwanazi, Spreza and Mncadi Roads, all of which have been completed. We have also completed the construction of Kintail Hall.

This was also the year for the completion of the Mkhunya electrification project and the Jeffrey Zungu Sportsfield, which we have achieved. We have continued to support our farmers and cooperatives with funding and resources all of which, is contained in more detail in this Annual Performance Report.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all Councilors, officials, and the residents of Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality for their dedication, support and co-operation, which enable the institution to excel and withstand all the challenges it faces. May this Spirit of Togetherness always remain with us.

Cllr. ZD Nxumalo
Mayor

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S FOREWORD



This 2017/18 Performance Report of UBuhlebezwe Municipality, which reflects our service delivery achievements and challenges, is presented in recognition of our obligation to be an accountable and transparent organization. Such annual reporting on performance is also required from all municipalities in terms of various pieces of legislation, from the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Section 46 of the Local Government: Municipal System Act No. 32 of 2000 and Section 121 and 127(2) of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act No.56 of 2003. Municipal Performance is the key priority for the Municipal Manager. Aside from ensuring the day to day smooth running of the organisation in terms of enforcing policy, it is also the duty of the Accounting Officer to ensure that the Municipality achieves all its targets in accordance with the six Key Performance Areas. On Municipal Transformation and Capacity Building, towards the end of the year 2017, UBuhlebezwe welcomed two HOD's, namely, the CFO and Director: Social Development. We were glad to have been able to fill these positions because in order to maintain a high standard of performance, key positions should be filled with capable candidates. Even though the Municipality continues to experience a high level of employee turnover, our Corporate Services Department stays on top of our recruitment processes and ensures that positions are not left vacant for too long. I am glad to state that UBuhlebezwe Municipality is still very much financially viable, our finances are well and adequately managed. The conclusion of the 2016/17 audit processes resulted in the Municipality receiving an unqualified audit opinion from the Auditor General. This Annual Performance Report will show how the Municipality performed in terms of Basic Service delivery and Infrastructure, the projects that we undertook in 2017/18, to improve the lives of our communities and the status of these at the end of the financial year. It will also give an indication of the footprint that we have within our communities in terms of our Public Participation, Social Development Programs and promotion of Arts and Culture. We thank our Council for their progressive minded outlook on development and for creating a conducive environment for the Administration arms of the Municipality to carry out their duties

GM Sineke – Municipal Manager

VISION

“To provide affordable quality services through good governance”

MISSION STATEMENT

“UBuhlebezwe Municipality will strive to deliver an appropriate level of service to all of its citizens by the year 2025 and alleviate poverty by promoting sustainable development through good governance and accountability.”

ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS:

AFS	Annual Financial Statements
AG	Auditor -General
CIP	Consolidated Infrastructure Plan
COGTA	Corporative Governance and traditional Affairs
CPMD	Certificate Programme in Management Development
DOT	Department Of Transport
EXCO	Executive Committee
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
IGR	Intergovernmental Relations
LGSETA	Local Government Sectoral Education and Training Authorities
MFMA	Municipal Finance Management Act
MIG	Municipal Infrastructure Grant
MSA	Municipal Systems Act
MTAS	Municipal Turnaround Strategy
PMS	Performance Management Systems
SCM	Supply Chain Management
MPAC	Municipal Public Accounts Committee
SDBIP	Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan
SMME	Small Medium Micro Enterprise
ODETD	Occupation Directed Education and Training Development Programme
WSP	Workplace Skills Plan
APAC	Audit & Performance Audit Committee

MUNICIPAL POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

In terms of the Municipal Structures Act No. 117 of 1998 UBuhlebezwe Municipality (KZ434) is classified as a Category B Municipality and falls within the Harry Gwala District Municipality (DC43). This act made provision of the division of powers and functions between the district and local municipalities with the most day to day service delivery functions being delegated to local municipalities and the District wide to District Municipalities. UBuhlebezwe Municipality is responsible for a number of functions some of which are not being performed due to lack of capacity. The Municipality has entered into shared service with Harry Gwala District Municipality in some of the functions

UBuhlebezwe Municipality has executive authority in respect of, and has the right to administer the local government matters listed below:

Functions	Function currently performed		Capacity to perform the function		Levels of capacity	Alternative measures in place(function not performed or no capacity)	Municipal Action
	Yes	No	Yes	No			
Amusement facilities	-	x	-	X	-	-	-
2. Air pollution	-	x	-	X	-	-	There is no demand no action required
3 Building Regulations	x	-	x	-	Limited capacity there is only one building inspector responsible for all building related activities. Law enforcement not effectively executed.	-	Deal with contraventions effectively

Functions	Function currently performed		Capacity to perform the function		Levels of capacity	Alternative measures in place(function not performed or no capacity)	Municipal Action
	Yes	No	Yes	No			
4. Child care facilities	-	x	-	X	-	Community driven function.	The municipality coordinates Sukuma Sakhe where departments sit and look at the adequacy and Department of Social Development builds creches
5. Case of Burial of Pauper and Human Remains	-	X	-	X	-	-	Maintenance of facilities

Functions	Function currently performed		Capacity to perform the function		Levels of capacity	Alternative measures in place(function not performed or no capacity)	Municipal Action
	Yes	No	Yes	No			
6. Fire Fighting	X	-	x	-	Municipality has a functional capacity and is gradually increasing human resources	-	The municipality creates awarenesses and responds in case of accidents. Disaster Management Plan caters for fire fighting functions
7. Local Tourism	X	-	x	-	Limited due to financial constraints and minimum skills	-	The municipality adopted a Tourism strategy and is working with local tourism owners to uplift

Functions	Function currently performed		Capacity to perform the function		Levels of capacity	Alternative measures in place(function not performed or no capacity)	Municipal Action
	Yes	No	Yes	No			
							tourism within the economic space
8. Municipal Planning	X		x		Limited capacity to perform all planning functions. There is the Manager Planning with only Town Planner.	-	Planning shared to assist in this regard
9. Municipal Public Transport	-		-	X	-	-	Planning has been done by the District
10. Storm water	X	-	x	-	Performed internally. Limited Financial and human resources to	-	Maintenance of storm water facilities are done internally.

Functions	Function currently performed		Capacity to perform the function		Levels of capacity	Alternative measures in place(function not performed or no capacity)	Municipal Action
	Yes	No	Yes	No			
					perform this function fully.		
11. Trading Regulations	X	-	x	-	Municipal Bylaws are enforced with limited resources	-	The municipality reviewed Bylaws and training of Peace Officers
12. Billboard and display of advertisement in public places	X	-	x	-	Municipal Bylaws are enforced	-	Signage Bylaws and strengthen law enforcement
13. Cemeteries ,funeral	X	-	x	-	-	-	Maintenance and allocation of graves.

Functions	Function currently performed		Capacity to perform the function		Levels of capacity	Alternative measures in place(function not performed or no capacity)	Municipal Action
	Yes	No	Yes	No			
parlour and crematoria							
14. Cleansing	X	-	x	-	-	-	Daily to day activity
15. Control Public nuisance	X	-	x	-	-	-	By-laws are in place and enforced
16. Fencing and fences	X	-	x	-	-	-	No action required
17. Licensing of dog	X	-	x	-	Limited capacity	-	By-laws in place and enforced
18. Licensing and control undertakings that sell food to the public	-	x	-	X	Municipality has licenced informal traders	Each case is treated base on its own merits	Harry Gwala District municipality conducts Environmental Health inspections to ensure

Functions	Function currently performed		Capacity to perform the function		Levels of capacity	Alternative measures in place(function not performed or no capacity)	Municipal Action
	Yes	No	Yes	No			
							that formal shops also get licenced
19. Local amenities	X	-	x	-	-	-	Ixopo Town Regeneration to address the lack of amenities within the municipal area.
20. Local Sports facilities	X	-	x	-			Continuously maintain community sports field within the municipality
21. Markets	-	x	-	X	-	-	The municipality deals with the markets

Functions	Function currently performed		Capacity to perform the function		Levels of capacity	Alternative measures in place(function not performed or no capacity)	Municipal Action
	Yes	No	Yes	No			
							through the informal traders policy
22. Parks and recreation	X	-	x	-	-	-	Continuously Maintain and beautify parks and gardens
23. Pontoons and ferries	-	x	-	X	-	-	No action required
24. Pounds	-	x	-	X	-	-	Municipality in a process of establishing a pound in terms of the Pounds Act. Lots of stray

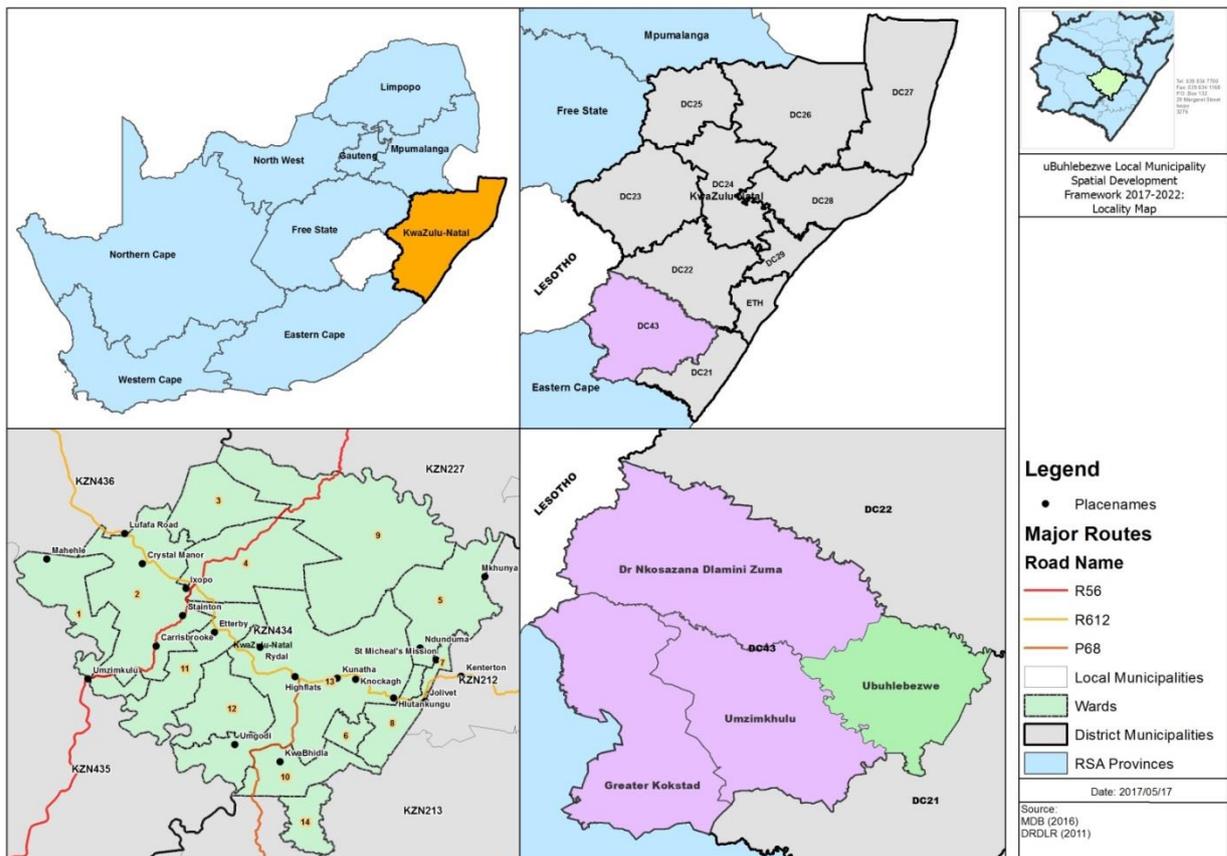
Functions	Function currently performed		Capacity to perform the function		Levels of capacity	Alternative measures in place(function not performed or no capacity)	Municipal Action
	Yes	No	Yes	No			
							animals around the municipal area
25. Municipal Roads	X	-	x	X	This function is performed by PMU Unit under the supervision of the Director IPD		municipal roads are maintained as per the maintenance plan
26. Municipal airport	-	x	-	X	-	-	No action required
27. Municipal Abattoir	-	x	-	X	-	-	No action required
28. Noise pollution	-	x	-	X	By-laws in place	-	Bylaws enforced by community safety unit

Functions	Function currently performed		Capacity to perform the function		Levels of capacity	Alternative measures in place(function not performed or no capacity)	Municipal Action
	Yes	No	Yes	No			
29. Public places	X	-	-	X	Functioned performed to a limited extent due to financial constraints	-	-
30 Refuse Removal and Solid Waste Disposal	X	-	-	X	Municipality does not have a landfill site	The Municipality utilizes UMzikhulu Municipality's land fill to dump refuse.	The municipality to acquire land for the landfill site in partnership Department of Land Affairs
31 Street trading	X	-	x	-	Limited number of Peace Officers	-	The municipality to train more Peace Officers

Functions	Function currently performed		Capacity to perform the function		Levels of capacity	Alternative measures in place(function not performed or no capacity)	Municipal Action
	Yes	No	Yes	No			
32 Street Lighting	X	-	X	-	Capacity is limited relying to ESKOM.	-	Municipality is negotiating with ESKOM to take over the street lighting after completion of the project.
33. Traffic and parking	x	-	x	-	-	-	No action required
34. Fireworks					-	-	No action required
35. Libraries	x	-	x	-	-	-	-

AN OVERVIEW

Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality (ULM) is one of the five local municipalities that constitute the Harry Gwala District Municipality (HGDM). The ULM is characterised as a small urban centre with large agricultural plantations, natural vegetation and traditional authority land. The main administrative centre of the municipality is the town of Ixopo, it is located 85km from the City of Pietermaritzburg at the intersection of two national routes R56 and R612. Apart from the Ixopo town the settlement patterns of the ULM reflects one that is predominantly rural. The ULM has a population of about 118 346 people (Community Survey, 2016) spread out



throughout the area with the majority of its population residing in the rural areas. The major economic drivers in the ULM area are agriculture, mining, manufacturing, construction, utilities, business services and tourism. Among these economic sub-sectors, agriculture; business services; and manufacturing have been the biggest contributors to the ULM GDP thus far. Sub-sectors with minute contribution to the ULM GDP were the mining and utilities sub-sectors.

Unemployment is considered as one of the main reasons of poverty. The municipality's percentage contribution to the District employment is currently seating at 21%. The

unemployment rate in the ULM currently stands at 25%, reduced by 0.3% from 24.7% projected in 2011 (Global Insights,2007). It is a clear indication that unemployment still remains a concern and shows that the municipality is currently living e below the poverty line. It is also observed that the urbanised wards have a relative lesser concentration of poor people living under the poverty line then those living in rural wards.

Ubuhlebezwe has strong north-south linkages and east-west linkages within its region. This is achieved via R56, which links it to areas such as Pietermaritzburg to the north and Kokstad to the south. R612 provides regional access and linkages with the South Coast tourism region in the east and Southern Drakensburg to the west. In addition, Ubuhlebezwe is located at the intersection of at least three established tourism regions, namely: Southern Drakensberg; Natal Midlands; and UGu South Coast.

The town of Ixopo forms the primary development node of the Municipality and has also been selected as the seat of the Harry Gwala District Council. The importance of Ixopo cannot be underestimated in the socio-economic development of the area as a whole. Its role as a centre of activity is further emphasised in the Spatial Development Frameworks (SDF). Ixopo plays an important role in terms of the possible location for industry, commerce and other economic activity. It is a major education and health centre and assists in the diffusion of new ideas and technologies to the rural areas. It is also the primary base for the operation of many departments and service providers.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Initially Statistics South Africa (Statssa) conducted a population census once every 5 years i.e. 1996 and 2001, this interval was however changed to 10 years and thus the last census was in 2011. In between the census, Statssa conducts a Community Survey (CS) and the last one was in 2016. According to Statssa a population census, as defined by the United Nations, is “the total process of collecting, compiling, evaluating, analyzing and publishing or otherwise disseminating demographic, economic and social data pertaining, at a specified time, to all persons in a country or a well-defined part of the country”; i.e. a total count of the population. The CS on the other hand is a large-scale household survey conducted by Statistics South Africa to bridge the gap between censuses. I.e. it is a representative sample of the population. As a result of this the information from the Community Survey is only provided at a Municipal level and not at ward level as compared to the 2011 census which goes down to the ward level and beyond. Prior to the release of the CS results in 2016 there

was a redemarcation of the municipal wards. Statssa thus had to delay the release of the CS results and realign the ward boundaries to the newly demarcated ward boundaries. E.g. Population Figures for Ubuhlebezwe from the CS before factoring in the new demarcation was 101690; but after factoring in the redemarcation it is 118 346.

According to the Stats SA, Community Survey 2016 results, there is an average of 4, 1 persons per household. 30, 3% of households reside formal dwellings and approximately 63, 8% of residences are owned and fully paid off. 12, 4% of households have access to piped water from either inside the dwelling, inside the yard or water on a community stand. Access to proper sanitation is very poor, with 12% having access to a flush toilet connected to the sewerage system. Harry Gwala District has an increase in total population from 461 420 to 510 865, out of which Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality has increased from 101 690 to 118 346 which is 23.2% of the District total population. The female population is dominant at UBuhlebezwe which indicates male absenteeism. Out of the total population of 118 346, total number of females has increased from 54445 to 62834 which is 53.1% of the total population and males from 47246 to 55513 which is 46.9% of the total population. The population density is 63 persons/ km².

The majority of population in Ubuhlebezwe is dominated by Black Africans with a total population increased from 99 188 to 115 893 which is 97.9% of the total population. Age distribution within Ubuhlebezwe Municipal area, where the ages 00-04 accounting to 17 247 which is 14.6% of the total population followed by ages 05-09 accounting to 15 679 which is 13.3% of the total population. Based on the CS 2016 results for the whole population, Males (10545) and Females (12847) with no formal education constitute the majority in terms of the population in relation to education. The highest level of education that has been attained by the population of Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality is Grade 12, whereby the number of females (8589) out numbers males (6933). From here on the highest of education attained decreases progressively from Grade 11 to Grade R, as well as for Tertiary education for males and females combined. The dominant trend is that each of the categories the number of educated females exceeds that of males. One exception is in Grade 4 whereby the number of educated males (2959) exceeds that of females (2446). With regards to employment, there has been a steady increase in the total number of people employed except for 2011 which experienced a decline to 19631 from 20217. In terms of percentages the average employment contribution to the district population has declined by 0,3% between 2010 and 2015. The total number of unemployed people at Ubuhlebezwe

Municipality correlates directly with the total employment per municipality in that for 2011 there was a decline in the number of people employed (4843) as compared to 2010 (5150).

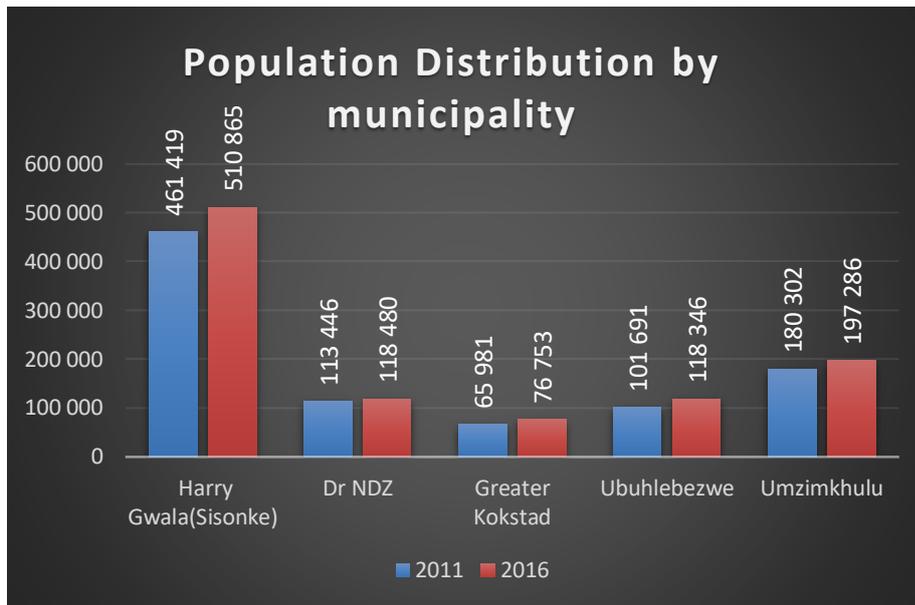
Children between the ages of 0-14 contribute a portion of 40, 4% towards the total population of uBuhlebezwe. Elderly people from 65+ within the existing population contribute 6.8%. The observable dependence ration of people between people living below 15 years of age and those having 64+ is 89.39%. This percentage is too high and contributes to uncontrollable levels of poverty. In actual facts it will become difficult for the municipality to cater for the provisions of pensioners, proving social security systems to people in need as well as the non-working population.

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS AND ANALYSIS

Initially Statistics South Africa (Statssa) conducted a population census once every 5 years i.e. 1996 and 2001, this interval was however changed to 10 years and thus the last census was in 2011. In between the census, Statssa conducts a Community Survey (CS) and the last one was in 2016. According to Statssa a population census, as defined by the United Nations, is “the total process of collecting, compiling, evaluating, analyzing and publishing or otherwise disseminating demographic, economic and social data pertaining, at a specified time, to all persons in a country or a well-defined part of the country”; i.e. a total count of the population. The CS on the other hand is a large-scale household survey conducted by Statistics South Africa to bridge the gap between censuses. I.e. it is a representative sample of the population. As a result of this the information from the Community Survey is only provided at a Municipal level and not at ward level as compared to the 2011 census which goes down to the ward level and beyond. Prior to the release of the CS results in 2016 there was a redemarcation of the municipal wards. Statssa thus had to delay the release of the CS results and realign the ward boundaries to the newly demarcated ward boundaries. E.g. Population Figures for Ubuhezwe from the CS before factoring in the new demarcation was 101 690; but after factoring in the redemarcation it is 118 346.

Population size

The graph below depicts the population for Harry Gwala District Municipality (HGDM) and its family of local municipalities. All municipalities reflect an increase in their population from 2011 to 2016.



Source: Stats SA Community Survey (2016)

Population distribution by gender

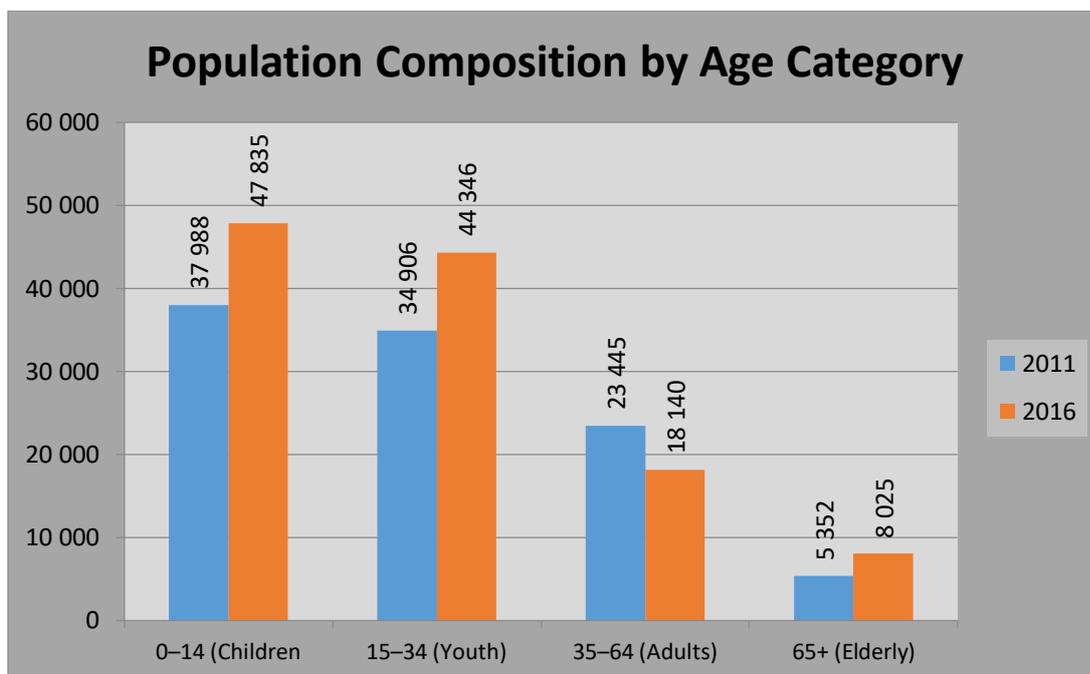
The table below depicts the population distribution by gender for Ubuhlebezwe Municipality for 2011 and 2016. There is a 1% increase in the percentage of males from 2011 to 2016; inversely the females declined by 1% over the same period.

	2011	2016
Males	46%	47%
Females	54%	53%

Source: Stats SA Community Survey (2016)

Population composition

The graph below depicts the population composition by age category for Ubuhlebezwe Municipality between 2011 and 2016. The graph shows an increase in the population composition between 2011 and 2016 except for the 35-64 age category (Adults).



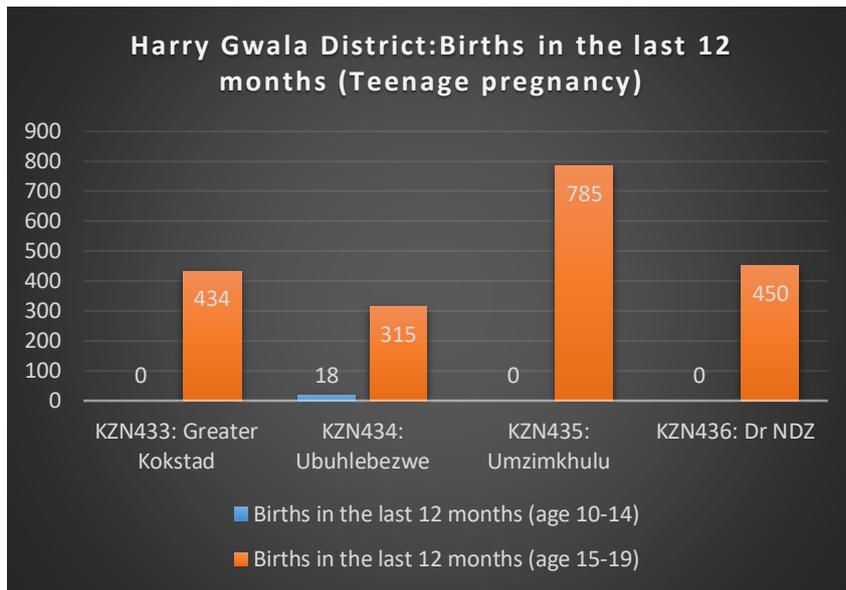
Source: Stats SA Community Survey (2016)

Dependency Ratio

The Dependency Ratio is defined as the ratio between the number of people aged less than 14 and over 65 to the number of people aged 15-64. A high ratio may increase the burden on the productive part of the population. The dependency ratio for 2011 stood at 74, 27%. For 2016 the dependency ratio stands at 89, 39%. Therefore a higher number of the population is now dependent on the working population.

Teenage pregnancy

The table below depicts the teenage pregnancy figures for the district LMs. uBuhebezwe Local Municipality is the only municipality that has had births in the 10-14 age category. In the age category of 15-19 it has the lowest number at 315 births.



Source: Stats SA Community Survey (2016)

Fertility rate

Fertility statistics that speak directly to Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality are difficult to find by according to StasSA mid-year population estimates (2009) the KwaZulu Natal Province has had average fertility rates.

Province	2001-2006	2006-2011
KwaZulu Natal	3,03	2,60

Source: StasSA mid-year population estimates (2009)

The above table depict that, the municipal health system have birth control determinants in place that one can firmly state that they are accessible to the society at large.

Mortality rate

Mortality is the decrement process by which living members of a population gradually die out. The Infant Mortality Rate is the number of infant deaths (< 1year of age) in a given year divided by the total number of live births during the same year multiplied by a thousand. The IMR is a good indicator of general health & living standard.

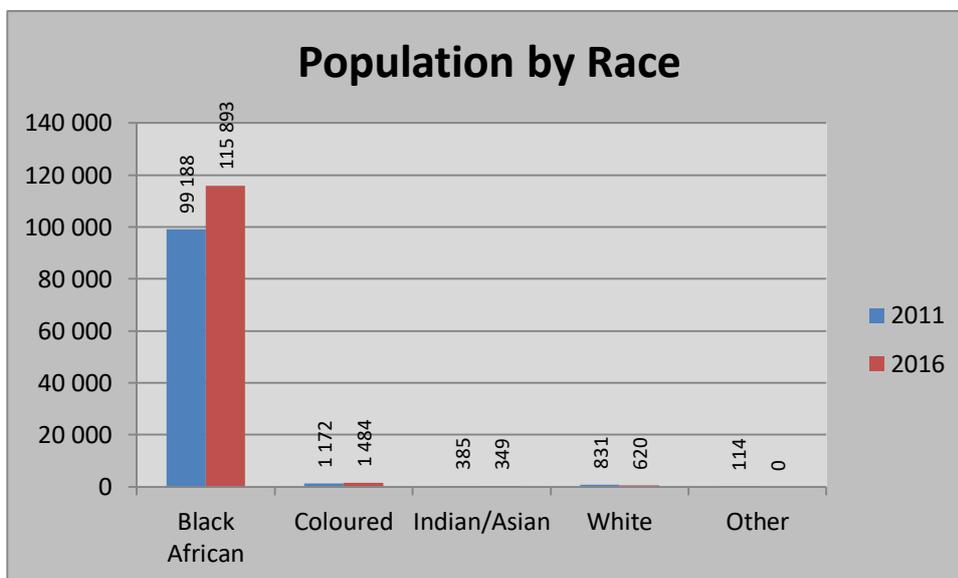
The IMR stands at 19, 4 i.e. 19, 4 infant deaths per thousand births.

Life expectancy

Life expectancy is the expected average number of years remaining to be lived by persons of a particular age. Between 2002 and 2016, there was an overall increase in Life expectancy (55,2 to 62,4 years). The population for 2016(8025) for persons above the age of 65 has increased compared to the same age category for 2011(5352).

Population groups

The graph below depicts the population by race group between 2011 and 2016. There is an increase in the black (16 705) and coloured (312) population groups. The Indian/Asian and White population groups have experienced a decline in population numbers of -36 and -211 respectively. In 2011 there was a population group category called “Other” which stood at 114; in 2016 this category is 0.

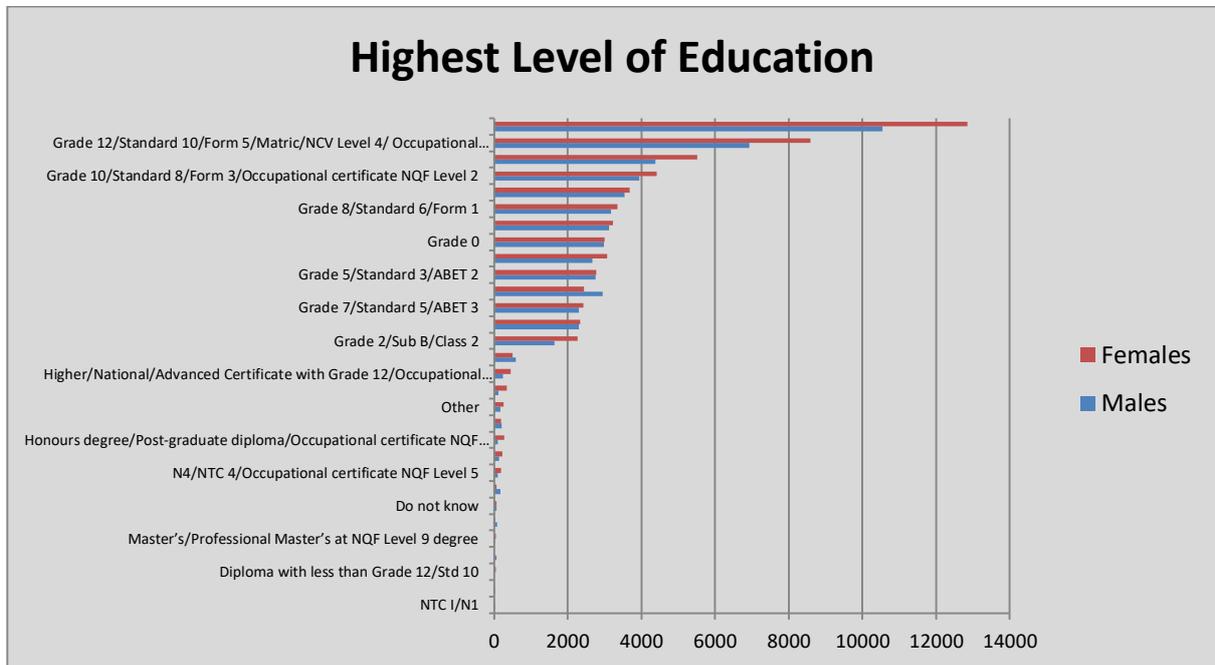


Source: Stats SA Community Survey (2016)

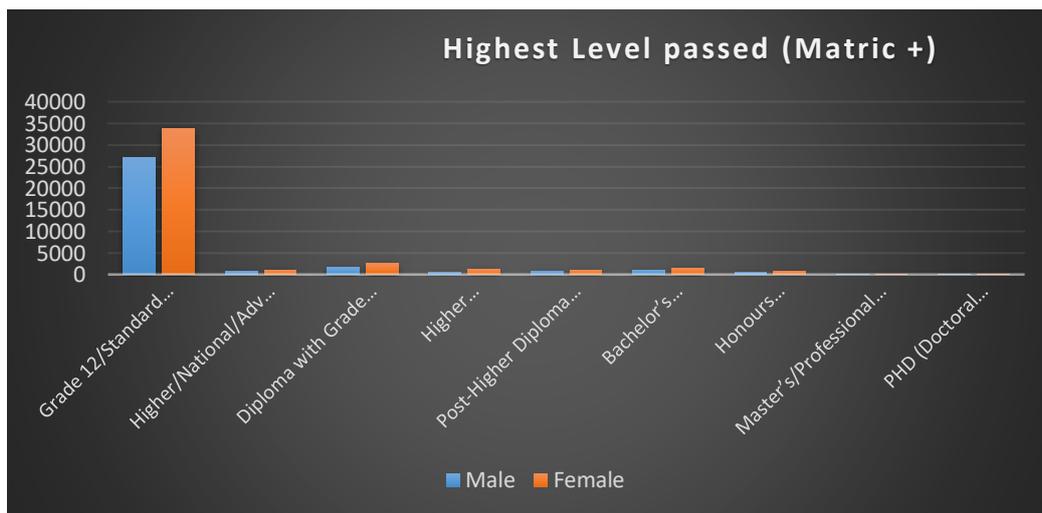
Educational status

The graph below depicts the highest level of education within various categories for males and females at Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality based on the CS 2016 results for the whole population. Males (10545) and Females (12847) with no formal education constitute the majority in terms of the population in relation to education. The highest level of education that has been attained by the population of Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality is Grade 12, whereby the number of females (8589) out numbers males (6933). From here on the highest of education

attained decreases progressively from Grade 11 to Grade R, as well as for Tertiary education for males and females combined. The dominant trend is that each of the categories the number of educated females exceeds that of males. One exception is in Grade 4 whereby the number of educated males (2959) exceeds that of females (2446).



Source: Stats SA Community Survey (2016)



Source: Stats SA Community Survey (2016)

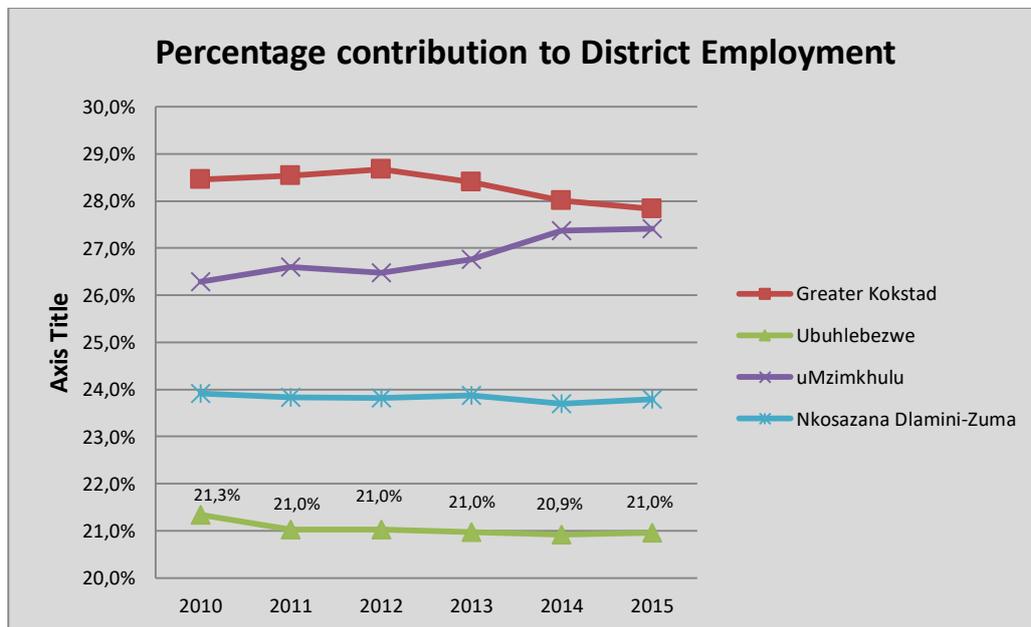
Employment status

The table below depicts the total number of employment from 2010 to 2015. The table shows a steady increase in the total number of people employed except for 2011 which

experienced a decline to 19631 from 20217. In terms of percentages the average employment contribution to the district population has declined by 0,3% between 2010 and 2015. The total number of unemployed people at Ubuhlebezwe Municipality correlates directly with the total employment per municipality in that for 2011 there was a decline in the number of people employed (4843) as compared to 2010 (5150).

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Harry Gwala				101	107	112
Greater Kokstad	94 749	93 351	96 088	051	537	306
Ubuhlebezwe	20 217	19 631	20 202	21 188	22 498	23 546
uMzimkhulu	24 910	24 832	25 438	27 043	29 437	30 786
Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma	22 658	22 245	22 894	24 122	25 486	26 718

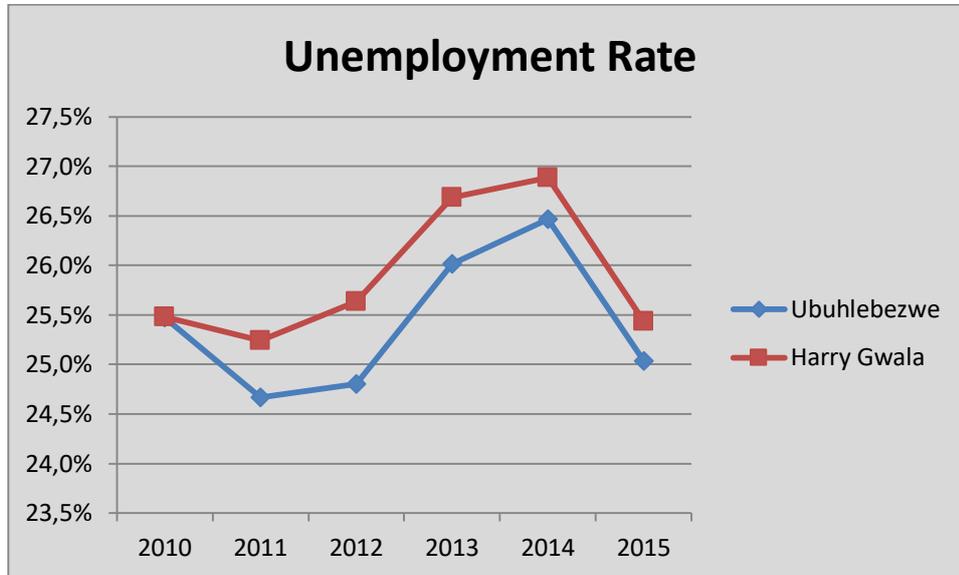
Total Employment per Municipality. Quantec (2015)



Percentage contribution of HGDM local municipalities to District Employment. Quantec (2015)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Ubuhlebezwe	5 150	4 843	5 011	5 512	5 954	5 895
Harry Gwala	24 140	23 563	24 634	26 967	28 912	28 568

Number of the unemployed people. Quantec (2015)



Unemployment Rate of Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality vs HGDM. Quantec (2015)

SERVICE DELIVERY OVERVIEW

Ubuhlebezwe Municipality although striving for excellency, there are still some challenges in terms of service delivery, that of the municipality has already engaged on processes to address them. There is a challenge with the landfill site; currently the municipality is using the one at Umzimkhulu under Umzimkhulu Municipality. There are also financial constraints, since we have a low revenue base and are highly dependent on Grant Funding. The municipality is unable to retain skills due to low salaries offered. Funds are so limited that the municipality is unable to address backlog in terms of CIP. Inability to attract economic and investment opportunities to the urban area and to extend it to other areas of the municipality to ensure economic sustainability due to aging and inadequate infrastructure. The municipality is also providing for public facilities and there is too much of vandalism. There was poor Information and Communication

Technology. The municipality is intending to extend the town but there is a challenge of land availability since the land is privately owned.

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW

Organizational development, in essence, is a wide effort to increase an organization's effectiveness and/or efficiency to enable the organization to achieve its strategic goals.

Organizational development with the Ubuhlebezwe Municipality is a priority as we would like to:

- Attain optimal performance from our employees,
- Provide opportunities and an environment where staff is able function as part of the Municipality at large developing them to their full potential,
- Increase effectiveness of the organization in terms of all of its goals,
- Create an evolving and ever growing environment, in which it is possible for employees to be enthusiastic and able to undertake challenges,
- Develop platforms where issues are prioritized in such a way that it changes and improves the individual and organizational performance.

The Municipality took various strides towards this by:

1. Developing a comprehensive Workplace Skill Plan and offering bursaries to employees as a means of developing and having a more focused approach to staff development,
2. Developing a systematic approach, PMS Policy and other related documents for affected parties, towards the cascading of PMS to middle management for implementation which took place in the 14/15 financial year,
3. Creating a culture of systematic reporting in undertaking performance assessments for Departmental Heads every quarter,
4. Reviewing its organizational structure to address gaps within departments as a means of ensuring effectiveness of departments the organization on the whole.

5. Undertaking specific strategic planning sessions i.e. Policies, budgeting, adjustments budget, SDBIP, IDP etc. wherein relevant officials are directly involved in the compilation of the said documents therefore promoting accountability and ultimately performance.

6. Exercising strict project management in that service level agreements are now standard, with every project ensuring performance of service providers and thus improving service delivery and reaching municipal objectives.

STATUTORY ANNUAL REPORT PROCESS:

No.	Activity	Timeframe
1	Consideration of next financial year's Budget and IDP process plan. Except for the legislative content, the process plan should confirm in-year reporting formats to ensure that reporting and monitoring feeds seamlessly into the Annual Report process at the end of the Budget/IDP implementation period.	July
2	Implementation and monitoring of approved Budget and IDP commences	
3	Finalise 4 th quarter Report for previous financial year	
4	Audit/Performance committee considers draft Annual Report of municipality	August
5	Mayor tables the unaudited Annual Report	
6	Municipality submits draft Annual Report including consolidated annual financial statements and performance report to Auditor General.	
7	Submit draft 2017/2018 Annual Report to Internal Audit and Auditor-General	
8	Auditor General assesses draft Annual Report including consolidated Annual Financial Statements and Performance data	September - October
9	Municipalities receive and start to address the Auditor General's comments	November - December
10	Oversight Committee assesses Annual Report	
11	Mayor tables Annual Report and audited Financial Statements to Council complete with the Auditor- General's Report	January
12	Audited Annual Report is made public and representation is invited	
13	Council adopts Oversight report	March
14	Oversight report is made public	

15	Oversight report is submitted to relevant provincial councils	
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CHAPTER 2 – GOVERNANCE

INTRODUCTION TO GOVERNANCE

Ubuhlebezwe has been able to maintain a strong relationship between Administration and Council, this has contributed greatly to the stability of the institution and has yielded positive result, including an Unqualified Audit Report from the Auditor General for the 2016/17 Financial Year. The lines of reporting are clear and there is no interference in Administration by politicians and visa versa. Funds have been allocated to ensure the capacitation of the Municipal workforce.

POLITICAL STRUCTURE:



Cllr ZD Nxumalo – Mayor



Cllr EB Ngubo – Deputy Mayor



Cllr CZ Mngonyama - Speaker



Cllr ET Shoba - EXCO Member



Cllr CN Ntabeni – EXCO Member



Cllr GJ Ngongo – EXCO Member

POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE GOVERNANCE

There are three tiers of government: national, provincial and local - i.e. municipalities. S151(3) of the Constitution gives municipalities the power to govern their own affairs, subject to national and provincial legislation as provided for in the Constitution, while S151(4) prevents

national and provincial government compromising or impeding the exercise of municipal power.

It is with this that the political and administrative governance of Ubuhlebezwe Municipality is closely linked but exercised through clear processes of taking political goals and implementing them through systematic administrative procedures. Our political and administrative governance can be outlined as follows:

POLITICAL GOVERNANCE

The Council (headed by the Speaker) together with the Executive Committee (chaired by the Mayor) are the 2 decisive structure within the organisation and have 3 (three) portfolio Committees reporting thereto. Portfolio Committees, chaired by Exco members are aligned to the core functions of the existing departments, namely the Social Development; the Administration and Human Resources; and the Infrastructure, Planning and Development Committees. The Finance Committee also formulated by Council is chaired by the Mayor and deals with financial management issues focusing on compliance reporting, budgeting, income and expenditure, systems and procedures, revenue enhancement etc.

Additional to that, is the Audit and the Oversight/ MPAC Committee reporting directly to Council and the sub-committee, the Local Labour Forum reporting to the AHR Portfolio Committee.

The mentioned committees provide structural reporting to various levels to ensure extensive interrogation before such is tabled before council or Exco and also to ensure proper monitoring and oversight over the performance of departments.

COUNCILLORS

Also refer to **Appendix A & B** which sets out committees and committee purposes.

Political governance within Ubuhlebezwe Municipality is comprised of 27 (twenty seven) Councillors with 14 of such being Ward Councillors and the remaining forming part of public

representatives with affiliated parties such as the ANC, IFP, EFF and DA; with the majority being that of the ANC.

POLITICAL DECISION TAKING

There are three tiers of government: national, provincial and local - i.e. municipalities. S151(3) of the Constitution gives municipalities the power to govern their own affairs, subject to national and provincial legislation as provided for in the Constitution, while S151(4) prevents national and provincial government compromising or impeding the exercise of municipal power.

It is with this that the political and administrative governance of Ubuhlebezwe Municipality is closely linked but exercised through clear processes of taking political goals and implementing them through systematic administrative procedures.

Our decision making is governed by both political and administrative leadership, which comprises of 27 Councillors and 4 Amakhosi together with 5 Departmental heads, respectively. All of which are appointed to sit on Council Committees wherein decisions are taken depending on the delegation of powers assigned to the relevant committee and on the terms of reference thereof.

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ADMINISTRATIVE GOVERNANCE

The Municipal Manager as the accounting officer is the administrative head responsible for the implementation of organisational goals in line with the national key performance areas namely, Municipal Transformation and Organizational goals; Basic Service Delivery; Local Economic Development; Municipal Financial Viability and Management; and lastly Good Governance and Public Participation

The Municipal Manager provides leadership and direction through effective strategies, in order to fulfil the objectives of local government which are provided for in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, and any other legislative framework that governs local government.

At Ubhlebezwe Municipality we uphold the values of integrity and honesty, promoting a culture of Collegiality throughout the municipality by delegating duties and rewarding excellence. We also strongly adhere to the Employment Equity policies and ensure that our staff complement has a fair representation in gender and race.



Mr GM Sineke - Municipal Manager



Miss NK Sibobi – Chief Financial Officer



Mr ME Mkhize – Dir Corporate Services



Mrs SM Ndebele - Dir Infrastructure & Planning



Mrs NC Mohau – Dir Social Development

SENIOR MANAGEMENT

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

In terms of the Municipal Systems Act No. 32 of 2000, all municipalities should exercise their executive and legislative authority within the constitutional system of co-operative governance in the Constitution S41. Ubhlebezwe is one of the five (5) municipalities within Harry Gwala

District Municipality. There are five (5) portfolios which sit quarterly and coordinated by the Sisonke District. There are also Mayoral and Municipal Manager’s Forums that sit on a regular basis.

PORTOLIO	CHAIRPERSON	MUNICIPALITY THE CHAIRPERSON IS COMING FROM
Social Development, Youth and Special Programmes	Mr GM Sineke	Ubuhlebezwe Municipality
Planning	Mr. L Mapholoba	Greater Kokstad Municipality
Finance and Economic Development	Mr NC Vezi	Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma Municipality
Infrastructure Planning and Development	Mr ZS Sikhosana	Umzimkhulu Municipality

PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY AND PARTICIPATION

OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY AND PARTICIPATION

The rationale behind uBuhlebezwe Municipality putting community participation on its strategic and operational agenda is because Section 152 (1) (e) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa states that one of the objectives of local government is to encourage the involvement of communities and community organizations in the matters of local government thus taken initiatives to honour this constitutional obligation.

Accountability and participation refers to the extent to which stakeholders can influence development by contributing to the project design, influencing public choices, and holding public institutions accountable for the goods and services they are bound to provide.

Adhering to Section 152 (1) (e) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa Ubuhlebezwe Municipality Promoted social Cohesion between itself and its Citizens by;

- Encourages its citizens to make meaningful influence in a decision making process such as policy development, Planning, and Budgeting.

- Strengthening the voice of its communities on its matters so that they become architects of their own development.

Putting community participation on the strategic and operational agenda is the rationale behind uBuhlebezwe Municipality.

WARD COMMITTEES:

Functionality of WCs

Ward Committees are being monitored every quarter through a revised approach that mainly focuses on improving, sustaining and maintaining ward committee functionality.

Functionality of ward committee is assessed as per the following indicators:

- Number of ward committee meetings held
- Number of meetings chaired by Ward Councillor
- Percentage of attendance
- Number of community meetings held
- Number of sectorial reports submitted
- Number of ward reports submitted to the municipality

Assessment period	No. of Wards	No. of Functional Ward	Functionality Percentage	Functional wards	Non - Functional Wards	No. of non-functional Wards
Jul. – Sept. 2017	14	14	100%	All 14 Wards	0	0
Oct. – Dec. 2017	14	13	93%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 14	Ward 13	1
Jan. – Mar. 2018	14	14	100%	All 14 Wards	0	0
Apr. – Jun. 2018	14	13		1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14	Ward 3	1



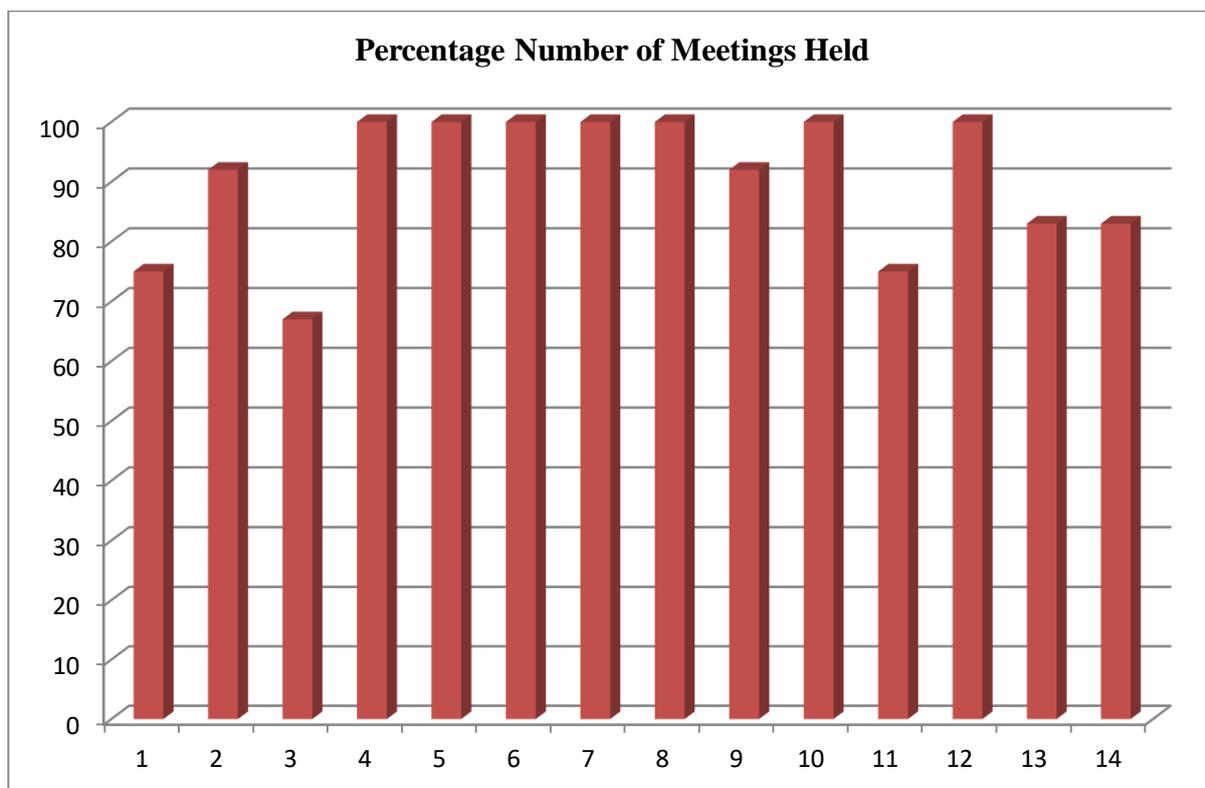
Centralized Ward Committee Meeting – 6 September 2017 at the Peace Initiative Hall

Number of meetings held

Ward based and centralized Ward committee meetings are convened as per an adopted schedule of meetings. Concurrently the Ubuhlebezwe Policy on Ward Committee Election and Operation is implemented. With regards to ward committee meeting procedures it stipulates that:

- (1) (b) *Ward committee meetings are convened and chaired by the Ward Councillor.*
(c) *Ward councillor may delegate in writing the chairing of a meeting in his/her absence to a member of the ward committee.*

Ward No.	Number of ward committee meetings held per quarter				Target	Actual	Percentage
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4			
1.	2	2	2	3	12	9	75%
2.	2	3	3	3	12	11	92%
3.	2	2	3	1	12	8	67%
4.	3	3	3	3	12	12	100%
5.	3	3	3	3	12	12	100%
6.	3	3	3	3	12	12	100%
7.	3	3	3	3	12	12	100%
8.	3	3	3	3	12	12	100%
9.	3	3	2	3	12	11	92%
10.	3	3	3	3	12	12	100%
11.	3	2	3	1	12	9	75%
12.	3	3	3	3	12	12	100%
13.	3	3	2	2	12	10	83%
14.	3	3	2	2	12	10	83%

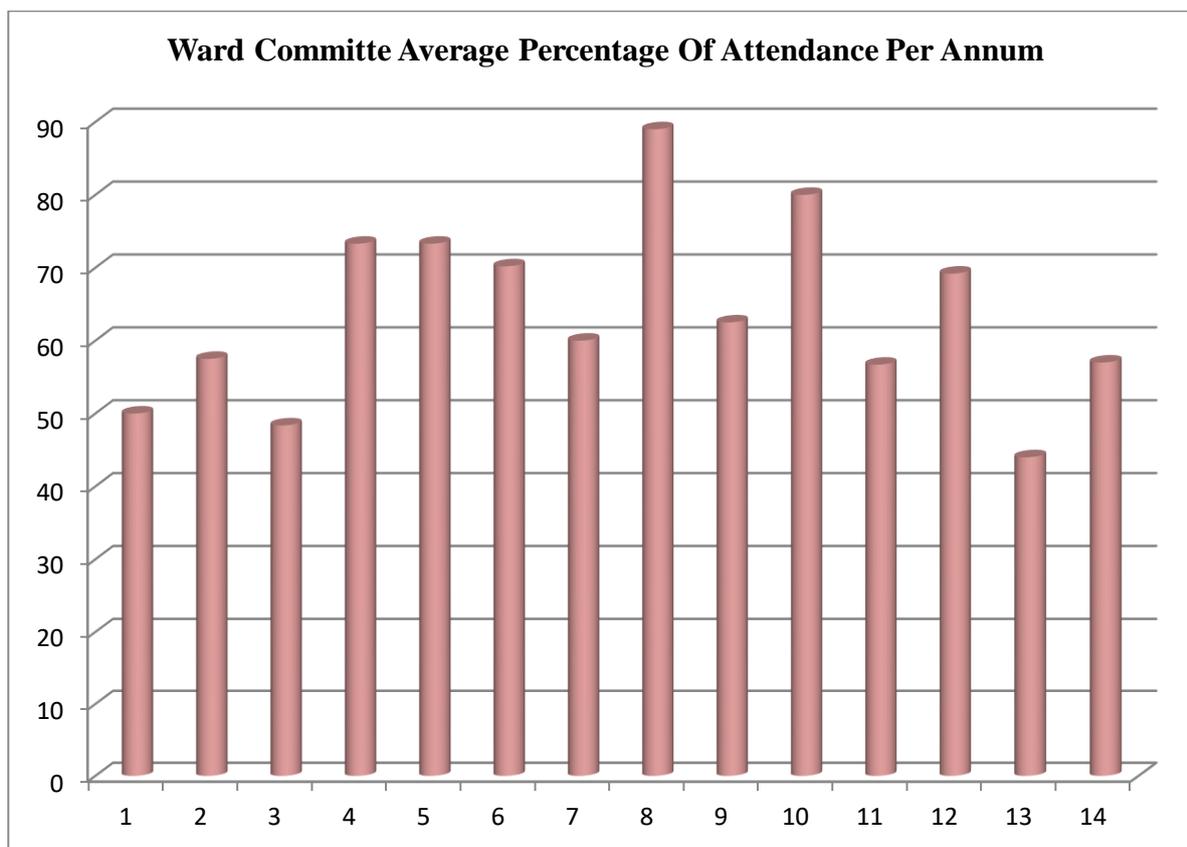


Percentage of attendance

Ward Committees as an official specialized participatory structure. They attend monthly meetings to discuss issues that affect communities with an aim of coming up with possible solutions. Ubuhlebezwe Municipality pays of Out-of Pocket Expenses to its members subject to submission of the following portfolio of evidence:

- Monthly submission of minutes
- Monthly submission of signed attendance register
- Monthly submission of sectorial reports

Ward No.	Percentage of attendance per moth												Average Percentage
	Jul/Aug/Sept			Oct/ Nov/ Dec			Jan/ Feb/ Mar			Apr/ May /Jun			
1.	-	40	70	-	80	60	-	70	70	70	80	60	50%
2.	-	60	30	70	70	60	70	60	70	80	70	50	57.5
3.	70	-	80	-	100	60	50	80	70	-	-	70	48.3%
4.	80	80	50	60	80	90	70	50	60	100	80	80	73.3%
5.	70	80	60	60	70	70	50	80	60	80	100	100	73.3%
6.	90	80	100	80	90	90	40	60	80	70	90	80	79.2%
7.	70	50	70	50	50	70	60	60	60	50	60	70	60%
8.	100	90	80	90	100	90	80	90	90	90	80	90	89%
9.	70	70	60	60	80	80	70	-	60	70	70	60	62.5%
10.	70	70	80	100	100	80	90	80	90	70	50	80	80%
11.	70	70	90	-	80	80	80	70	70	70	-	-	56.7%
12.	50	60	80	70	80	70	60	70	60	60	70	100	69.2%
13.	50	30	60	60	30	60	-	60	80	60	-	40	44%
14.	60	60	60	60	60	70	-	60	60	70	-	60	57%



Number of Reports Submitted to the Municipality

Recommendations made by the ward committee to be formalized to a ward report. Submission of ward reports is translated as the implementation of a Ward Operational Plan by ward Councillors in their respective wards. It gives a clear indication of the following:

- Ward committee meetings convened and attended by members,
- Community report back meetings held, participation by members and issues discussed,
- War rooms held in wards, participation by members and issues discussed,
- Ward projects, role played by members and projects status.

Number of wards	Number of ward reports submitted per quarter				Target	Actual	Percentage
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4			
14	14	14	14	12	168	166	98.81%

Training of Ward Committees.

Provisions of funds and resources to enable ward committees to perform their functions and undertake development in their wards have been made. Through Ubuhlebezwe skills development programme in 2017/2018 financial year Ward Committees have been trained on Community Based Planning on 14 May 2018 and Communication, Facilitation and Dealing with Conflicts on 5 February 2018.

CWP

Functionality

Community Works Programme is a poverty alleviation programme initiated by National Department of Corporative Governance and Traditional Affairs. Ubhlebezwe as one of CW Sites has 14 wards with an allocation of 1023 participant. The vulnerable households have been given first preference. The selection process is overseen by the Reference Committee made up of representatives from local council. Ubhlebezwe municipality worked with Dhladhla Foundation as an appointed implementing agent.

It has been recommended that the following government parastatals shall form part of the reference committee. The nature of useful work identified requires involvement and support of different stakeholders such as:

- Department of Social Development
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Transport
- Department of education
- Harry Gwala House of Traditional Leadership
-

The following private partnerships have been established

- TREE/ Smart Start, Early Childhood development
- COUNT (Conduct Family Maths Programme with learners, parents and teachers and the Teacher Development and Support Programme.

The split of participants per ward is as follows:

Ward no.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Participants	67	85	85	59	78	98	62	73	67	75	92	81	33	43

During the financial year 2017/2018 the following accredited training has been rolled out to participants as part of an exit strategy:

- Security
- Plumbing
- Fencing

Useful work performed through the programme is as follows:

- Cleaning of schools and community halls
- Repairs to the school fence
- Cleaning of illegal dumping
- Street cleaning
- Cleaning public places
- ECD
- Establishments of rubbish pits
- Cleaning of bush and overgrown area

- Repairing roads and pavements
- Community gardens
- HBC
- OVC's
- Repair to vulnerable homes



Ward 04: Participants cleaning gutters at Village school



Ward 07: Participants ploughing a vegetable garden at Njane

Challenges

The unavailability of transport had a negative impact toward the monitoring of the programme at ward level and also caused disturbances towards the distribution of uniform and tools to the participants.

CDW's INVOLVEMENT IN THE MUNICIPALITY

Community Development Workers (CDW's) in Ubuhlebezwe are placed in all wards. Their role is to ensure that service delivery reaches all spectrums by assisting in fast tracking social services to those who are unable to help themselves. Working very close with municipality and sector departments they provide support to war rooms champions in ensuring that war rooms are functional. They advise sector departments with regards to necessary interventions emanated from household profiling.

IDP PARTICIPATION AND ALIGNMENT:

IDP Participation and Alignment Criteria*	Yes/No
Does the municipality have impact, outcome, input, output indicators?	Yes
Does the IDP have priorities, objectives, KPIs, development strategies?	Yes
Does the IDP have multi-year projects?	Yes
Does the budget align directly to the KPIs in the strategic plan?	Yes
Do the IDP KPIs align to the Section 57 Managers	Yes
Do the IDP KPIs align with the provincial KPIs on the 12 Outcomes	Yes
Were the indicators communicated to the public?	Yes
Were the four quarter aligned reports submitted within stipulated time frames?	Yes
* Section 26 Municipal Systems Act 2000	

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY

The Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality has an Internal Audit Activity which has been fully functional for the year under review. The roles and responsibilities of the Internal Audit Activity are set out in Section 165 of the Municipal Finance Management Act, 56 of 2003 as follows:

- Prepare a risk-based audit plan and an internal audit program for each financial year;
- Advise and report to the Accounting Officer and the Audit Committee on the implementation of the internal audit plan and matters relating to:
 - Internal audit;
 - Internal controls;
 - Accounting procedures and practices;
 - Risk and risk management;
 - Performance management;

- Loss control; and
- Compliance with the MFMA, the annual Division of Revenue Act and any other applicable legislation; and
- Perform such other duties as may be assigned to it by the Accounting Officer.

The Internal Audit Activity functionally reports to the Audit Committee and administratively to the Accounting Officer. Internal audit uses systematic processes which determine whether established procedures are being followed and whether internal controls are operating effectively. The internal audit observes and formally assesses governance risk and control structural design and operational effectiveness while not being directly responsible for operations

The Internal Audit Activity complied with section 165 of the MFMA by developing a risk-based internal audit plan and an audit program. The risk-based internal audit plan was approved by the Audit and Performance Audit Committee in November 2016. The risk-based internal audit plan was implemented successfully; the internal audit reports were submitted to the Audit and Performance Audit Committee quarterly. The progress of the internal audit plan was monitored quarterly to ensure that projects are completed timely.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

Section 62 (1)(c)(i) of the Municipal Finance Management Act(MFMA) states that, the accounting officer of a municipality is responsible for managing the financial administration of the municipality, and must for this purpose take all reasonable steps to ensure that the municipality has and maintains effective, efficient and transparent systems of financial and risk management and internal control.

The MFMA establishes responsibility for Risk Management at all levels of management and thus becomes everybody's responsibility.

Ubuhlebezwe municipality ensures compliance with section 62(1)(c)(i) of the MFMA. The risk management workshop was conducted in June 2016 to update the municipality's risk register. The risks are recorded on the municipality's risk register and are continuously monitored by the Risk and compliance officer.

The municipality has a Risk management committee in place. The Risk management committee held four (4) meetings during the year to monitor the implementation of action plans to mitigate identified risks. The Risk management committee reports are discussed with the Accounting officer and tabled to the Audit and Performance Audit Committee quarterly.

The Council has adopted a Risk Management Policy and Framework that enables management to proactively identify and respond appropriately to all significant risks that could impact badly on the achievement of municipal goals and strategic objectives

The top four (4) risks facing the municipality are:

- Unavailability of land for cemeteries.
- Insufficient security
- Failure to spend grant money.
- Inability to account for Municipal asset.

ANTI-CORRUPTION AND FRAUD

Ubuhlebezwe municipality has an approved fraud and anti-corruption strategy in place, which comprises a fraud prevention plan, fraud response plan and a fraud ethics policy.

Fraud Prevention Plan – set out a detailed step by step action plan to implement the Fraud Prevention Strategy and responsibilities and deadlines are assigned to each step.

Fraud Response Plan - A Fraud Response Plan set out clear, prompt and appropriate actions that must be taken when fraud is suspected. This will greatly assist officials who are unlikely to have experienced fraud before. The creation of a Fraud Response Plan increases the likelihood that the crisis will be managed effectively ensuring minimum loss and appropriate outcomes.

The Fraud Ethics Policy has been implemented in order to stress:

- The need for all to demonstrate the highest standard of personal and corporate ethics,
- The need for compliance with all laws and regulations,
- That Ubuhlebezwe values integrity and effort, not merely financial performance, in all dealings with staff, the public and suppliers,
- The desire to be open and honest in all internal and external dealings,
- That the policy applies consistently to all staff, whatever their level.

The key risk areas which are prone to fraud in most institutions include the procurement process, embezzlement and theft of cash etc. Ubuhlebezwe has ensured segregation of duties in these key risk areas, access controls have been improved.

BY-LAWS

By-laws cover various local government issues such as public roads and miscellaneous, parking grounds, public open spaces, street trading, selling and undertakings of liquor to the public, public health, cemeteries and crematoria, emergency services, culture and recreation services, encroachment on property .Ubuhlebezwe Municipality has a total number of 24 (twenty four) bylaws which were adopted by Council on the 4th December 2014 together with their Fine Schedules following Public Participation and Magistrates' approval of the Fine Schedules.

The following Bylaws and applicable fine schedules were gazetted on the 9th February 2016.

ADOPTED BYLAWS	DEVELOPED/ REVIEWED	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION CONDUCTED PRIOR TO ADOPTION OF BYLAWS (YES/ NO)	DATES OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	BYLAWS GAZETTED (YES/ NO)	DATE OF ADOPTION BY COUNCIL
ACCOMMODATION ESTABLISHMENT	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 29 of 2016)	04/12/14
ADVERTISING BYLAWS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 28 of 2016)	04/12/14
BUILDINGS REGULATIONS BYLAWS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 31 of 2016)	04/12/14
BYLAWS RELATING TO THE KEEPING OF DOGS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 30 of 2016)	04/12/14
CEMETERY LAWS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 32 of 2016)	04/12/14
BY-LAWS RELATING TO CHILDCARE SERVICES	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 34 of 2016)	04/12/14
BYLAWS FOR THE CONTROL AND DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 35 of 2016)	04/12/14
CONTROL OF UNDERTAKINGS THAT SELL LIQUOR TO THE PUBLIC	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES(Notice No. 37 of 2016)	04/12/14
CREDIT CONTROL AND DEBT COLLECTION	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 41 of 2016)	04/12/14
PROPERTY ENCROACHMENT BYLAWS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 42 of 2016)	04/12/14
BYLAWS RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND CONTROL OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 39 of 2016)	04/12/14

FENCES AND FENCING BYLAWS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 27 of 2016)	04/12/14
FIRE PREVENTION BYLAWS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 40 of 2016)	04/12/14
GENERAL & NUISANCE BYLAWS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 38 of 2016)	04/12/14
INFORMAL TRADING BYLAWS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 36 of 2016)	04/12/14
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT (RECYCLING) BY-LAWS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 33 of 2016)	04/12/14
BYLAWS RELATING TO THE KEEPING OF ANIMALS AND BIRDS BUT EXCLUDING DOGS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 43 of 2016)	04/12/14
LIBRARY BYLAWS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 49 of 2016)	04/12/14
MUNICIPAL POUND BYLAW	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 45 of 2016)	04/12/14
PUBLIC ROADS AND MUNICIPAL STREETS BYLAWS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 46 of 2016)	04/12/14
BYLAWS RELATING TO PUBLIC AMENITIES	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 46 of 2016)	04/12/14
MUNICIPAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT BY-LAWS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 47 of 2016)	04/12/14
ROAD TRAFFIC BYLAWS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 50 of 2016)	04/12/14
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BY-LAWS	DEVELOPED	YES	2014	YES (Notice No. 51 of 2016)	04/12/14

WEBSITE:

The municipality constantly strives to make information that is relevant, fresh, accurate and consistent available through its website to keep visitors well informed. Furthermore, we endeavour to run a website that is useful to visitors while being a continuous communication bridge between the community and the organization. Other responsibilities include compliance with Section 75 of MFMA that requires the municipality to publish documents for the purpose of access to information and transparency.

Our website currently is compatible with mobile phones. The Municipality has established a SAMRAS web portal that will allow customers to be able to make payments & view their accounts and statements online in the near future. The portal is active for internal users and has the following functionalities SDBIP, Employee measurements, Petty Cash, Costing,

Reporting, Budget Managements, IDP and lastly the Ratepayers Portal which is still not yet active.

Shortfall in achieving our goals:

The web portal is not yet available for our customers and Creditors to make online payments and view their accounts. We have also identified the need to upgrade to a dynamic “interactive”, data driven website, where visitors will not only view information but will be able to interact with modules such as, requesting of services, directed audience news alerts and notification and updating changes in profile. We hope to start evaluations and implementation thereof in the near future; progress on these procedures will be made available through our website www.ubuhlebezwe.gov.za.

PUBLIC SATISFACTION ON MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Ubuhlebezwe Municipality has never experienced any challenges regarding service delivery protests on services under its mandate. However, there is still a challenge of some areas not having services such as water and electricity and even though these are the competencies of the District Municipality, we are constantly in engagements with the District on how we can eradicate backlogs.

In the 2018/19 financial year, the Municipality will be conducting a Community Survey through our Public Participation Unit, to clearly identify the areas where the community is greatly dissatisfied and find ways to rectify this.

BASIC SERVICES

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS:

Ubuhlebezwe Development Agenda

The Ubuhlebezwe Municipality has developed an Integrated Development Plan (IDP) indicating, among others, the long term desired situation, short-to-medium term strategic guide for public and private sector investment, and the spatial location of critical infrastructure development projects. The IDP is based on the six local governments Key Performance Areas (KPA), with the development of human settlements being part of the basic service delivery and infrastructure development KPA. The organizational strategic objective in this regard are to ensure the provision, upgrading and maintenance of infrastructure and services that enhances socio-economic development.

In the short to medium term, the HSSP will facilitate housing delivery as a catalyst for socio-economic development, and in the end contribute towards making the Municipality an area that is sustainable, economically vibrant that affords its citizens a high quality of life.

Implications for the Ubuhlebezwe HSSP

National, provincial, district and local municipality policies relating to the development of human settlements have far reaching implications for the Ubuhlebezwe Municipality HSSP. These can be summarized as follows:

Access to adequate housing is one of the basic human needs and human rights enshrined in the Constitution. The Ubuhlebezwe Municipality has a responsibility to advance the housing (shelter) related human rights within its area of jurisdiction. The Ubuhlebezwe Municipality has a Constitutional obligation to ensure that all citizens within the municipal area have access to adequate housing or shelter. The delivery of housing and the development of human settlements should be undertaken within the broader framework of socio-economic development and spatial transformation.

Planning and development of future human settlements should embrace and adopt norms and standards as articulated in various policy developments.

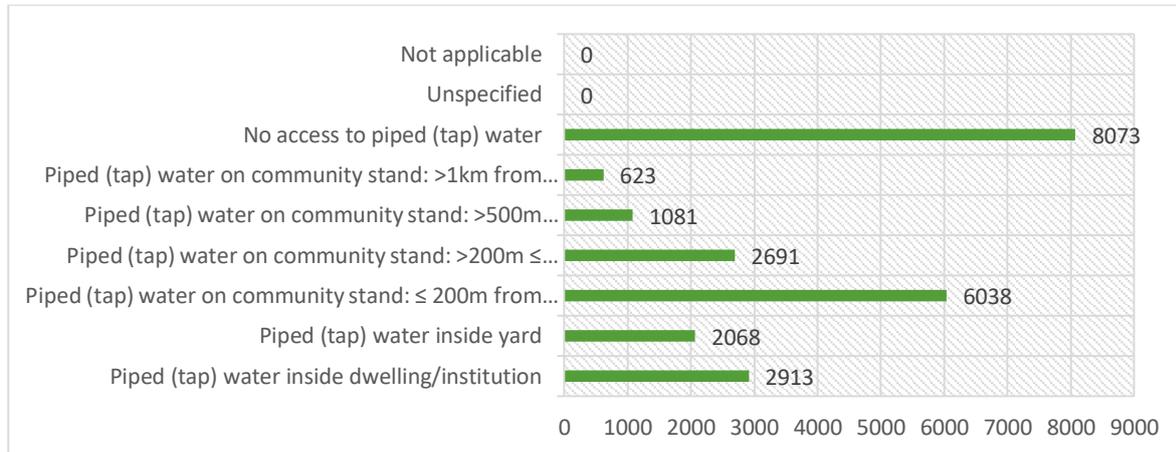
Human settlement development projects should align with the Harry Gwala District Municipality bulk infrastructure planning and development programme. The same applies to

other government departments responsible for educational, health, sports and recreation facilities.

ACCESS TO WATER:

Ubuhlebezwe falls within the Umvoti to Umzimkhulu Water Management Area. Harry Gwala District Municipality is the Water service Authority of Ubuhlebezwe municipality.

FIGURE 1: ACCESS TO PIPED WATER



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2011

In 2011, approximately 34.37% of the households in Ubuhlebezwe did not have access to piped water. This is approximately 8073 people in the municipality as indicated in figure 10. Only 12.40% of household had access to piped water inside the dwelling. A majority of households in the municipality, about 41.77%, accessed piped water from a community stand of up to 1km away from the dwelling. It is clear that there still exist a number of backlogs with regards to water service provision in the municipality.

The provision of bulk services to housing projects are of utmost importance. However, confirmation of bulks to urban housing projects by the District have caused a number of problems and delays. The table below indicates the District’s planned bulk projects to be implemented within the Ubuhlebezwe Municipality.

TABLE 1: HGDM BULK WATER PROJECTS FOR UBUHLEBEZWE

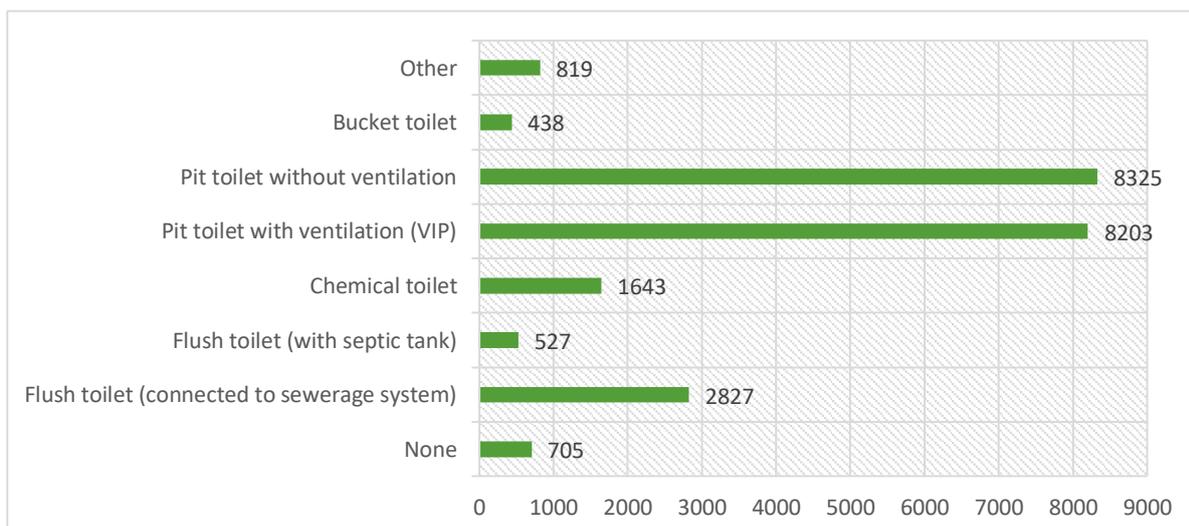
Project	Budget
Highflats Town Bulk Water supply	R2 990 000.00
Ncakubana Water Supply Project Phase 2	R13 009 519.25
Ufafa water supply project	R42 744 568.00
Ubuhlebezwe sanitation backlog eradication	R5 665 753.26
Hlokozi water project phase 2	R13 346 479.00
Nokweja/Mashumi community water supply scheme	R17 000 000.00
Mkhunya water supply project	R8 000 000.00

Source: HGDM 2016/2017 IDP

SANITATION:

The most common type of sanitation facility used in Ubuhlebezwe are the Pit toilets without ventilation.

FIGURE 2: SANITATION



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2011

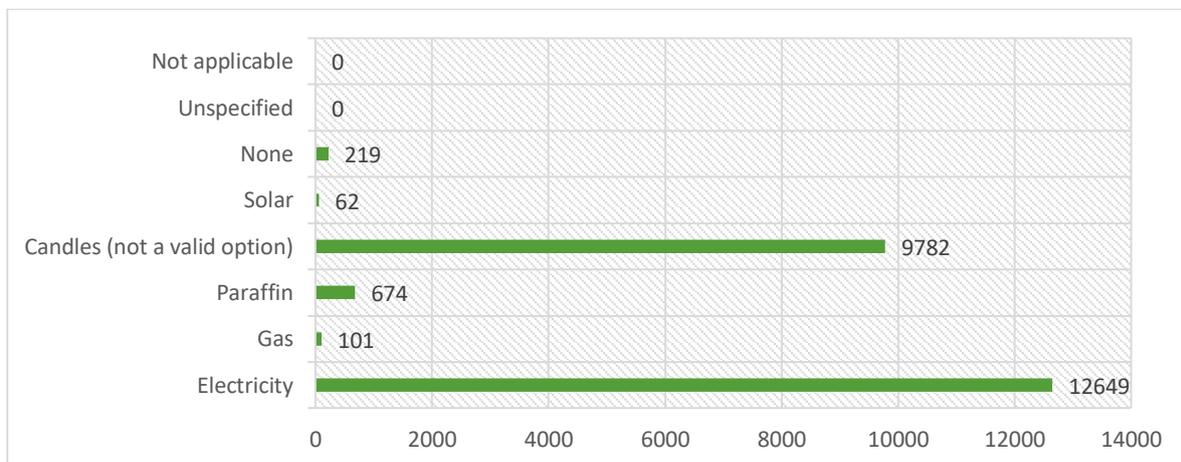
These account for 35.45% (8 325) of the households within the municipality, followed closely by Pit toilets with ventilation used by 34.92% (8 203) of the households in Ubuhlebezwe.

The 2011 Census reveals that 3.00% of the households in the municipality do not have access to sanitation which is a significant decrease from 11.97% in 2011. The municipality still faces backlogs in the number of households with access to flush toilets of which was 12.28% in 2011 (including both flush toilets connected to a sewerage system and those connected to a septic tank). Ixopo is the only settlement serviced by a sanitation scheme and sewerage works.

ELECTRICITY:

Electricity in Ubuhlebezwe is supplied by Eskom. Approximately 12649 of the households in Ubuhlebezwe use electricity for lighting, accounting for 53.85% of the households within the municipality. Majority of households in the rural segments of the municipality use alternative energy sources such as candles (41.65%), paraffin (2.87%), gas (0.43%) etc. the 2011 Census reveals that only 0.93% of the households within Ubuhlebezwe do not have access to electricity.

FIGURE 3: ENERGY FOR LIGHTING



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2011

The electricity backlog in Ubuhlebezwe is attributed to poor access to areas resulting from topography, lack of funding and inadequate bulk supply. The existing power stations have reached maximum capacity. Eskom is in the process of constructing a new power station in Kenterton, which will serve most of the area falling under Ubuhlebezwe municipality.

NDP 2030 VISION	MUNICIPAL VISION	HOUSING BACKLOGS	HOUSING PROJECTS
<p><i>“By 2030 KwaZulu-Natal is recognised for its compact, connected and integrated human settlement pattern across different scales reflecting successful spatial transformation, founded on the values of sustainability, collaboration, choice, and value creation.”</i></p>	<p>To improve the quality of life of all its citizens by providing basic affordable services, a safe and healthy environment, eradication of poverty and maintaining the scenic beauty of this land.</p>	<p>-Lack of housing: although people are employed in the Ixopo area the lack of accommodation results in them living outside of the municipal area and hence their spending power is in other areas/regions. -Housing backlog is significant and at the time of Precinct Plan preparation was planned to be addresses through slums clearance projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponya Rural Housing Project • Highflats Slums Clearance Housing Project • Kwathathani Rural Housing Project • Ithubalethu Extension 1 Housing Project) • Ibhobhobho Rural Housing Project • Morning view Middle Income Project • Mziki Agri Village Housing Project • Amanyuswa Rural Housing Project • Ehlanzeni Housing Project • Madungeni Rural Housing Project • Sangcwaba Rural Housing Project • Ufafa Rural Housing Project • Mfulomubi Rural Housing Project • Hlokozi Rural Housing Project • Gudlucingo Rural Housing Project • Buhlebethu Community Residential Units • Mariathal Rehabilitation • Fairview Rehabilitation • Mziki Agri-Village • Gudlucingo • Hlokozi – • Ixopo Slums Ward

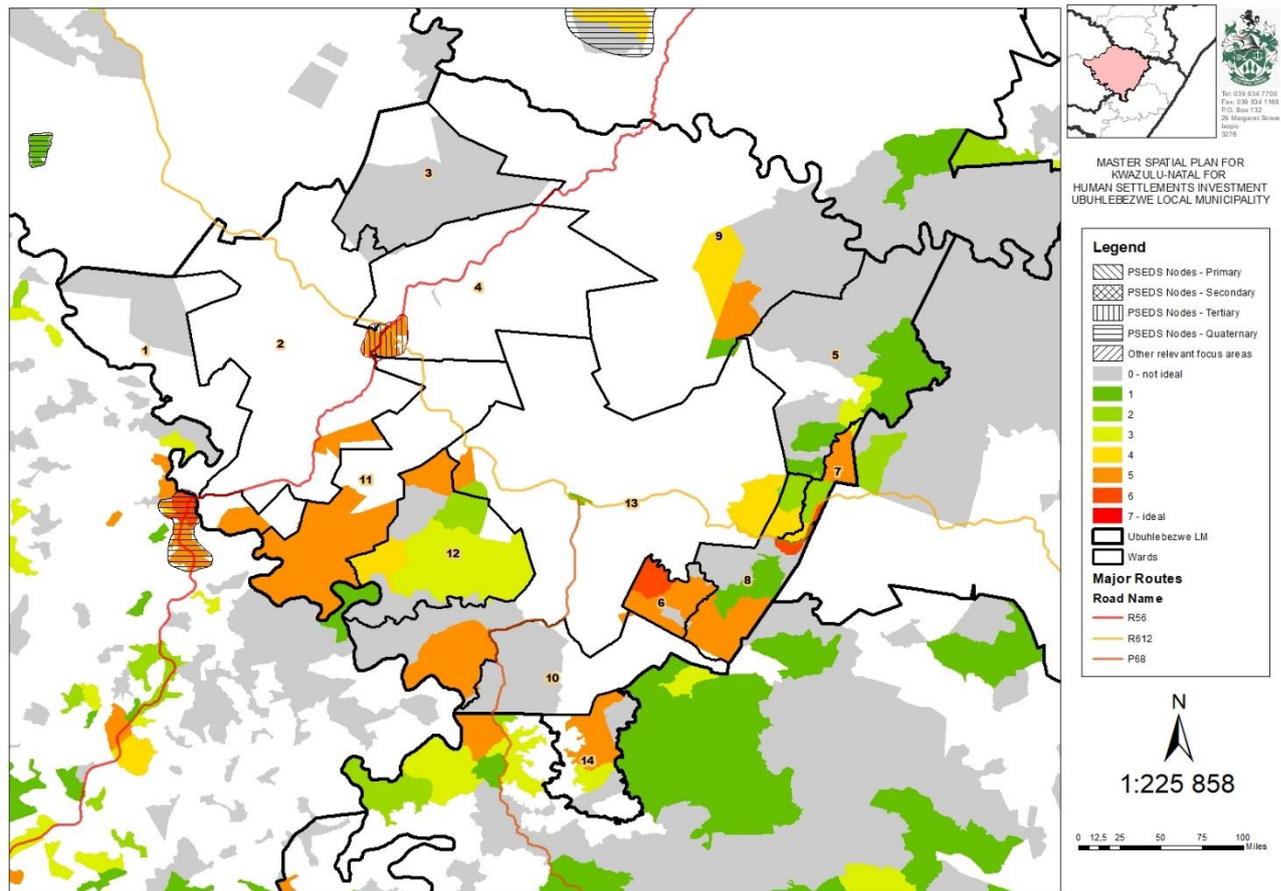
Ubuhlebezwe’s housing sector plan review, 2017/18 has been properly aligned with the National Development Plan (NDP) of 2030, the Provincial Spatial Development Framework (PSDF) with its nodes as well as the principles of the Provincial Human Settlements Master Spatial Plan 2016. Our housing sector plan review for this financial year is aligned to the NDP 2030 through recognizing its planning vision and targets. Taken from the Master Spatial Plan for KZN on Human Settlement Investments, July 2016, Ubuhlebezwe LM’s Ixopo Primary node is not a recognized human Settlement Focus area according to the PSDF nodes. This is disappointing given the fact that Ixopo is strategically located along a regional road (R56). At

over 20 urban and rural housing project recognized by the MSP, town planning wise the above housing projects are not just taken as historical housing projects but there have been well accommodated in Municipal planning tools. They are exclusive and in turn have been incorporated to our existing scheme as part of promoting sustainable developments linked to existing planned infrastructure.

Human Settlement Focus Areas aligned with PSDF Nodes

PROVINCIAL SDF NODAL CLASSIFICATION	MAIN PLACE
Primary Nodes for Human settlement investment	EThekweni
Secondary Nodes for Human settlement investment	Richards Bay, Pietermaritzburg, Newcastle, Port Shepstone
Tertiary Nodes for Human settlement investment	Vryheid, Ulundi, Pongola, Kwadukuza, Umzinto / Scottburgh, Kokstad, Howick, Estcourt, Ladysmith, Dundee
Quaternary Nodes for Human settlement investment	Jozini, Richmond, Mooi River, Weenen, Utrecht, Paulpietersburg, Nongoma, Mkuze, Hlabisa, Melmoth, Eshowe, Nkandla, Nqutu, Greytown
Other potential areas for Human settlement investment	Camperdown, Izingolweni, Ndwedwe, Pomeroy, Tongaat/Umhlali

Master Spatial Plan for KZN for human settlements investment – Ubuhlebezwe Municipality



The above mentioned Ubuhlebezwe implemented and planned housing projects have taken into cognisance of the PGDP objective number 3.4. which is on Sustainable Human Settlements. This can be seen in the fact different types of housing options are being offered within the Municipal space. From Densification of settlements – building walk-up flats to optimise the use of the land through CRU, middle and low-income housing options, rehabilitation of old housing stock as well as slums clearance projects. High density sustainable liveable housing remains the Municipality’s gospel which is line with the MSP for the province. This desired human settlement projects have been noted to be slow to materialize and the Municipality depends heavily on DOHS being the driver of this institutional mechanism as they are most acutely. The Municipality also ensures coordination with the relevant sector departments to assist with the planning and implementation of all housing projects. As mentioned with the MSP and DOHS anticipated urbanization human settlement focus the Municipality has also aligned itself with this requirement as can be seen as per the below map and it caters to the

provision of appropriate housing typology linked to all income levels. This ranges from new entrants to the housing market as well as the gap housing market beneficiaries.

Ixopo Town: Ward 2 and 4 Proposed Slums Clearance and currently implemented Housing projects



All in all it should be noted that Ubhulebezwe housing sector plan speaks to the following PGDP Objectives;

- Interventions for Sustainable Human Settlement
- Intervention for Densification of settlement patterns
- Intervention for Transformation of Informal Settlements
- Intervention for Develop provincial strategy and plan to address housing Gap Market
- Intervention for the Expansion of the Social Housing Programme and Rental Programme

Consistent interpretation and application of the following principles and objectives across various scales is of importance as a way forward linking Ubhulebezwe Housing sector plan with the Master spatial Plan for the Province;

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS MASTER SPATIAL PLAN PRINCIPLES	HUMAN SETTLEMENTS MASTER SPATIAL PLAN OBJECTIVES
Principle 1: Guide and align all investment in Human Settlements	Objective 1: Spatial Transformation
Principle 2: Creation of balanced settlements reflecting spatial equity, economic potential,	Objective 2: Compact settlements and settlements patterns

and competitiveness & environmental sustainability.	
Principle 3: Spatial targeting and spatial concentration	Objective 3: Connected settlements and settlement patterns
Principle 4: Accessibility and Choice	Objective 4: Integrated settlements and settlements patterns
Principle 5: Value creation and capture	Objective 5: Functional residential property markets in urban and rural areas
Principle 6: Effective governance	Objective 6: Consistent application of principles and objectives across various scales (provincial, regional, local, precinct)
Principle 7: Responsiveness to demographic and economic context	Objective 7: Institutional capacity for effective planning and implementation

SETTLEMENTS UPGRADING STRATEGY:

KZN Informal Settlement Upgrading Strategy was developed in 2011. Its focus is in line with the National Housing Code and current developmental priorities of government as recently reflected in the Outcome 8 National Delivery Agreement. It also seeks to give effect to the upgrading of informal settlements as prioritized via Breaking New Ground and Part 3 of the National Housing Code (the Upgrading of Informal Settlement Programme).

It identifies the promotion of densification as one of its strategic tenets and indicates that densification should be pursued where it is appropriate to do so and where ‘compaction’ of the urban form is regarded as an important planning principle. The strategy also starts identifying measures of densification through housing as follows:

- Double story, attached housing typologies.
- More pedestrianised layouts in order to reduce the loss of space to road reserves.

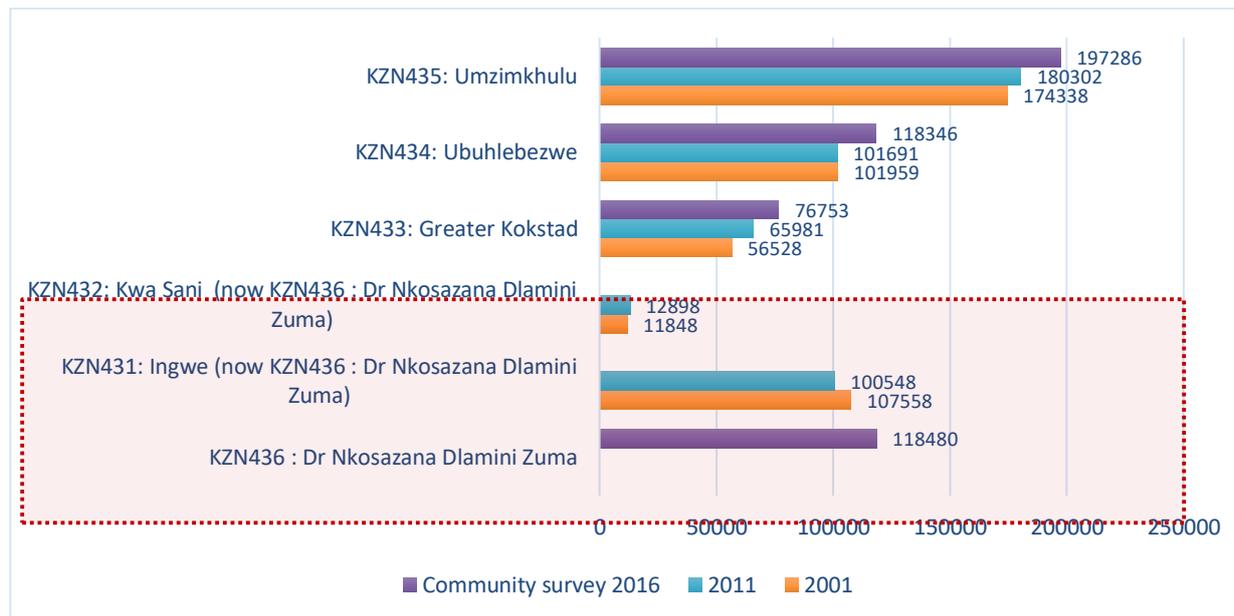
HARRY GWALA DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT AGENDA:

The Harry Gwala Integrated Development Plan presents a comprehensive programme for the development of area under the jurisdiction of the District Municipality. Harry Gwala District Municipality is a water service authority. Therefore, its core mandate is providing access to basic infrastructure and services. This includes the human settlement projects. The municipality has developed a Water Services Development Plan and aims to provide a broad strategy to be followed with the planning and implementation of activities to ensure that adequate operations and maintenance of water services infrastructure is being undertaken. The municipality is still facing challenges in addressing amongst others water and sanitation backlogs especially in rural areas and aging infrastructure. In addition, the dispersed settlement pattern increase the cost of service delivery in the rural areas.

POPULATION SIZE AND GROWTH

Ubuhlebezwe has the third largest population within the Harry Gwala District, after the recent amalgamation of Ingwe and Kwasani municipalities. It experienced a decrease in population from 101 959 people in 2001 to 101691 in 2011 (figure 2). Recently released Community Survey 2016 results indicates a population of 118 346, which indicates a small population increase of 16 655 people for the period 2011-2016.

Figure 4: District Population Distribution by Local Municipality



Source: Statistics South Africa (Census 2011) and Community Survey 2016

Considering that South Africa's natural growth rate is around 1%, very little (if any) influx of people to Ubuhlebezwe took place during the period 2001-2011, while a very little influx occurred between 2011-2016.

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

The population in Ubuhlebezwe Municipality is unevenly distributed across 14 wards. It should be noted that the ward boundaries recently increased from 12 to 14 wards with the inclusion of a portion of Umzumbe and Ingwe Municipalities into Ubuhlebezwe Municipality (southern boundary). However, statistical data from Census 2011 have not been modified to accommodate this change.

According to the Census 2011 data, ward 8 has 11 646 people, which makes it the most populated electoral ward within Ubuhlebezwe Municipality. This is followed by ward 4 with

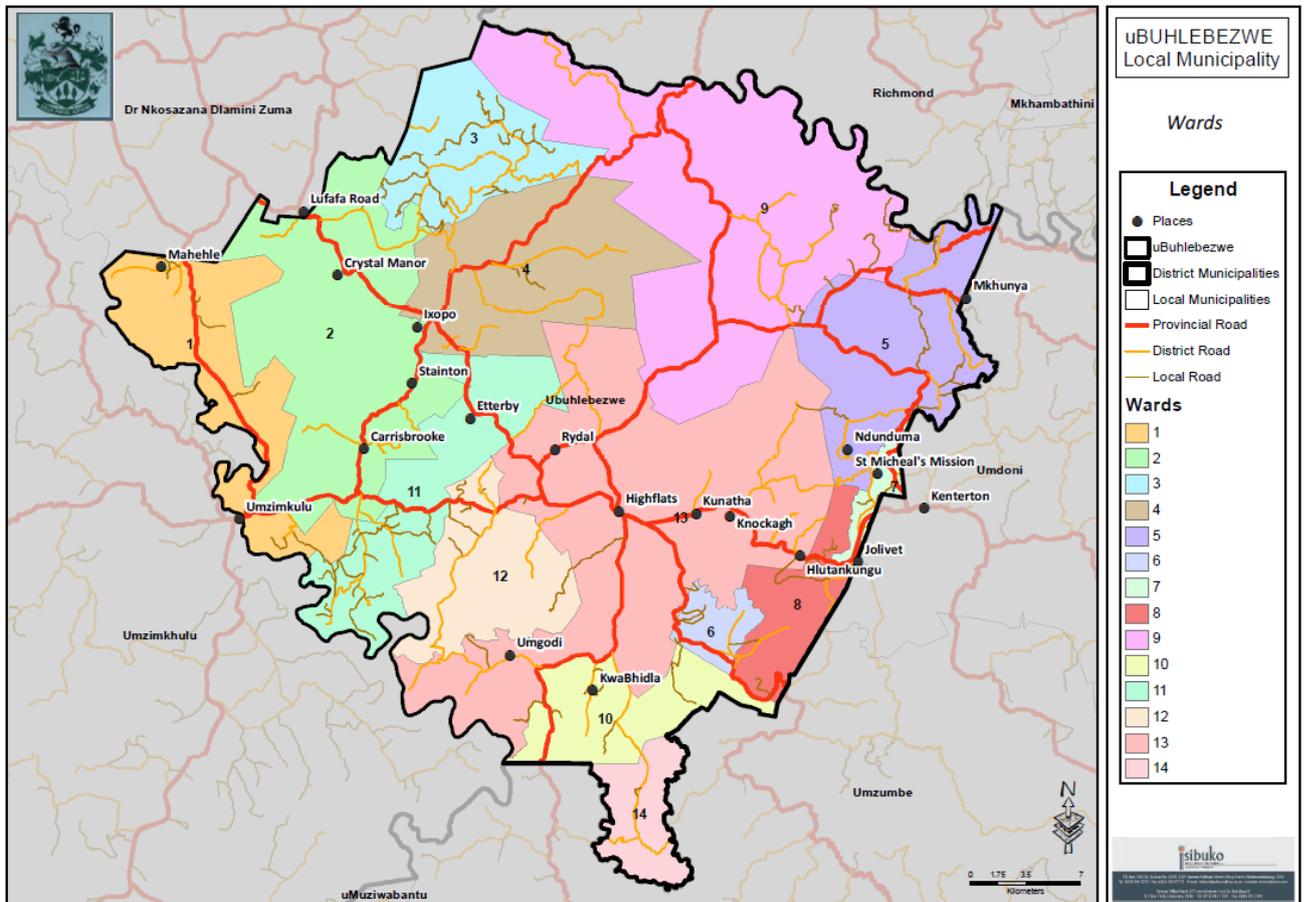
11 327 people. While ward 8 is a rural ward, ward 4 and 2 houses the majority of the urban population.

Figure 5: Population distribution by ward



Source: Statistics South Africa (Census 2011)

Wards in Ubuhlebezwe (new wards)



POPULATION GROWTH PROJECTIONS

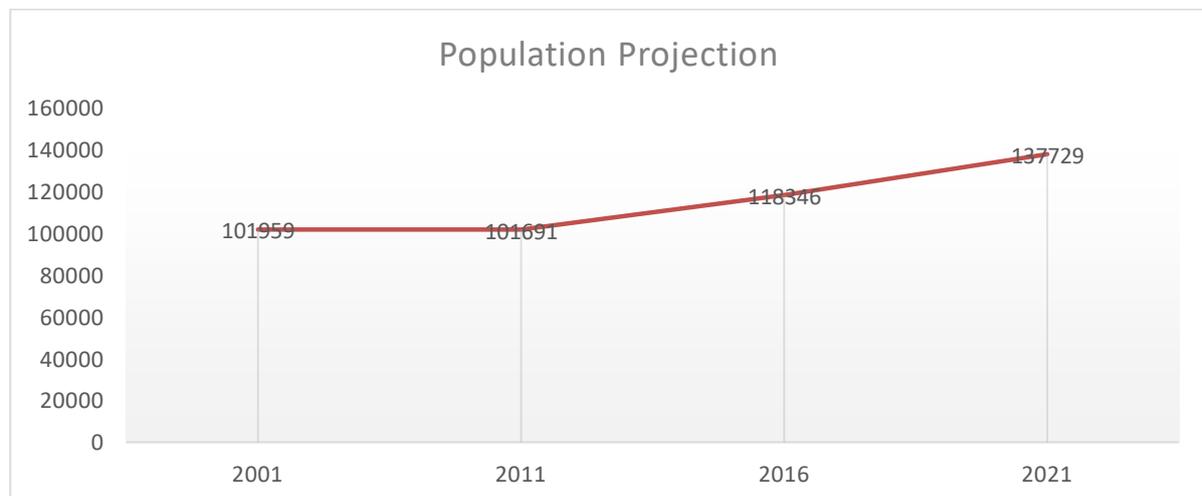
The table below show the growth rates of Ubuhlebezwe from 2001 to 2011 and 2011 to 2016. Although the population growth rate was estimated at -0.3% between 2001 and 2011, the municipality experienced a positive growth of 3.08% between 2011 and 2016 with an additional population of 16 655 people. This influx can be attributed to the 2016 boundaries redeterminations, where a significant portion of Umzumbe municipality was added to Ubuhlebezwe municipality.

	2001	2011	2016
Ubuhlebezwe Population	101 959	101691	118 346
Growth Rate	(2001-2011)= -0.3%		(2011-2016)= 3.08%

Source: Statistics South Africa (Census 2011), Community Survey 2016 and own calculations

Using the growth rate of 3.08%, the municipality’s population is estimated at 137 729 people in 2021. This means that the municipality will grow by an additional 19 383 people. Noteworthy, the growth rate used for the population projection factors in the population that was added into the municipality as a result of boundary redetermination. It is possible that population may grow by a number less than the projected. A growing population has the potential to influence the intensity of development in the municipality. In turn, a growing population needs to be met with an adequate supply of social facilities and basic services to ensure good quality of life of residents. Figure 4 graphically illustrates the municipality’s population growth projection trend.

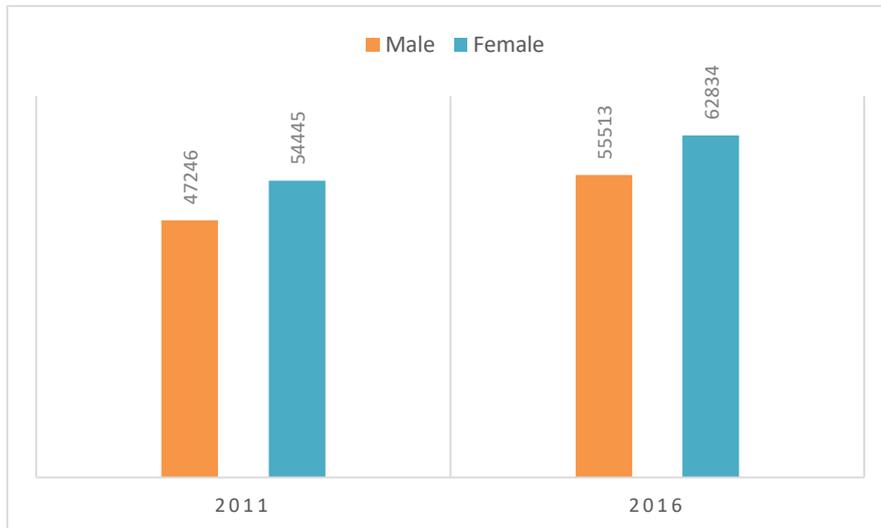
Figure 6: Population Projection



Source: Statistics South Africa (Census 2011) and Community Survey 2016

GENDER STRUCTURE

The gender composition of the population indicates that females are in a majority compared to their male counterparts (refer to figure 3). According to the recently released results of the 2016 Community Survey, there has been an increase in both the male and female population.



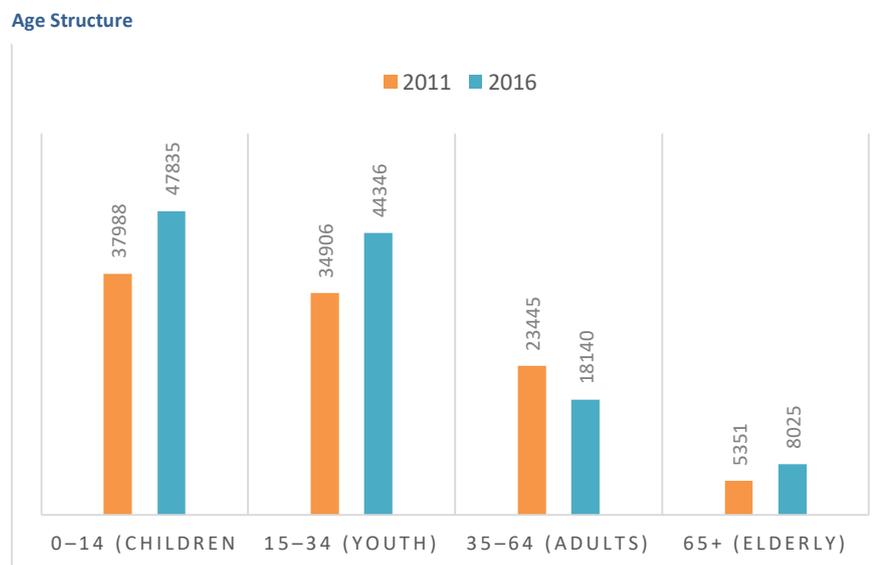
In addition, 57.4% (2016) of the heads of households are women. This reflects the impact of the local economy (lack of employment opportunities) on the gender structure, which forces a large number of males to

seek employment outside the area. It also implies a need for the human settlement programme to be sensitive to gender and the needs of women in particular.

AGE STRUCTURE

The population of Ubuhlebezwe is predominantly young and youthful. Figure 5 provides a comparison between the

Census 2011 data and the Community Survey of 2016 data in respect of age groups. The data suggests that there has been an increase in the age group 0-14 and 15-34. This includes the school going age cohort and children that need pre-school facilities. However, the age group representing adults and



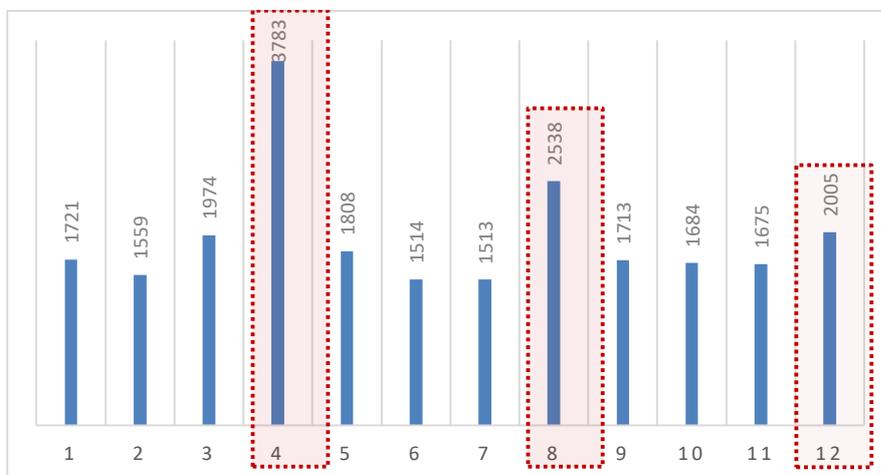
Source: Statistics South Africa (Census 2011), Community Survey 2016

the economically active group of the population (35-64) has declined significantly. This is most probably due to the decline in employment opportunities in the area and people leaving the municipal area in search of employment. The percentage of elderly has also increased from 5.3% in 2011 to 6.8% in 2016, which could suggest a trend of older people returning to the area.

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS:

The municipality had approximately 23487 households in 2011 with an average 4.1 people per household. The highest number of households were concentrated in ward 4 followed by wards 8 and 12. Ward 7 accounted for the lowest number of households in the municipality (see figure 7 below). It should be noted that in terms of the 2 new ward information the following applies Ward 13= 3820 and Ward 14=7539

Figure 7: Number of households per electoral ward



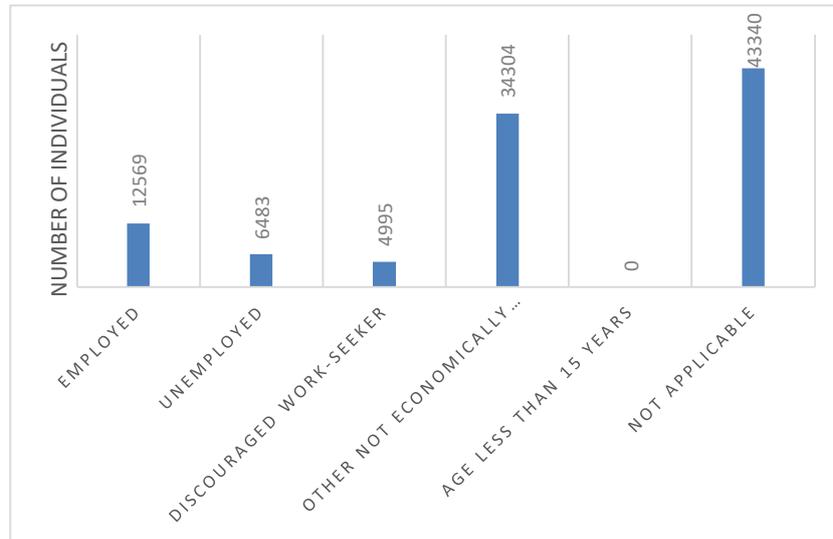
Source: Statistics South Africa (Census 2011)

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

EMPLOYMENT PROFILE

Unemployment in Ubhlebezwe was approximately 6.38% in 2011. The municipality has a

Employment Status



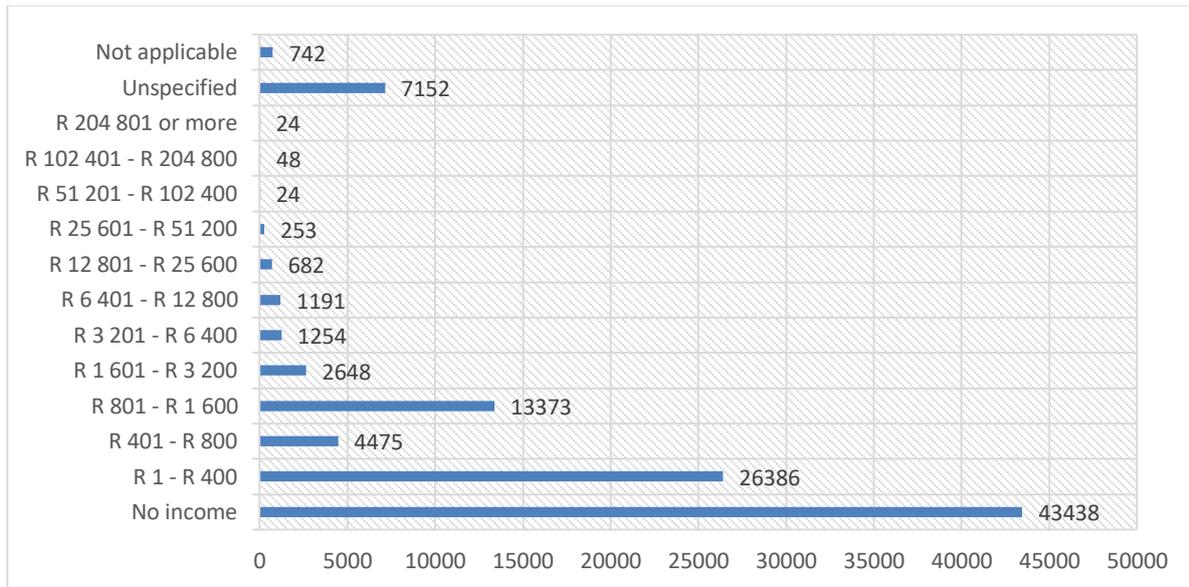
large portion of its population falling within the category of economically not active individuals. This portion of the population accounts for 33.73% of the municipality's population and includes individuals are able and available to work but did not look for

work or start their own business. Only a small portion (12.63%) of the municipality is employed. This indicates a need for the development of the municipality's economy that will contribute to the creation of employment opportunities.

INCOME PROFILE:

Approximately 42.72% of the population does not earn any income. Furthermore, 26 386 people earn between R1–R400; this is approximately 25.95% of the municipality's population. This income bracket includes government grant recipients and is indicative of a state-dependant portion of the population. Majority of the population earns below R1600 (between R1 and R1600) this further indicates that a large portion of the population is living in poverty with low level of disposable income.

Individual Monthly Income

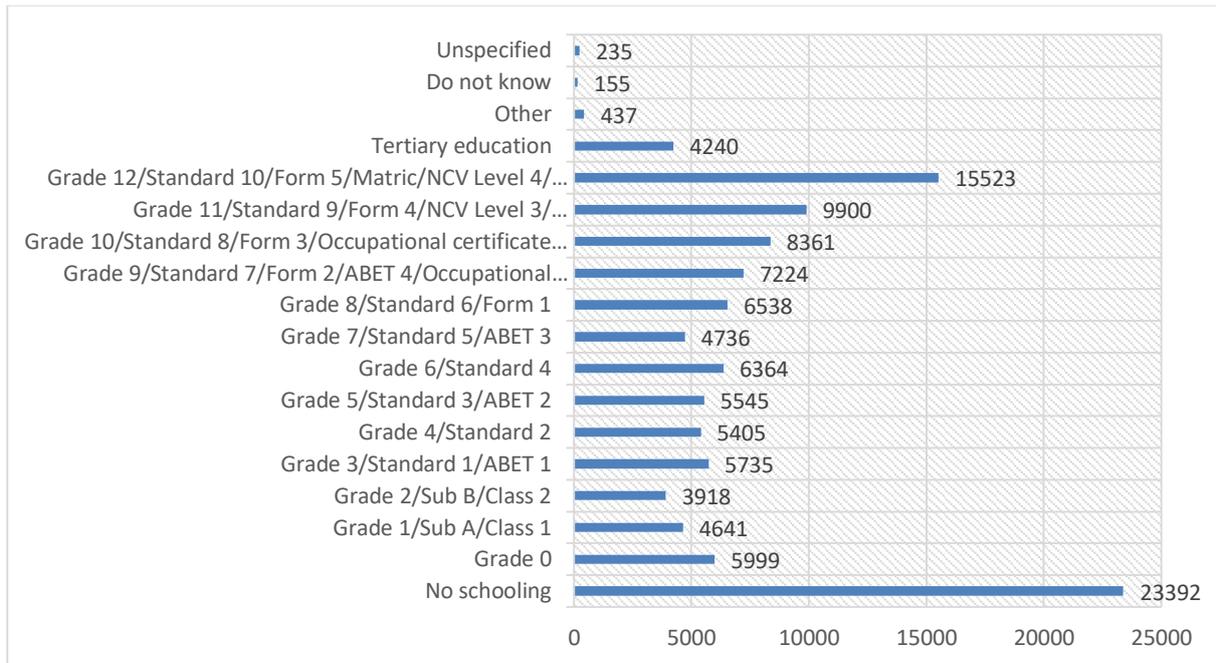


Source: Statistics South Africa (Census 2011)

EDUCATION

Ubhlebezwe municipality has a high percentage of people with no schooling. Approximately 23 392 people within the municipality have no schooling, accounting for 19.77% of the municipality's population. There is approximately 15 523 people within the municipality have obtained a grade 12 qualification. However, only 3.58% of the population possess a tertiary qualification. This thus calls for the development of tertiary facilities, as highlighted in the municipality's IDP.

Level of Education



Source: Statistics South Africa

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES:

Ubuhlebezwe municipality has 8 crèches, 67 primary schools and 2 secondary schools and 2 combined schools (refer to maps 7-8). There are currently no tertiary institutions within the municipality. According to the department of education, the existing educational facilities can service the area. However, there is a need for the development of tertiary institutions especially in the rural areas to aid in improving the skills base of the population. Furthermore, the existing educational facilities need to be upgraded (SDF 201718: 8).

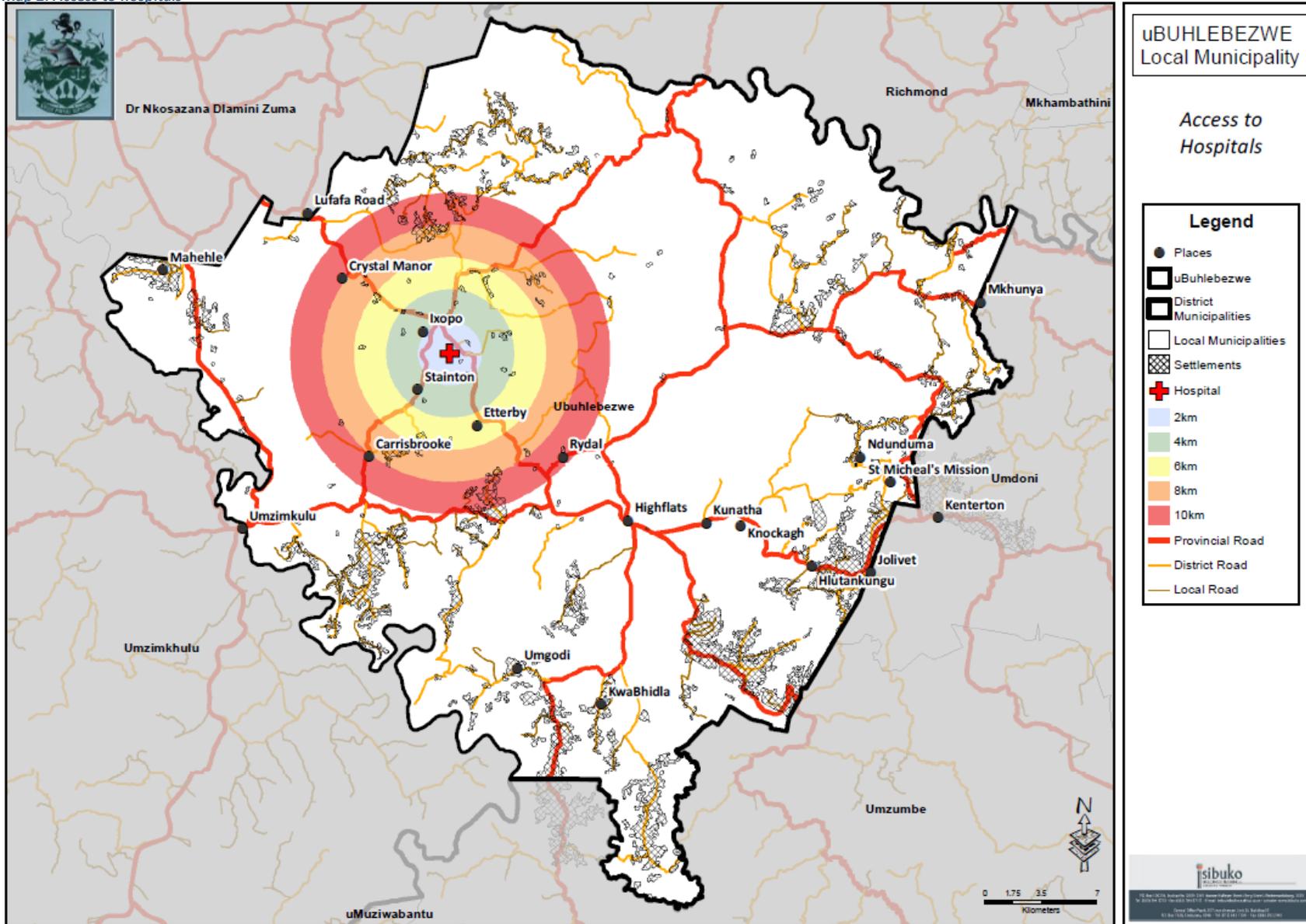
LIBRARIES:

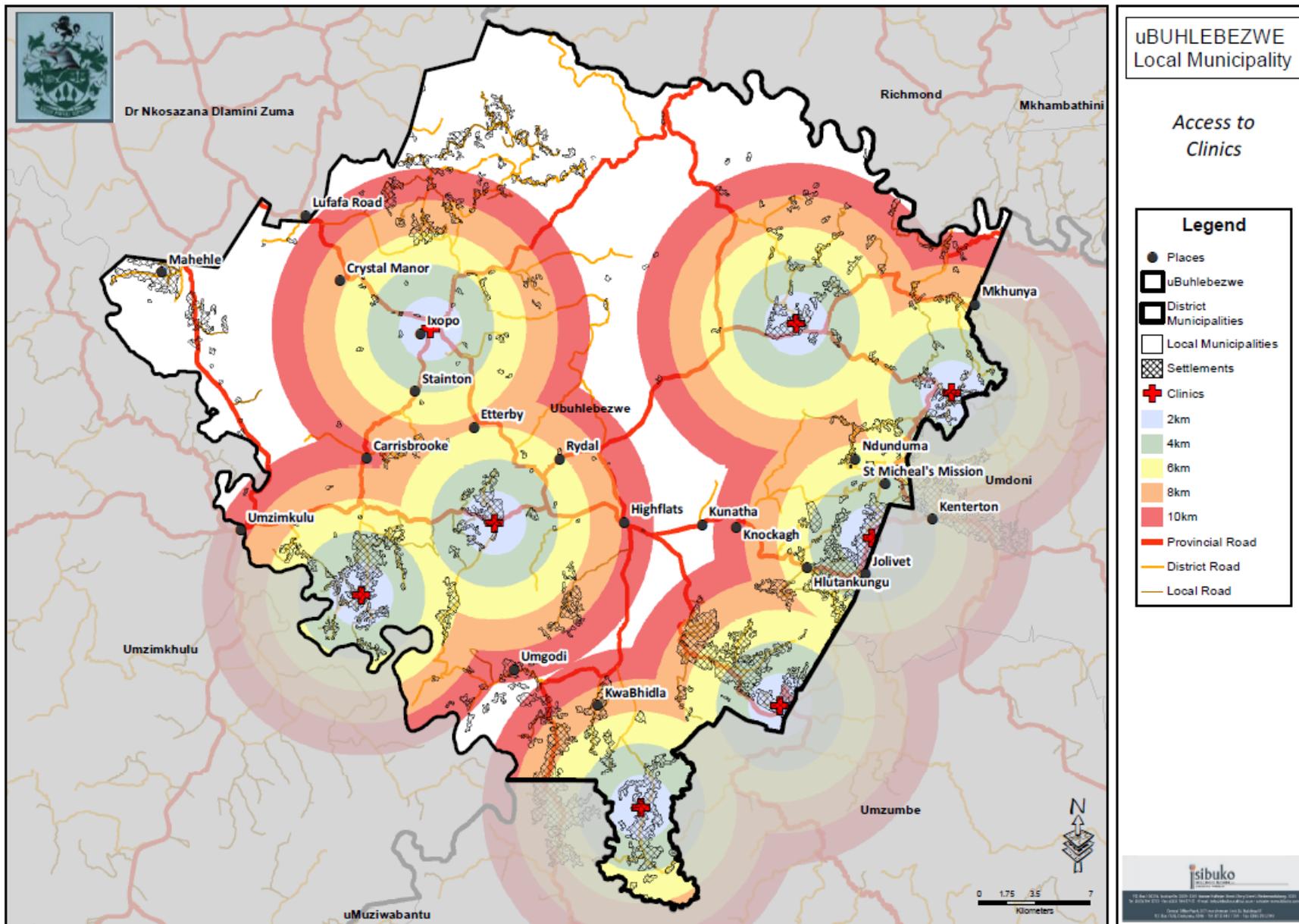
There is one main library within Ubuhlebezwe, the Margaret Mcadi library in Ixopo. The library is the only source for library services within Ubuhlebezwe. The services provided by the library include book lending and computer services. The municipality has planned to extend the library services to the secondary node of Highflats where the facility is to be housed in the Thusong centre (IDP 2016/17: 110).

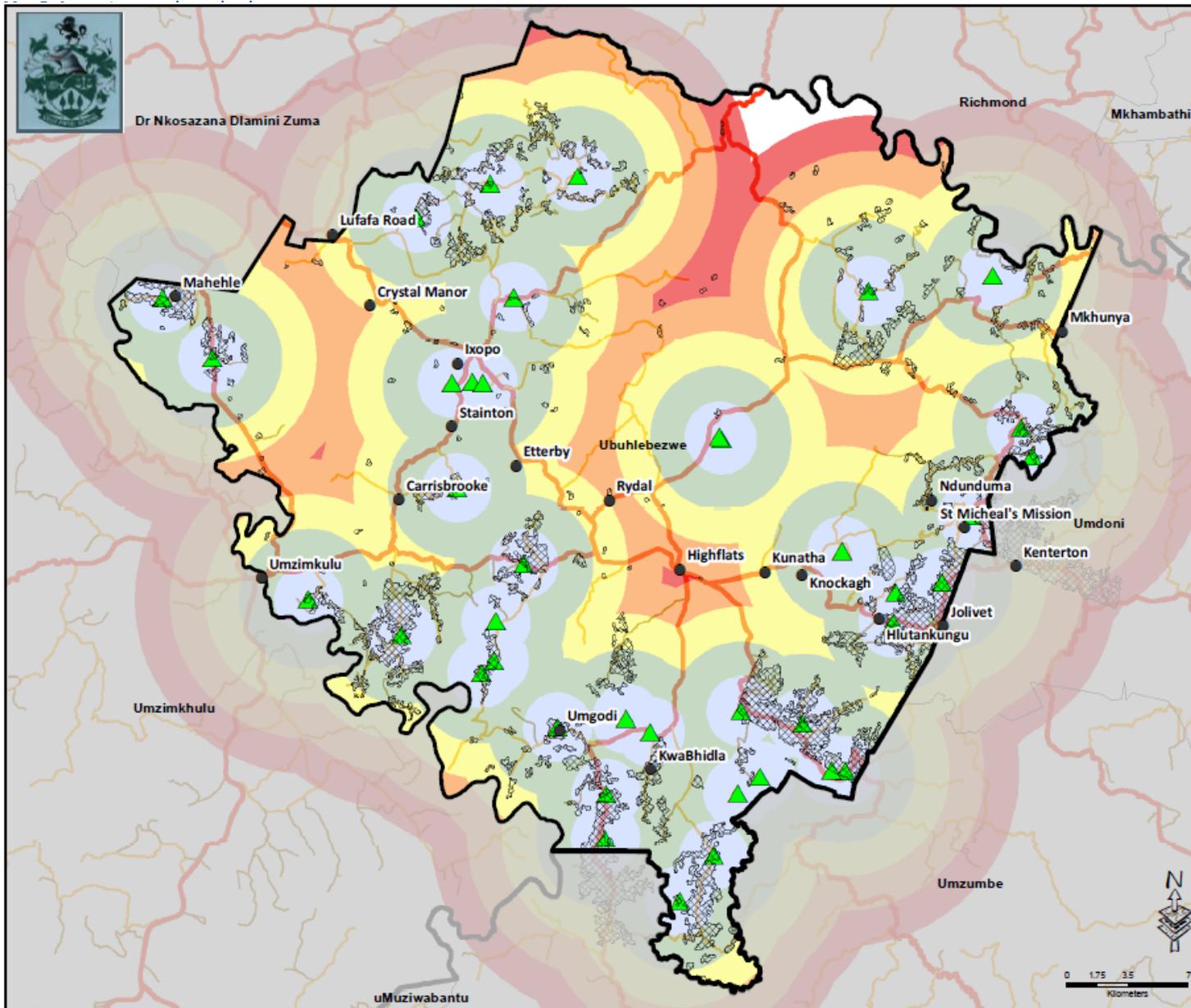
POLICE STATIONS:

There are two police stations within Ubuhlebezwe municipality, one in Ixopo and the other is located in the Highflats area. Due to the location and the topography some settlements are located, police visibility is limited.

Map 2: Access to hospitals







**uBUHLEBEZWE
Local Municipality**

*Access to
Secondary Schools*

Legend

- Places
- ▭ uBuhlebezwe
- ▭ District Municipalities
- ▭ Local Municipalities
- ▨ Settlements
- ▲ Secondary Schools
- 2km
- 4km
- 6km
- 8km
- 10km
- Provincial Road
- District Road
- Local Road

0 1.75 3.5 7
Kilometers

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ROAD NETWORK:

Ubuhlebezwe has strong provincial and district linkages. On a provincial level, the municipality is connected to Pietermaritzburg to the north eastern direction and Kokstad to the south western direction via the R56. The R612 links the municipality to Donnybrook and the South Coast (Umzinto) in Umdoni municipality. The P68-1 is identified as the linking network between Highflats and Port Shepstone.

The municipality's SDF identifies second order roads that provide linkages within in the municipality and the broader Harry Gwala District, these include:

- The P 729 and P77 provide access to the Vumakwenza Traditional council on the north-eastern border.
- The P64 connects to the R612 (linked to Ixopo town) and runs up to Creighton. This route gives access to St. Faiths/ Port Shepstone.
- Mahehle node is connected to the R56 via the P246.
- The D960 provides access to Sizwe Hlanganini and Dunge TCs.

In addition to these, there a number local access roads within the municipality that give access to settlements within the municipality. Some of these roads are also linked to middle order roads further strengthening the linkages of these settlements with nodal areas within the municipality.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE:

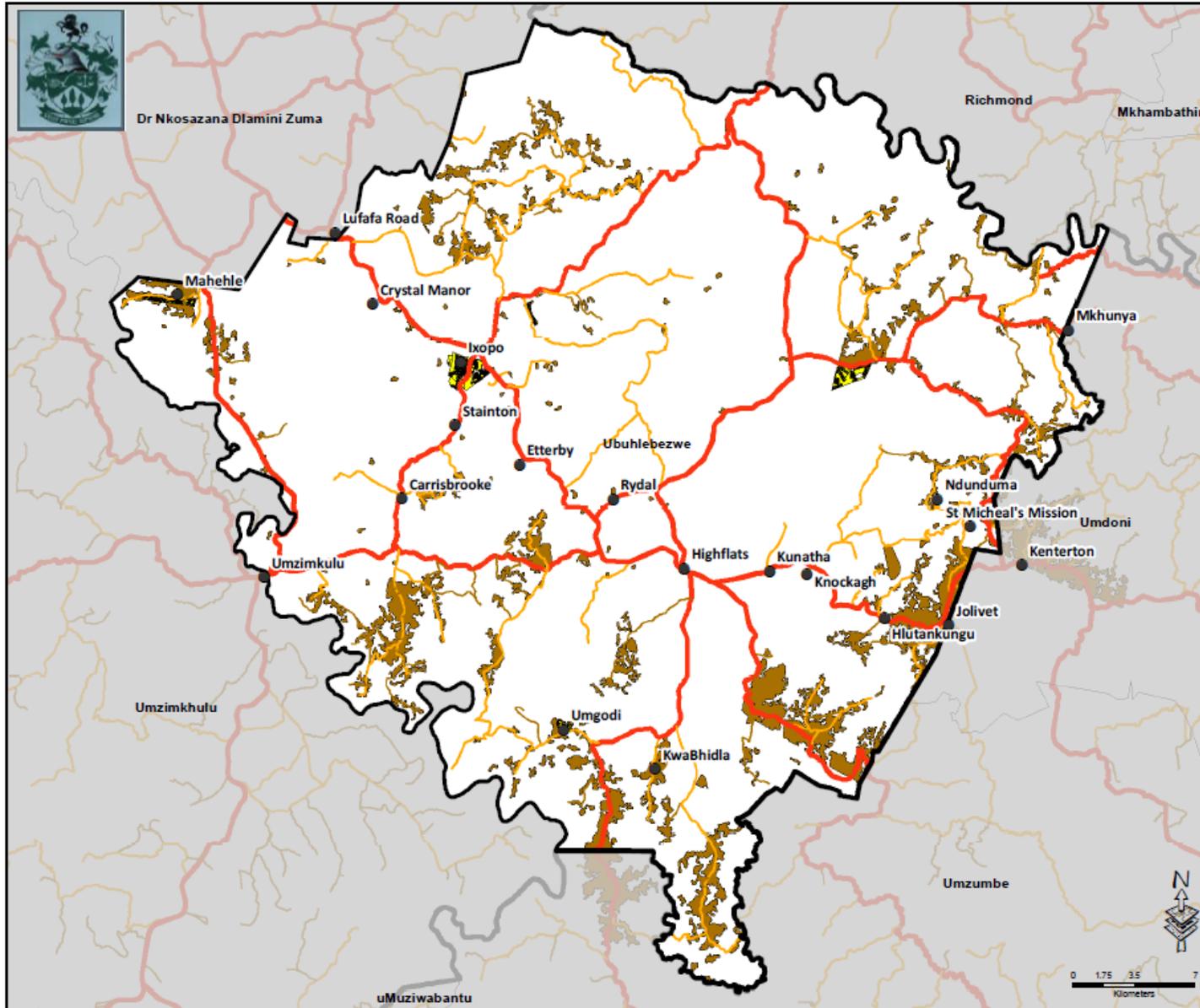
Ubuhlebezwe's public transport comprises of taxis and busses. There are two formal taxi ranks within the municipality; one in Ixopo and the other located in Highflats. There is also a Bus Rank currently being built within the Ixopo urban area.

SPATIAL AND ENVIRONMENTS CONTEXT

Spatial structure reflects a continuum from an urban centres through semi-urban settlements and rural settlements to the expansive commercial farmlands. The spatial structure of Ubuhlebezwe Municipality is influenced by the several structuring elements, which includes topography, rugged terrain, the urban centre of Ixopo and main transportation routes (R56 and R612). Topography and terrain influence, to a large extent, the location of settlement in the municipality, of which the majority is located along the outer boundaries of the municipal area.

- Road and transportation network: The R56 and the R612 gives structure to main transportation routes that links the municipal area with areas outside, as well as to provide access to the main urban centre (Ixopo), as well as Highflats (smaller, secondary node).

-
- **Urban settlement:** Ixopo is the main urban area within Ubuhlebezwe. Primary access to the town is achieved through the R56 and the R612, which also forms an important intersection upon entering the town of Ixopo. The R56 provides important north-south linkages to the town, while the R612 provides east-west linkages. Over the past few decades, Ixopo town has experienced variable trends including economic stagnation, slow population growth rate, degeneration in infrastructure, and deterioration in the quality of built environment. During the same period, the town has transformed from being a mere service centre for the surrounding farming community into a sub-regional administrative centre and economic hub. The Ixopo Town Planning Scheme, Ixopo Regeneration Strategy and the Ixopo Extension Precinct Plan are currently the only strategic frameworks to guide its future development.
 - **Semi-urban settlement:** Highflats is provided with limited services, but a number of commercial activities and a limited range of residential opportunities. It is located within the central region of the Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality along the R612 route connecting the town to Park Rynie in the East and Ixopo in the west. The town itself is not formalised and the core commercial activity area is situated on both sides of the R612 road. All residential activities and social facilities are centred around this main commercial area. The R612 road along with the privately owned commercial farms surrounding Highflats, are the main factors influencing the development of the town. The town plays a vital role in supporting areas such as Nhangwini, St Faiths, Nkweletsheni and Nhlamvini since they mostly use connecting public transport from Highflats. Highflats is sufficiently provided with electricity. Most of the roads have been tarred however some gravel roads need attention. Sanitation is generally in the form of septic tanks as well as Ventilated Improved Pit latrine.



**uBUHLEBEZWE
Local Municipality**

Settlement Pattern

Legend

- Places
- ▭ uBuhlebezwe
- ▭ District Municipalities
- ▭ Local Municipalities
- Provincial Road
- District Road
- Local Road
- Residential
- Traditional Settlements

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PLANNING

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-
- Rural settlements: Ubuhlebezwe is characterised by scattered rural settlements spread unevenly in space. The location of homesteads is a result of traditional land allocation practices and is highly influenced by access routes, rugged terrain (uneven topography) and social structure. The majority of the population of Ubuhlebezwe municipality is located in the rural areas of the municipality. The rural settlements are characterised by a traditional lifestyle, subsistence agricultural practices and low-density development. Some settlements are located on private land, such as Mariathal Mission and Mahehle. Rural settlements that developed on land reform land include areas such as Umgodi, Carrisbrooke and Mzizi. Settlements such as Mariathal, Mahehle, Umgodi and Mzizi have approved General Plans, formalising the layout plans for these settlements. Some of the rural settlements have progressed to more peri-urban areas, such as Jolivet and Mahehle.
 - Jolivet has a small area where commercial businesses are grouped at one section along the R612. The R612 is tarred however the rest of the roads linking the settlements are gravel roads. The residential areas use VIPs and traditional pits. Piped water is provided on communal standpipe basis and various businesses are able to connect individually from the mains.
 - Mahehle is bounded by the Umzimkhulu River to the west, which makes up the municipal boundary. The main road to the area is gravel and the rest of internal roads are also gravel. Water is provided in the form of communal standpipes and most parts of the settlements area do not have electricity. The residential areas use VIPs and the traditional pit system.
 - Other rural settlements include Hlutankungu (Stuartsville), KwaBhidla and Hlokozi.

SETTLEMENT PATTERN:

Settlement pattern largely reflects the spatial structure of the municipality, with only Ixopo as the main urban centre. Ixopo provides an important residential component with the older town area being more attractive to higher income people and being the only suburb in Ixopo catering for this market. Due to the shortage of supply for such residential properties, a significant number of people working in Ixopo are forced to commute on daily basis between Ixopo and areas such as Pietermaritzburg and Umzinto. Moreover, residential properties in this area have become expensive due to a high level of demand. To address this situation, the municipality has proposed the development of an area below the Golf Course and high school.

Morningside is a low to middle-income housing area. In the light of increasing demand for such sites, the municipality developed sites in an area just below Morningside, named Valley View. Historically, there has been no formal “low income” housing in Ixopo. The need to establish a

residential township for low-income groups in Ixopo was originally identified by the local authority as early as the 1940's (Metroplan, 1992:2). Since then, the number of informal housing units within the area has increased dramatically. Fairview and parts of Shayamoya consist of low cost structures.

Informal settlements in Ubuhlebezwe are mainly located within the Ixopo settlement area, particularly in the residential townships located to the east of the R56. The key driver for informal settlement establishment in the municipality is primarily to access livelihood opportunities within Ixopo and to some extent in Highflats (as the urban areas). Informal settlements in Ixopo includes Chocolate City, Draaihoek, FairView, Railway and Valley View. The only informal settlement in Highflats is located in the north of the town (north of the railway line).

Settlement pattern in the rural areas reflects the general rural character of the area with scattered settlements forming themselves into webs. The location of these settlements in space is highly influenced by the livelihood strategies such as access to arable land, reliable sources of water, grazing land, etc. Factors such as access to public facilities (schools, clinics, etc.), public transport routes and bulk services are fast emerging as critical factors in the growth and expansion of rural settlements. The following are some of the key features of rural settlement in Ubuhlebezwe:

- They have neither followed any predetermined spatial structure nor have they benefitted from 'formal' spatial planning. They are scattered in an unsystematic manner with limited (achieved by means of social facilities and access roads) if any linkages between the settlements.
- Land allocation is undertaken in terms of the traditional land allocation system, which is not based on any verifiable standards. As a result, site sizes for different land uses vary significantly.
- Land use management is based on collective memory where members of the community collectively agree that a piece of land is earmarked for a particular use or belongs to someone.
- They differ in size and density depending on location in relation to the above-mentioned factors.
- In areas with rugged terrain, settlements occur along ridgelines forming a continuous line which breaks where the area become very steep. Some of the households and/or public facilities are located on land that is not suitable for settlement purposes. These include steep slopes, unfavourable geotechnical conditions, floodplains and wetlands. None of these forms part of the factors taken into account when allocating land. The key challenge is to direct the location of these settlements and manage their expansion.

SETTLEMENT DENSITY

Map 4 indicates the settlement density of Ubuhlebezwe. Settlement density is measured in terms of the amount of dwellings / households per hectare. Households are distributed unevenly within the Municipal boundary.

In some areas, households are clustered along transport routes and exhibits higher densities. This is evident in some of the communal areas, such as Nokweja, Hlokozi and Mahehle, amongst others.

The majority of the municipal area has very low settlement densities ranging between 1.1-2 homesteads per hectare. This can roughly be translated to an average site size of 5000m². Low household densities are also evident in some of the traditional areas, including the Vukani, Amakuze, Nyuswa and Mjoli– Mawush Hlanganani areas. Higher settlement densities are evident in areas such as Mahehle, Umgodi and KwaBhidla where densities reach up to 3 households per hectare. This translates to 3333 m². Highest household density is in Ixopo, which reflects the spatial character of Ixopo, which is a conventional small town, serving the commercial farming areas.

Settlement densities in relation to the road network reflects a pattern where a number of settlements are clustered along transport routes. Thus, higher household densities are found closer to transportation routes.

LAND USE:

The main land cover in the municipal area is commercial agriculture. Ubuhlebezwe is characterised by a diversified agricultural sector and good agricultural potential. The main agricultural land uses that accompany the commercial agriculture land coverage, includes the following:

- Commercial crops, which includes sugarcane, maize, beans and potatoes.
- Commercial forestry.
- The potential commercial agriculture category refers to grassland. The main land use associated with this type of land cover is livestock farming.
- Subsistence agriculture, which takes place mainly in the rural areas. Rural dwellings are also found within these areas.

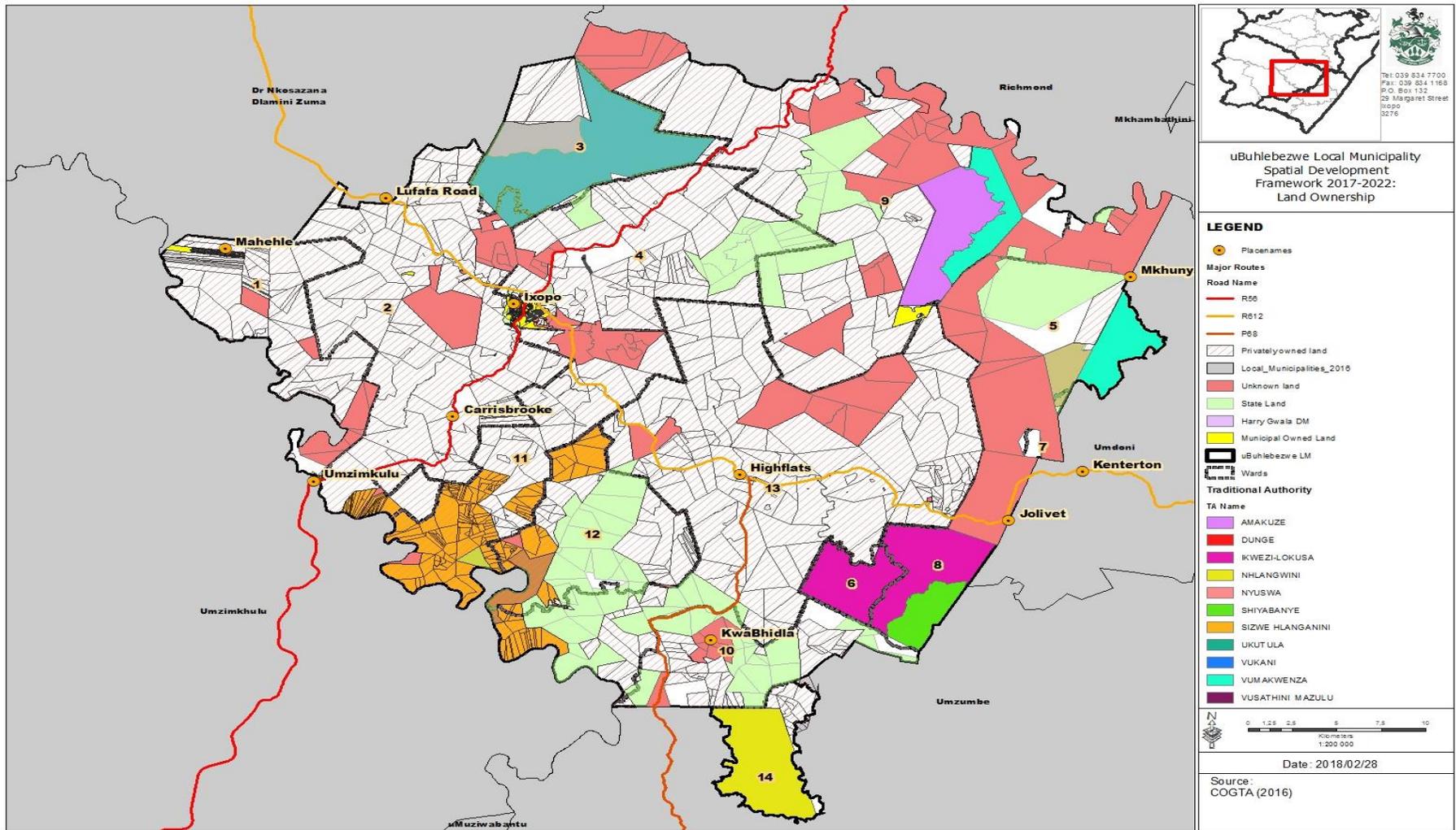
Settlements cover a very small portion of the municipal area. This includes urban and rural settlement.

LAND OWNERSHIP

The land ownership pattern, demonstrates multiple tenure rights, which range from freehold to communal and state land. It broadly includes the following categories:

- Ingonyama Trust Land;
- Privately owned land;

-
- State land;
 - Communal property; and Parastatals and servitudes.



THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

TOPOGRAPHY

Ubuhlebezwe demonstrates rugged terrain with hilly rolling country. In the east, numerous river valleys fragment the municipal area making the topography steep with gently sloping valley bottoms (Sisonke SEA, 2013:27). Areas with steep slopes greater than 1:3 should generally be avoided, since it is not suitable for development.

GEOLOGY

The geology occurring in the municipal area can be summarised as follows:

- The area around Ixopo soils are leached and of low inherent nutrient status with problems with Phosphorus fixation and aluminium toxicity, they have low agricultural potential.
- East of Ixopo soils on hillsides are shallow of the Mispah and Glenrosa. In the valley bottoms, pockets of deep alluvial soils are found. Areas of calcareous duplex soils are also found east of Ixopo, these soils are highly erodible.
- Around the edges of Ubuhlebezwe, soils are of the Table Mountain Sandstone plateau, with rugged low potential soils in the north of the municipality.
- On the eastern boundary, the soils are acid and leached. They consist of shallow sandy soils derived from the Table Mountain series with heavier soils are derived from dolerite and Dwyka Tillite. Small pockets of high potential soils do occur, erosion on the steep slopes is however problematic in these areas.

HYDROLOGICAL FEATURE

The Ubuhlebezwe municipality has an extensive system of rivers and tributaries. It forms part of the Mvoti to Umzimkhulu Water Management Area (WMA 11), one of 19 such areas in South Africa. The three major catchments are:

- The Mkomazi Catchment in the Northern areas;
- The Umzimkhulu Catchment in the western areas; and
- The Coastal Mvoti Catchment in the eastern areas. (Sisonke SEA, 2013: 35).

Water is a strategically important natural resource. The municipal area has many water resources and a number of perennial rivers flow through them. These rivers include the Lufafa, Mkomazi, Mzimkulu, Lovu, Mpambanyoni, etc. (SDF 2014: 51). The water network in Ubuhlebezwe consist mainly of the following rivers systems (refer to map 12):

-
- Primary rivers: The Mkomazi River runs along the northeastern border of the municipality with Richmond, while the Mzimkhulu River runs along the southeastern boundary with the Umzimkhulu Municipality.
 - There are a number of secondary rivers flowing through the municipality, including the Lufafa, Nhlanyini, Xobho, Mgodu, Mtwalume and Mponnayoni rivers.

Part of the hydrology of Ubuhlebezwe is wetlands, which provide clean, reliable water for the use of people and should be managed wisely. Major wetlands in Ubuhlebezwe are located to the north of Ixopo and east of Highflats.

CONSERVATION AREAS

There is one proclaimed formal reserve in Ubuhlebezwe LM, namely the Soada Forest Nature Reserve. There are however sensitive areas, classified as critical biodiversity areas. A large area around Ixopo and to the east and northeast of Highflats fall within the Critical Biodiversity areas: Irreplaceable.

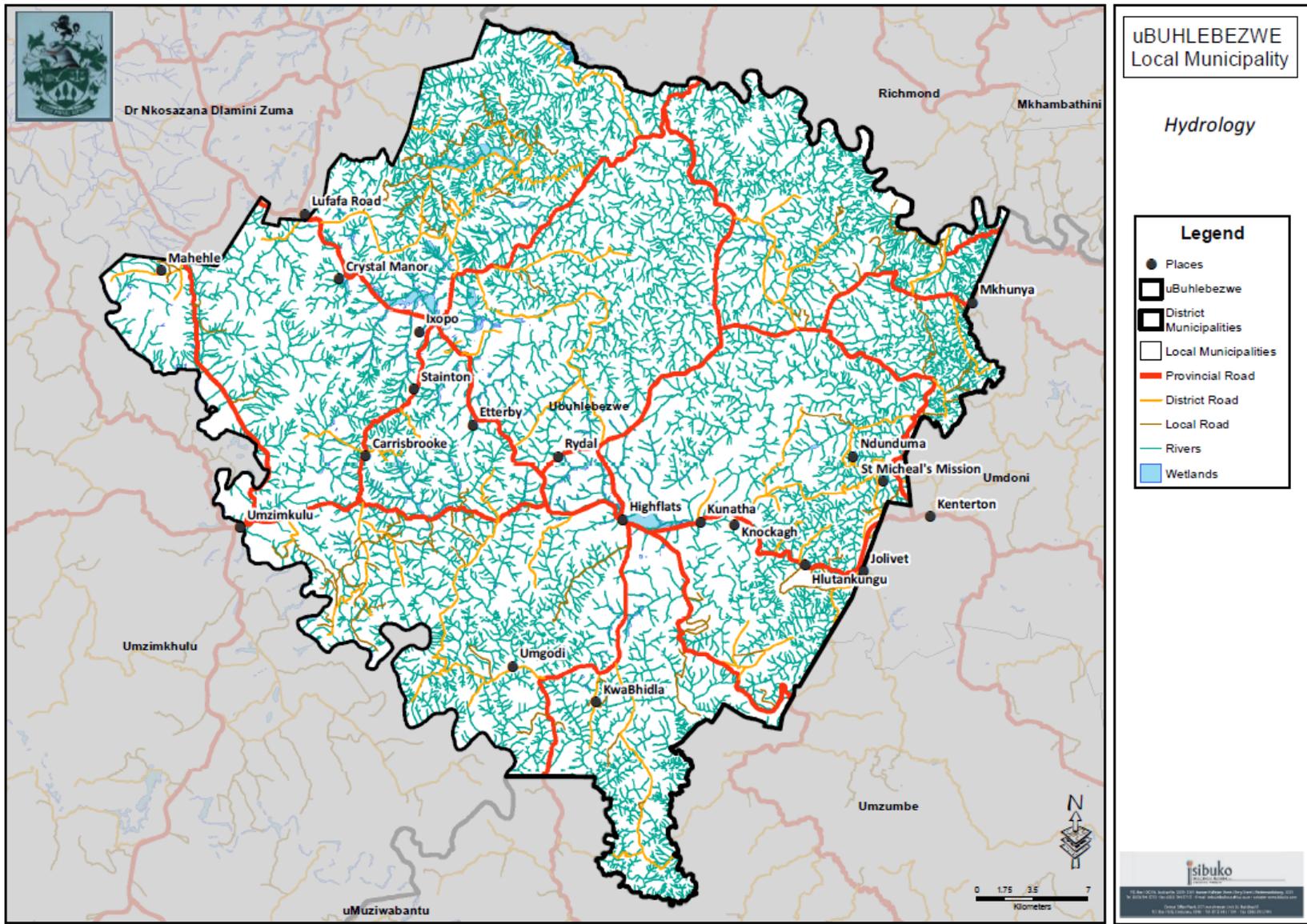
A large portion of the municipal area, stretching across the central parts in a north-westerly to south-easterly direction, is considered vulnerable in terms of its conservation status. These areas are left with no environmental value and closely correlate to the area under commercial forestry (plantations).

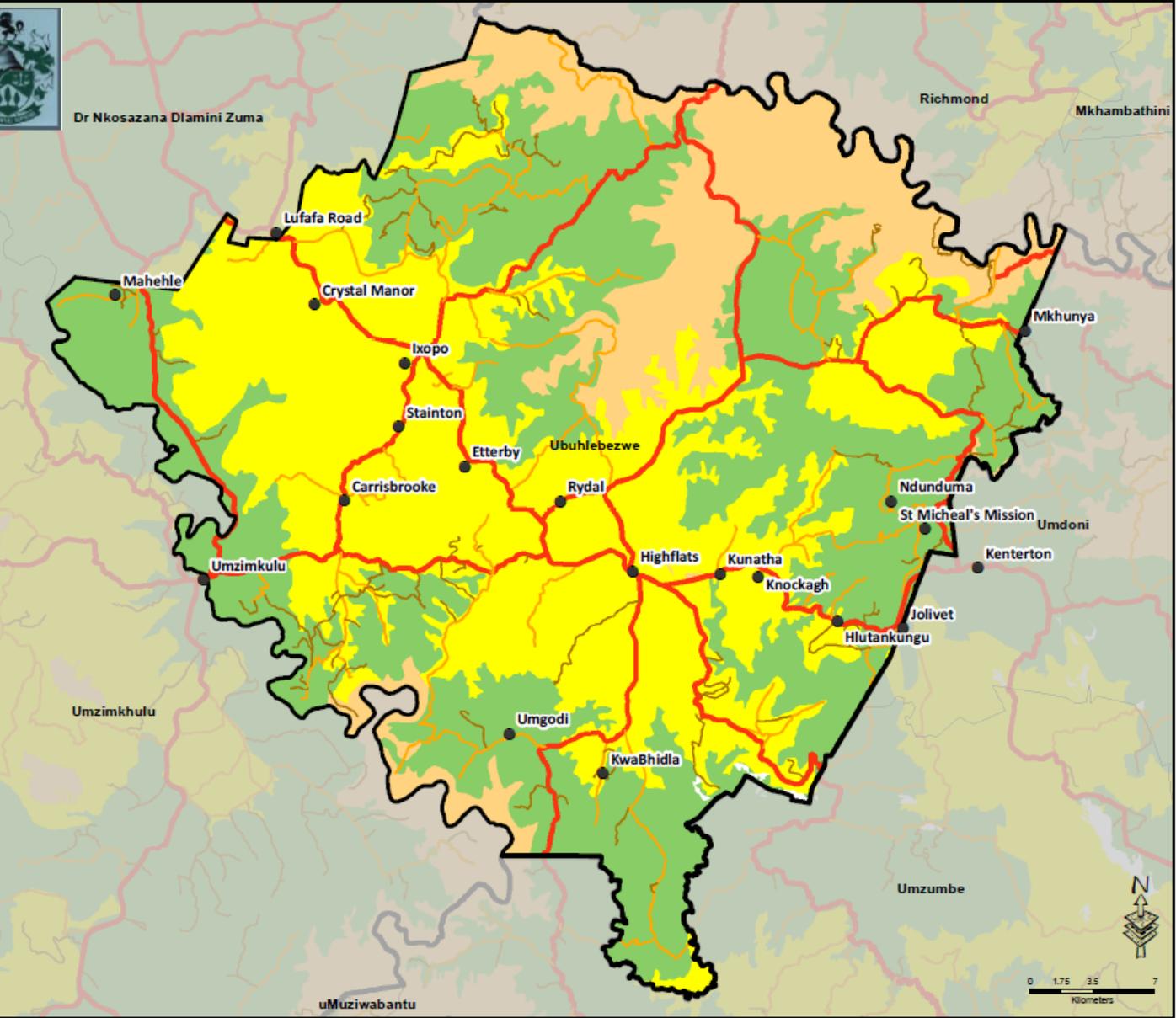
VEGETATION

A broad assessment of the vegetation found in Ubuhlebezwe indicates that there is diverse and extensive riparian vegetation, which serves as an important source of grazing and timber for fuel and building materials. The vegetation is varied and the Natal Mist Belt Ngongoni Veld occur mainly in this area.

- BRG 1: Moist Mist land Mist belt extends over the central portion of Ubuhlebezwe including Ixopo and is the dominant BRG.
- BRG 2: Dry Midlands Mist belt has a very limited range and only occurs in small pockets in the municipal area.
- BRG 3: Moist Highland Sour veld is the dominant group in the Municipality extending throughout central areas of the District areas.
- BRG 4: Sour Sand veld occurs in the central areas of the Ubuhlebezwe Municipality and is generally devoid of indigenous tree species.

-
- BRG 5: Coast Hinterland Thornveld exists in the small pockets within the Ubuhlebezwe. It occurs in the upper margins of river valleys and is dominated by Acacia species, which have expanded into the Dry Ngongoni veld from the valley vegetation.





uBUHLEBEZWE Local Municipality

Conservation Status

Legend

- Places
- ▭ uBuhlebezwe
- ▭ District Municipality
- ▭ Local Municipality
- Provincial Road
- District Road
- Local Road
- Endangered
- Least threatened
- Vulnerable

isibuko

HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

Harry Gwala District Municipality has an important role to play in housing delivery, service provision and bulk infrastructure development. It has functions and powers to do planning at a regional level taking into consideration each and every planning policy developed by the various local municipalities that fall within its area of jurisdiction. Harry Gwala District Municipality facilitates development of integrated, sustainable and equitable economic, social and infrastructural by:

- Providing bulk infrastructural development;
- Service provision;
- Ensuring integrated development for the entire district;
- Promoting equitable distribution of resources between the various local municipalities;
- Providing assistance and support to local municipalities to enhance their capacity.

In line with the responsibilities of local municipalities outlined in Section 9(1) of the Housing Act, the Harry Gwala District Municipality has a responsibility to provide bulk services, particularly water and sanitation in all human settlement (housing) development projects. As such, it is critically important to synchronise human settlement and bulk infrastructure development projects.

UBUHLEBEZWE MUNICIPALITY

The devolution of the decision-making authority concerning the implementation of the National Housing Programmes to the Ubhlebezwe will enable the municipality to coordinate these decisions with other decisions that relate to the broader sustainability of human settlements. National Department of Human Settlements notes that:

- Municipalities are ideally situated for the effective alignment of interdepartmental and inter-governmental funding streams.
- With the authority to take such decisions, opportunities for the application of innovative planning principles arise contributing to the potential for the development of integrated and sustainable human settlements within municipal jurisdictions.
- This is a key emphasis of the Comprehensive Plan for the Development of Sustainable Human Settlements, (Comprehensive Plan) “Breaking New Ground”, as well as the Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act, 2005.

The main aim of the HSSP is not only to assist the municipality in fulfilling the role assigned to it in terms of the National Housing Code, but it is also to fulfil development goals and objectives

outlined in the IDP and SDF. This HSSP is aligned with strategies and development goals in the IDP and SDF. The Ubuhlebezwe Municipality has committed itself to support the acceleration of sustainable human settlements at appropriate locations and to ensuring that social development is catered for within the municipality.

The Ubuhlebezwe Municipality has established a Housing Section within the Department of Infrastructure Planning and Development. This Department also houses the PMU/Technical section, GIS, Planning, Environmental unit and Building inspectorate units of the municipality. The Housing section comprises a Manager: Planning and Housing, who reports directly to the Director Infrastructure Planning and Development, as well as two housing officials. Functions of this unit include:

- management and regular liaising with Implementing Agents,
- interacting with the District Municipality and all relevant Government Departments
- ongoing monitoring of project management,
- inspections;
- assisting with progress on projects and report formulation.

The municipality also has regular on-site technical and Project Steering Committee meetings per project, as well as a Housing Think Tank Forum to tackle pertinent issues around the Housing function of the municipality. All Housing staff also forms part of the Housing Think Tank meetings. The functions of this forum is:

- to assist the Department and Municipality to monitor and facilitate the progress of projects;
- to identify issues, solutions and progress for each housing project;
- to scrutinise progress reports presented by the Implementing Agent;
- to exchange ideas and information between key stakeholders (Department of Human Settlements, the District Municipality, the Implementing agents, as well Department of Rural Development and Land Reform).

The Department of Human Settlements is the funder for all Municipal Housing Projects and the Municipality constantly interacts with DOHS.

NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The National Department of Human Settlements is responsible for the formulation, monitoring and facilitation of all housing programmes in South Africa. It develops laws and policies that facilitate the implementation of effective and equitable housing sector. National housing targets, goals and objectives are also developed at this level. The following are areas of priority that have been identified by the Human Settlements Department:

-
- Accelerated delivery of housing opportunities
 - Access to basic services
 - More efficient land use
 - An improved property market

The provincial Department of Human Settlements on the other hand, has the power to make specific laws and policies specific to the KwaZulu-Natal Province. It is also at this level that national housing targets are divided amongst local municipalities based on housing needs analysis and delivery targets for each municipality.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

The DEDTEA is the provincial lead agent for environmental management and shares its powers with national government. They are responsible for implementing national legislation, have the functional powers to prepare provincial legislation in specific areas and must cooperate with other spheres of government. One of the mandates of the DEDTEA is to facilitate environmental impact mitigation and promote sustainable environmental management development. Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA's) are a tool used by government to assist in deciding whether projects should go ahead or not. It considers all the advantages and disadvantages of a project proposal from an environmental perspective. The EIA process involves completion of information in an application form for submission to the relevant competent authority. The initiation and conclusion of the application process is undertaken at a Regional Level where it categorically manifests itself with applications pertaining to exemption, basic assessment, scoping/full EIA applications, amendment of authorization and unlawful commencement application.

As part of the approval of some housing projects, an environmental authorization is required, which includes the receipt of a Record of Decision (ROD) from the Department of Environmental Affairs and Rural Development, which supports the approval of a project.

ESKOM:

Eskom is the service provider that implements electrification in terms of their programme and budget. They are constantly updated on completed, current and planned housing projects. The new national norms and standards for the construction of standalone residential dwellings and engineering services requires the electrification of all dwellings units build under the human

settlement development programme. As such, ESKOM has become one of the key stakeholders in the packaging and implementation of human settlement projects.

SUPPORT INSTITUTIONS

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The Housing Development Agency is a special-purpose vehicle that will acquire, hold, develop and release land for residential and community purposes. This will enable the creation of sustainable human settlements. The Housing Development Agency will work with provinces, municipalities and private sector developers to double the country's housing delivery rate from about 250 000 to over 500 000 units per year.

NATIONAL HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION

The National Housing Finance Corporation (NHFC) is one of several Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) created by the South African Government to sustainably improve on the socio-economic challenges of the country. The developmental financial focus of the NHFC is specifically about finding workable models on affordable housing finance for the low- and middle-income target market. It was established in 1996. Its core mandate is to offer housing finance, project facilitation and technical assistance to private and public entities ensuring availability of housing stock for the target market. As a means of sustaining its funding programs, the NHFC searches for better ways to mobilise finance for affordable housing from sources outside the state in partnership with a broad range of organizations.

The NHFC defines its end-beneficiary target market as “any South African household with a monthly income that is between R1 500 and R15 000”, namely, the low- to middle-income household also known as the Gap market. This market sector is mostly able to contribute towards its housing costs, but finds it hard to access bank-funded housing finance.

The NHFC, in the affordable housing finance market sector, adopts a role of Financier, Facilitator and Innovator, to ensure viable housing finance solutions; growth of sustainable human settlements; and mobilization of relevant partnerships, through enhanced insights and knowledge gained.

The NHFC provides housing finance to retail intermediaries, property developers and social housing institutions as well as supports and capacitates emerging housing intermediaries through strategic partnerships.

NATIONAL URBAN AND RECONSTRUCTION AGENCY

The National Urban Reconstruction Housing Association (Nurcha) is an innovative development finance company that provides Bridging Finance and Construction Support Services to Contractors and Developers. Nurcha finances and supports the construction of Subsidy and Affordable Housing, Infrastructure and Community Facilities. They also provide Account Administration, Project and Programme Management Services to Local and Provincial Authorities

Nurcha is specifically geared to provide project finance from conventional financial institutions to the developers and the Implementing Agents. It offers certificate lending on receiving a valid payment certificate whereby it will bridge finance the payment certificate for the period until the employer makes payment towards the certificate agreed,

Nurcha places a very high premium on the viability of projects and provides finance to projects, which are viable and profitable for the contractor. The latter can apply for construction bridging finance from Nurcha if a recognised public or private employer has awarded a valid and viable contract.

The Affordable Housing Programme provides development finance loans to reputable private sector developers who provide entry level bonded, high density and gap housing within South Africa. Nurcha will collaborate with developers who have a proven record of accomplishment within the affordable housing market. This ensures that we create a tailor made solution to suit your development funding needs. The loan will be geared depending on the risk profile of the client with the loan period not exceeding 24 months. Nurcha's funding categories and end unit price parameters are as follows:

- Gap Housing Market (selling price not exceeding R350 000).
- Affordable Housing (selling price not exceeding R500 000).
- Sectional Title Units (selling price below R500 000).

RURAL HOUSING LOAN FUND

Rural Housing Loan Fund (RHLF) was established in 1996 by the national Department of Human Settlements, South Africa with initial grant funding from the German development bank, KFW. RHLF was set up as a wholesale development finance institution with the mandate of enabling low income earners to access small loans that they could afford to repay. Borrowers use these loans to improve their housing conditions incrementally.

As a wholesale finance institution, RHLF facilitates housing micro loans through intermediaries who may be retail, community based or NGO housing finance lenders. These partners borrow funds from RHLF and on-lend to individual borrowers throughout the rural areas of South Africa, including small towns and secondary cities. Our intermediary lenders enable RHLF to reach all nine provinces of South Africa efficiently.

Structured loans are the primary product that the RHLF offers. They are provided to intermediaries to establish, support or develop a housing loan operation addressing the need of individual households. The minimum loan size is R1 m, unless expressly decided otherwise by the Credit Committee. These loans are structured to match the intermediary's underlying product profile, and are disbursed according to the following three criteria:

- Draw-downs should be structured so that the RHLF's exposure is limited (a higher risk profile should be accompanied by a slower draw-down pattern to allow the RHLF to monitor the performance of the intermediary)
- Draw-downs should be matched with the intermediary's disbursement of qualifying loans and should not allow the intermediary to build up extensive surplus funding
- The size of the facility and the drawdown schedule should be in line with the historical growth pattern of the intermediary and its capacity to manage growth, to avoid potential destabilizing effects. The repayment period should match that of the end user.

NATIONAL HOME BUILDERS REGISTRATION COUNCIL

The National Home Builders Registration Council (NHBRC) is a regulator body of the home building industry. Its goal is to assist and protect housing consumers who have been exposed to contractors who deliver housing units of substandard design, workmanship and poor quality material. The NHBRC was established in 1998, in accordance with the provisions of The Housing Consumers Protection Measures Act (Act No. 95 of 1998). Its mandate is to protect the interests of housing consumers and to ensure compliance to regulated building industry standards.

All home builders, regardless of the size or cost of the homes they build, must be registered with the NHBRC in terms of the law (Housing Consumers Protection Measures Act no 95 of 1998). Similarly, housing projects should be enrolled with the NHBRC for quality assurance purposes.

SOCIAL HOUSING REGULATORY AUTHORITY

The Social Housing Regulatory Authority (the "SHRA") was established in August 2010 by the Minister of Human Settlements in terms of the Social Housing Act, No. 16 of 2008. The SHRA is classified as a public entity in terms of Schedule 3A of the Public Finance Management Act. Its aims and objectives are as follows:

- Promote the development and awareness of social housing by providing an enabling environment for the growth and development of the social housing sector.
- Provide advice and support to the Department of Human Settlements in its development of policy for the social housing sector and facilitate national social housing programmes
- Provide best practice information and research on the status of the social housing sector
- Support provincial governments with the approval of project applications by social housing institutions
- Provide assistance, when requested, with the process of the designation of restructuring zones
- Enter into agreements with provincial governments and the National Housing Finance Corporation to ensure the co-ordinated exercise of powers

The Social Housing Investment Programme may invest in social housing projects or social housing institutions (SHIs) in accordance with the investment criteria set out in the social housing Regulations. Capital investment is made through Restructuring Capital Grants, Provincial Institutional Subsidies, and Debt Funding. There are instances where delivery agents are able to contribute their own equity, or may secure donor funds.

TRADITIONAL LEADERSHIP

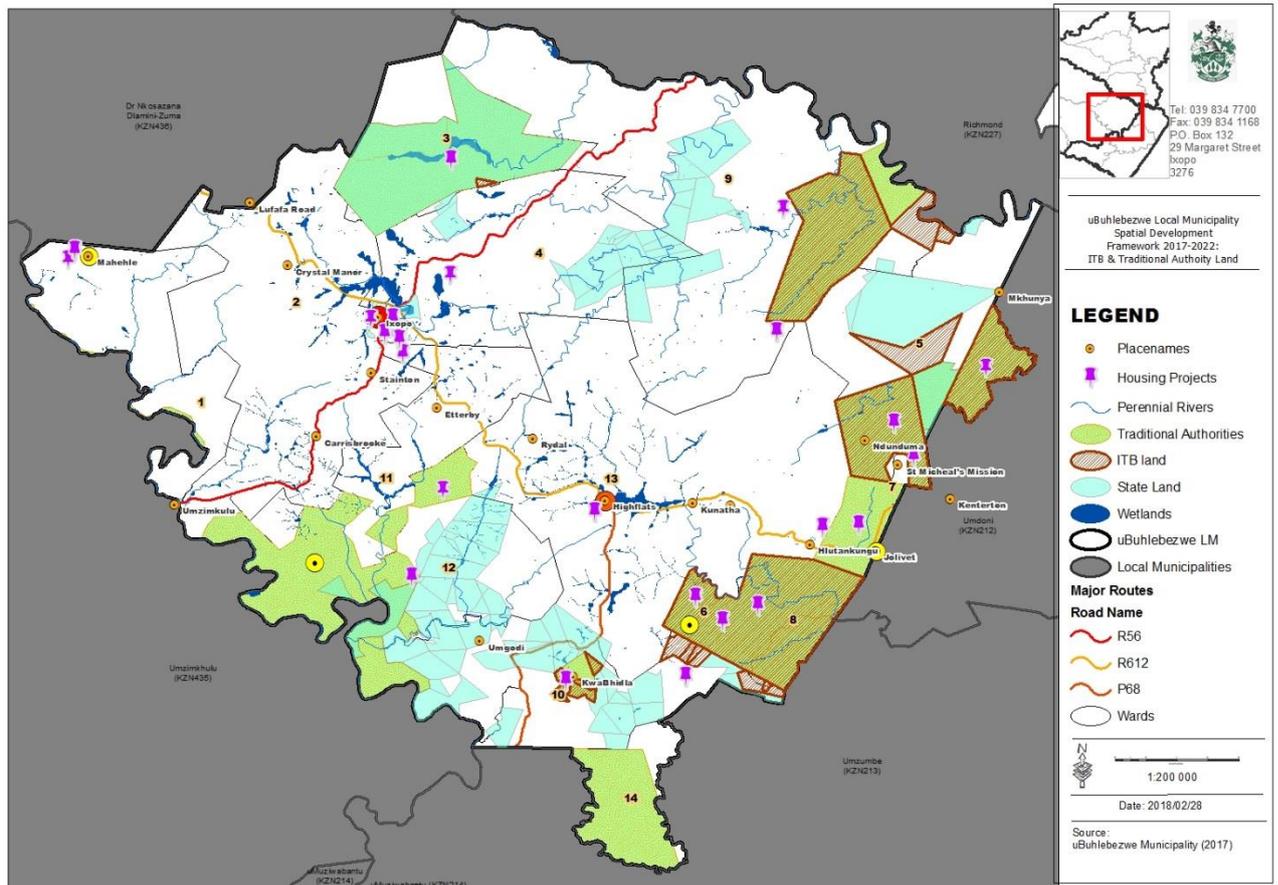
INGONYAMA TRUST LAND

Ingonyama Trust The Social Housing Investment Programme may invest in social housing projects or social housing institutions (SHIs) in accordance with the investment criteria set out in the social housing Regulations. Capital investment is made through Restructuring Capital Grants, Provincial Institutional Subsidies, and Debt Funding. There are instances where delivery agents are able to contribute their own equity, or may secure donor funds. Land is subject to the policies and legislation that governs all land administered by Ingonyama Trust Board. The trust holds the land on behalf of the members of communities that occupy and use the land. The powers and functions of the ITB are contained in section 2A (2) of the Ingonyama Trust Act, which provides as follows:

The Board shall administer the affairs of the Trust and the trust land and without detracting from the generality of the afore-going the Board may decide on and implement any encumbrance, pledge, lease, alienation or other disposal of any trust land, or of any interest or real right in such land.

Section 2(2) of the Act requires the trust to be administered for the ‘benefit, material welfare and social well-being of the members of the tribes and communities’ listed in the schedule to the Act – all the tribes and communities residing on Ingonyama Trust land. The trustees are bound to adhere to this provision.

Section 2(5) provides that the trust may not ‘encumber, pledge, lease, alienate or otherwise dispose of’ any of its land or any real right to such land, without the prior written consent of the traditional or community authority concerned. Thus, the traditional authority (elsewhere called tribal authority) is able to control the use to which their land is put. The effect of this is that, as landowner, the Trust enters into Development Rights Agreements, e.g., leases and the like, but it cannot do so unless and until it has the written consent of the relevant traditional authority. In some cases, the Ingonyama Trust leases the land, or makes it available, under an appropriate agreement to a traditional authority, who, in turn, sub-leases it to a third party (ibid). Effectively, this means that the Trust administers the land in a large portion of Ubuhlebezwe Municipality, for the benefit of the community, and the land may not be encumbered without the consent of the relevant traditional council.



MAP ON TRADITIONAL LAND IN UBUHLEBEZWE LM

TRADITIONAL COUNCIL

The Traditional Leadership and Governance Framework Act, 2003 (Act 41 of 2003), provides for the recognition of tribal communities and the establishment of traditional councils and leadership. These councils have functional linkages, thus partnerships or operational connections between themselves and municipalities. Traditional councils have been given a strong voice in development matters and may now enter into partnerships and service-delivery agreements with government in all spheres.

Existing Traditional Council areas within Ubuhlebezwe Municipality include Vukani, Vumakwenza, Amakhuze, Nyuswa, Ukuthula, Mjoli-Mawushe, Ikhwezi lokusa, Shiyabanye-Nhlangwini, Dlamini-Vusathina Mazulu, Amadunge, Amabhaca and Amazizi traditional areas.

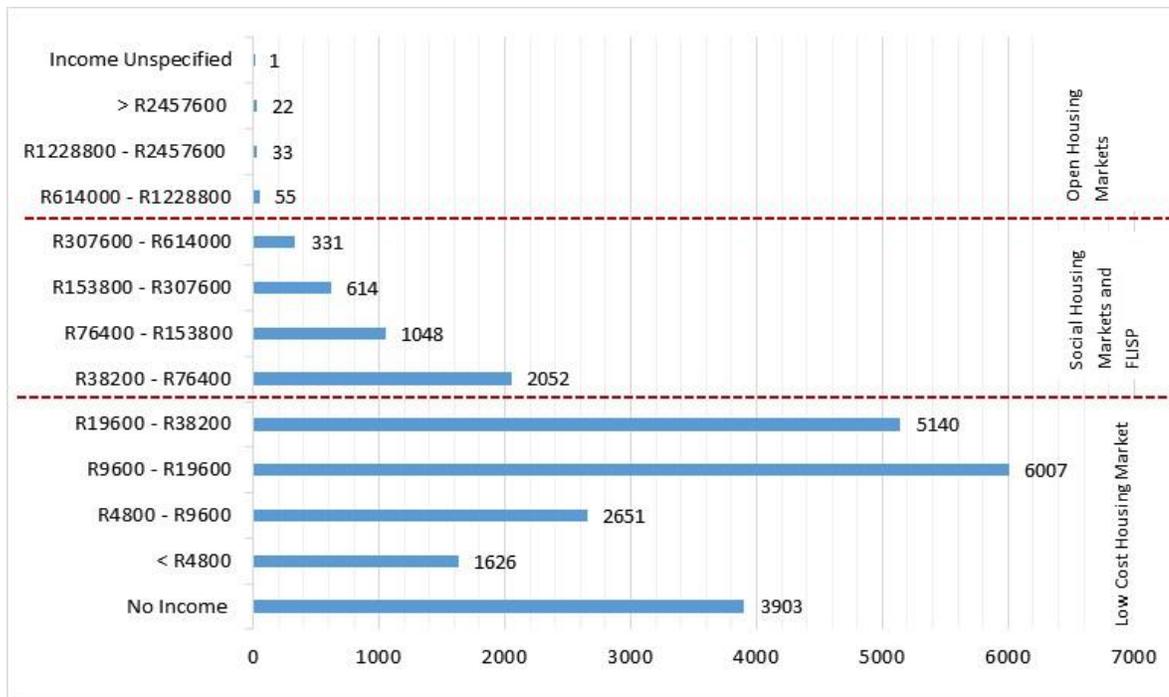
HOUSING NEED AND SUPPLY

A primary consideration in evaluating the impact of regulatory frameworks on land and housing is to assess existing and future housing needs. This will enable projections to be made of the area of land required according to the existing regulatory framework. It will also indicate where changes to planning standards or regulations may be needed to help upgrade existing settlements and improve access to new legal housing.

The determination of housing need was undertaken, using of the following methodologies:

- The statistical method using census statistics. The statistics from the 2011 Census and the Community Survey of 2016 were used as a basis in this regard. The information relating to individuals residing in traditional dwellings/hut/structure made of traditional materials, informal dwelling (shack in backyard) and informal dwelling (shack; not in backyard; e.g. in an informal/squatter settlement or on a farm) was used to estimate the demand for housing.
- The other method calculates a backlog based on the analysis of the housing waiting list compiled by the municipality. The existing list was compiled from 2004. Most of the individuals on the list comes from the urban areas (Ward 4 and ward 2).

HOUSING MARKET SEGMENTS



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2011

The income profile of the population residing in Ubuhlebezwe provides perspective into the extent of housing demand and need in the municipality within each of the programmes available for delivery. The figure 16 indicates income groups of the population represented in numbers that can qualify for housing subsidies.

Approximately 19 327 households or 82.3% of households in Ubuhlebezwe Municipality are eligible for low cost housing subsidies based on income criteria. This includes about 3 903 or 16.6% of households who do not have access to disposable income and are therefore regarded as destitute.

An addition, 3 100 or 13.2% qualifies for social housing and Finance Linked Individual Subsidy Programme (FLISP). While social housing caters for those in need of rental accommodation, FLISP requires an individual beneficiary to access mortgage bond from a financial institution or pay the balance of the value of the house themselves. It targets first-time homebuyers earning R3 501 to R15 000 per month. The open housing market accounts for 4.5% of households.

There is a high proportion of households/individuals within the low-income categories that can qualify for subsidised housing (less than R3 500/month). It is also important to note that these housing segments are not static. They change in response to population growth and movement patterns, as well as changes in the economic fortunes of individuals. Job creation initiatives and economic growth may facilitate graduation of some individuals from one segment to the other, while job losses may force some individuals to lower market segments.

TYPOLGY AND GEOGRAPHY OF THE NEED

Table 4 indicates the housing backlog/need, based on household income and current demand by housing type. It illustrates the number of households in Ubuhlebezwe that qualifies for low cost housing (19 327), social and Finance Linked subsidy housing programme (3 100). The table also presents the estimated housing backlog for each electorate ward (based on Census 2011 data) and estimates the housing backlog at 16 555.

Housing Backlogs

Wards	Total No. of Households per Ward	Households earning less than R38 200p.a/ R3 183 p.m (Qualifying for Low Cost Housing)	Households earning less than R153 800p.a/ R15 000 p.m (Qualifying for FLISP)	Demand By Current Housing Type				
				Traditional Dwelling	Informal dwelling (shack; in backyard)	Informal dwelling (Shack; informal settlement)	House/flat room in back yard	TOTAL
1	1721	1398	241	1113	3	3	58	1177
2	1559	880	397	402	89	142	18	651
3	1974	1731	206	1721	49	3	5	1778
4	3783	2975	620	419	625	875	11	1931
5	1808	1645	127	1490	3	0	2	1495
6	1514	1290	186	1133	1	1	3	1138
7	1513	1307	159	1263	2	2	3	1271
8	2538	2261	218	2033	11	8	20	2071
9	1713	1401	214	756	6	195	18	975
10	1684	1420	184	1024	2	1	21	1048
11	1675	1361	244	1289	2	3	3	1297
12	2005	1658	304	1570	1	1	150	1722
13	3820	200	28	2858	4	350	6	3218
14	7539	141	46	5421	20	7	30	5478
Total	23487	19327	3100	14215	794	1235	312	16555

Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2011

It clearly reflects the high demand of low cost housing in Ubuhlebezwe as the majority of people qualify for this housing market. The dominant rural character of Ubuhlebezwe, combined with the dominance of rural settlements, suggests a concentration of housing need among the rural communities. This implies that housing provision programmes should focus on the provision low cost rural housing projects. Wards with the highest need for rural housing, as reflected in table 3, include wards 3, 8 and 12.

The traditional authority areas within Ubuhlebezwe are characterised by low density and dispersed settlements with limited services and inadequate provision of public facilities. The Government’s rural housing assistance programme has been designed to complement the realization of the objectives of the Integrated and Sustainable Human Settlements. It focuses on areas outside formalized townships where tenure options are not registered in the Deeds Office but rather protected in terms of land rights legislation - Interim Protection of Informal Land Rights Act, 1996 (Act No. 31 of 1996). As opposed to registered individual ownership in formal towns, rural households enjoy protected informal tenure rights and/or rental or permission to occupy. The rural housing assistance programme is needs or demand based and designed to provide housing and infrastructure assistance within the specific circumstances.

There is also a need to provide housing in the urban areas (Ixopo and Highflats), taking into consideration the urban concentration in these centres, especially Ixopo. This results in urban slums, located around residential areas and within walking distance to employment opportunities and the need for rental accommodation in urban areas. These are mainly represented by housing types such as informal dwelling (shack; in backyard), informal dwelling (shack; informal settlement) and house/flat room in back yard.

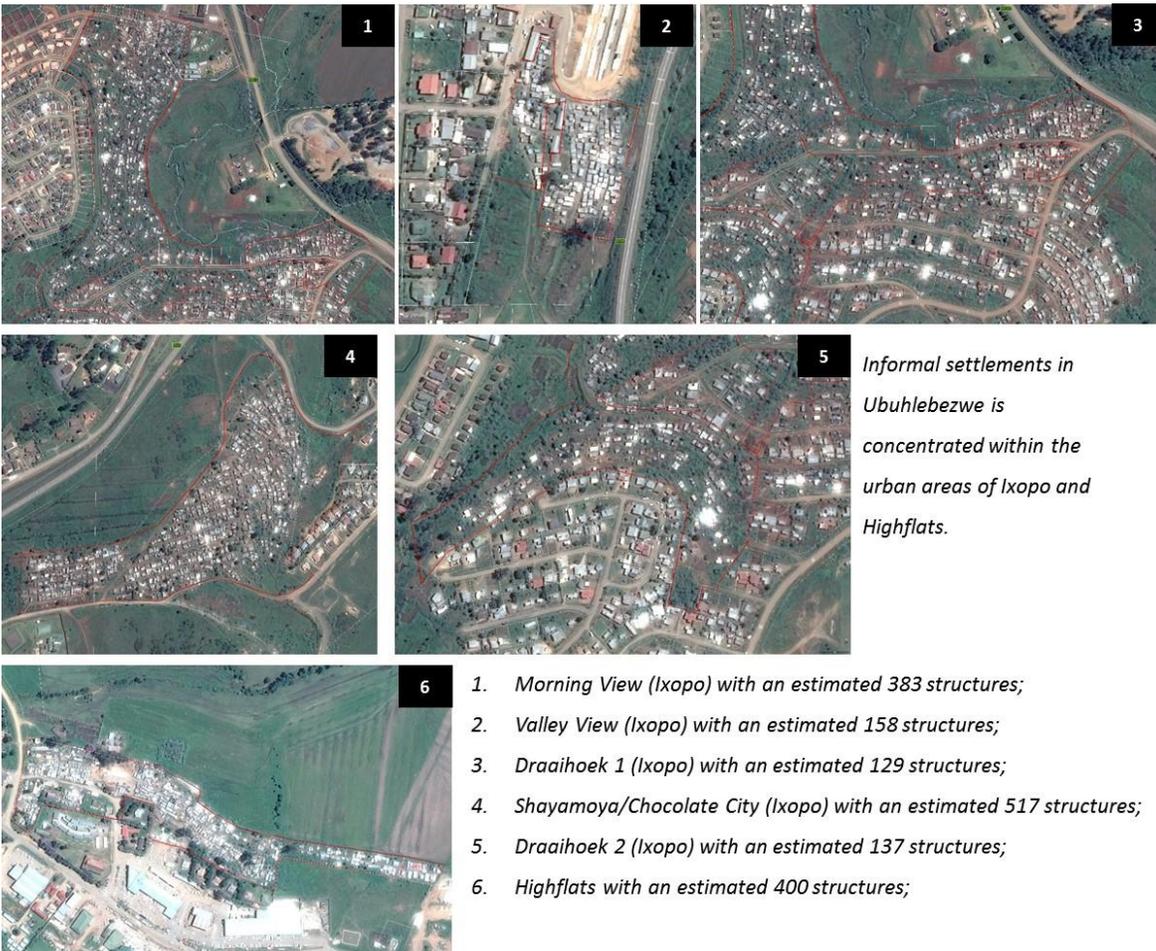
INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS:

Informal settlement is one of the key challenges facing the Ubuhlebezwe Municipality. The total demand for dwelling units (informal dwelling, shack not in backyard -in informal settlements) can thus be calculated at approximately 1235 units (based on Census 2011 data). However, the 2016 Community Survey suggests a demand of 998 dwelling units, which is 237 units less than in 2011.

There are currently five informal settlements in Ubuhlebezwe, located within the urban area of Ixopo and one in Highflats. These figures presented in table 5 below, have been calculated based on Google Earth (imagery dating 12/4/2016) and totals approximately 1724 structures. It would suggest that there are even more informal structures than suggested by the Census 2011 and the 2016 Community survey results.

Informal settlement	Number of informal structures
Shayamoya /Chocolate City/Zwelisha (Ixopo)	517
Draaihoek east(Ixopo)	129
Draaihoek west(Ixopo)	137
Morningview (Ixopo)	383
Valley View (Ixopo)	158
Highflats	400
TOTAL	1724

Informal settlements



Informal settlements in Ubhlebezwe is concentrated within the urban areas of Ixopo and Highflats.

1. Morning View (Ixopo) with an estimated 383 structures;
2. Valley View (Ixopo) with an estimated 158 structures;
3. Draaihoek 1 (Ixopo) with an estimated 129 structures;
4. Shayamoya/Chocolate City (Ixopo) with an estimated 517 structures;
5. Draaihoek 2 (Ixopo) with an estimated 137 structures;
6. Highflats with an estimated 400 structures;

GAP HOUSING:

“Gap housing” is a term used to describe the shortfall, in the housing market between residential units supplied by the state (which cost R100 000 and less) and houses delivered by the private sector (which are not less than R250 000). The gap housing market comprises people who typically earn between R3 500 and R10 000 per month, which is too little to enable them to participate in the private property market, yet too much to qualify for state assistance. It is difficult to estimate precisely how large the demand for the gap-housing product is, as it fluctuates with interest rate changes and employment levels. It also depends on the number of families who voluntarily choose to make longer-term financial commitments.

**HOUSING SUPPLY
INFORMAL SETTLEMENT UPGRADE**

There are two slums clearance projects within Ubuhlebezwe, namely the Highflats Slums Clearance Housing Project and the Ixopo Slums Clearance project.

Slums clearance projects

Project	Ward	Units	Comments
Highflats Slums Clearance Housing Project	9	500 units	It should be noted that the meeting of the late 2017 between Municipal management and Department of Human Settlements' MEC resolved that the Implementing Agent for the project need to be terminated. The Municipality need to be clear on the way forward regarding the land availability for the project.
Ixopo Slums Clearance	4	Proposed 2500 units planned	A submission has been made to the Housing Development Agency (HDA) for purchasing of the land parcel identified for the project which proved that the project could be feasible in light of the feasibility studies submitted. The Department of Human Settlements (DOHS) has had engagements with the Infrastructure Planning and Development (IPD) Unit where it was reported back that the department will not have funding to buy the land or any other land for the next 3 years. IPD was further advised that the Municipality consider doing an in-situ upgrade for all Ixopo urban based informal settlements. This was due to the fact that these informal settlements have been there for over 10 years and this automatically indicates that people have a right to be based within that space. By the Municipality agreeing to this would mean that an Integrated Residential Development Program (IRDP) will have to be implemented. The Municipality has submitted comprehensive motivation to DOHS in this regard during the course of April 2018 and currently awaits for response.

RURAL HOUSING:

As indicated on Table 7 below, the municipality has about eleven current rural housing projects with a total yield of 13 829 units. Rural housing projects are implemented mainly on communal land and are based on functional land tenure rights. The policy states that one household (umuzi) one house which means that each rural household qualifies for one house irrespective of the number of people that qualifies for a housing subsidy.

Rural housing projects

Project	Ward	Units	Comments	Total Budget
Sponya Rural Housing:	8	700 units	The project close out report was forwarded to the Department of Human Settlements in 2016. The DOHS have not advised the Municipality of the status on the close out report.	
Mahehle Housing Project Phase 1 and 2	1	1000 units	Mahehle phase 1 cannot be closed due to title deeds not handed out and continues being an audit query from the department. A submission has been made to the Housing Development Agency (HDA) for purchasing of the land parcels identified for the Mahehle Phase 2. The Municipality has since received feedback regarding the application from HDA which was favourable. It should be noted that the meeting between Municipal management and Department of Human Settlements' Member of Executive Committee (MEC) resolved that the Implementing Agent for the project need to be terminated due to the lack of SCM documentation on the project.	
Kwathathani Rural Housing Project	10	750 units	There are currently 688 units constructed as part of the project. A letter of motivation was submitted on the 1 st of March 2018 requesting that the project be allowed to allocate new sites by the traditional authorities. It should be noted that the 60 houses will form part of the 750 units which is the original project size. The Municipality currently awaits for a response from DOHS in this regard.	
Ibhobhobho Rural Housing Project	5	644 units	The project has reached its full scope of 644 beneficiaries with 7 beneficiaries needing to be withdrawn. The 7 beneficiaries is proving to be a challenge as it needs to be facilitated through the National DOHS level. The project has also incorporated 34 Operation Sukuma Sakhe cases from Springvale area. It should be noted that should the withdrawal issue not be resolved soon the project scope will be reduced from the Ibhobhobho area and can be accommodated in the Springvale area possibly. Current construction progress is Slabs 637 (24 OSS), block work 604 (14 OSS) and completed houses are sitting at 600.	R64 358 352.52
Mziki Agri Village Housing Project	9	385 units	The 385 units have been completed and opening of the town register should form the next step of the project.	
Amanyuswa Rural Housing Project (TA)	7	750 units	The implementing agent has submitted all the required project information so that the contract can be finalised for approval of funding by the Department of Human Settlements (DOHS). The	

Project	Ward	Units	Comments	Total Budget
			project has become an audit query from the Auditor General due to misplaced Supply chain management (SCM) documentation. A Council Resolutions on the missing SCM documents was done and submitted to DOHS. The Housing Think Tank (HTT) meeting with department on the 28 th of March 2018 was held where it was mentioned that stage 1 planning will commence within the DOHS new financial year starting off in April 2018 but currently DOHS is finalising the documentation of approval.	
Madungeni Rural Housing Project	12	1000 units	The project is currently at planning stage. The land is not registered under Ingonyama Trust Board; as a result there are two pieces of land under the state. The Development Rights Agreement has already been signed by all parties concerned. Stage 2 application pack was submitted by the Implementing Agent (IA) to the Department of the 9 th of March 2018. The department has on the Housing think Tank Meeting (HTT) of the 28 th of March 2018 indicated that they have issues with regards to approval and SCM documentation for the project that disallowing them to consider the Stage 2 Application. The IA has since indicated that there some MEC approval that was done in 2009 and of which was submitted for DOHS attention on the 29 th of March 2018	
Ufafa Rural Housing Project	3	3000 units in 3 phases	The project is at the implementing stage and needs to be completed by March 2019. Applicants approved are sitting at 834. A new IA has taken over to assist on the project effectively from April 2018. Production figures are sitting at 276 slabs; block work 212 and completed structure are 165. There 55 sites with difficult access points.	R55 889 605.00
Mfulomubi Rural Housing Project	7, 8	1500 units	The IA has submitted the application for the 2 nd phase which is another 500 units in 2017 and is waiting for the Human Settlements Department to respond. The project was confirmed that it will not be allocated funds by the department on the basis of misplaced Supply Chain Management (SCM) documentation. The affidavit on the project was crafted and submitted to the department as well as an affidavit was submitted the DOHS accordingly. The IA is losing its staff, labor and subcontractors as a result of the delays in progressing with the next 500 houses. The site was closed as the first phase of the project is complete during the course of February 2018. Progress/ Construction - Foundations – 500, Top structure to wall plate – 500 and Top structure complete – 500.	R50 569 638.00
Hlokozi Rural Housing Project	6	2600 units	The project is currently at planning stage. The implementing agent has submitted a comprehensive Stage 2 application and motivation during the course of April 2018 which has been signed by the MM and submitted through to DOHS. The Municipality awaits for a response in this regard.	
Gudlucingo Rural Housing Project	8	1500 units	The project is currently at planning stage. The implementing agent has submitted a comprehensive Stage 2 application and motivation during the course in April 2018 which currently has	R4 842 885.00

Project	Ward	Units	Comments	Total Budget
			some elements outstanding before the MM can be in a position to sign.	

URBAN HOUSING PROJECTS

Current housing projects within the urban context, includes the Ithubalethu Extension 1 Housing Project and the Morning View Middle Income Project. These two projects make provision for 509 units within the Ixopo area. It is expected that the Ithubalethu project will accommodate some of the informal structures.

Urban housing projects

Project	Ward	Units	Comments	Total Budget
Ithubalethu Extension 1 Housing Project	4	328 units	The District Municipality confirmed the bulks water supply scheme for the project has been concluded. It should be noted that the sanitation for the project has been confirmed by the District to be implemented on the 2017/18 financial year and will be completed by June 2018. Harry Gwala and consultants are busy with the tender process to award a contractor to implement the project. A Council resolution on the missing SCM document was done and submitted for the attention of the DOHS.	
Morning View Middle Income Project	4	125 UNITS	The project is under construction. The construction of the Morning View Middle Income Housing is slowly progressing. The houses that were reported with internal doors not closing properly have been attended to as well as the roof tiles that were leaking have been replaced. The current status of the houses is as follows: There are fifty five (55) completed and occupied houses. Four (04) houses are completed but not yet occupied. There are three (03) houses currently under construction. There are no new plans submitted by the Developer for approval	

RECTIFICATION PROJECTS

All rectification projects have been temporarily stopped by DoHS due to lack of funds for the program. The rectification relates to certain residential properties created under the pre-1994 housing dispensation.

Project	Ward	Units	Comments	Total Budget
Mariathal Housing Project	4	92 units	The department has verbally indicated that there is expected movement with regards to rectification projects and that they will be referred to as rehabilitation projects. Rehabilitation will involve not demolishing the whole structure from these housing projects but to assess and only rehabilitate the elements of the houses that need to be renovated. The municipality will be having a meeting during the course of May 2018 in order to craft a forward in this regard.	
Fairview Housing Project	4	736 units		

There is one community residential project initiated within the Ubuhlebezwe area of jurisdiction. The project will deliver will benefit people earning between R800 and are interested social housing (rental accommodation).

The Community Residential Units Programme facilitate the provision of secure, stable rental lower income persons /households. The will be funded by the Department of Human CRU Programme and should remain in public and cannot be sold or transferred to residents.

Community residential units

CRU Site plan



that has been Municipality 150 units and R5500 who

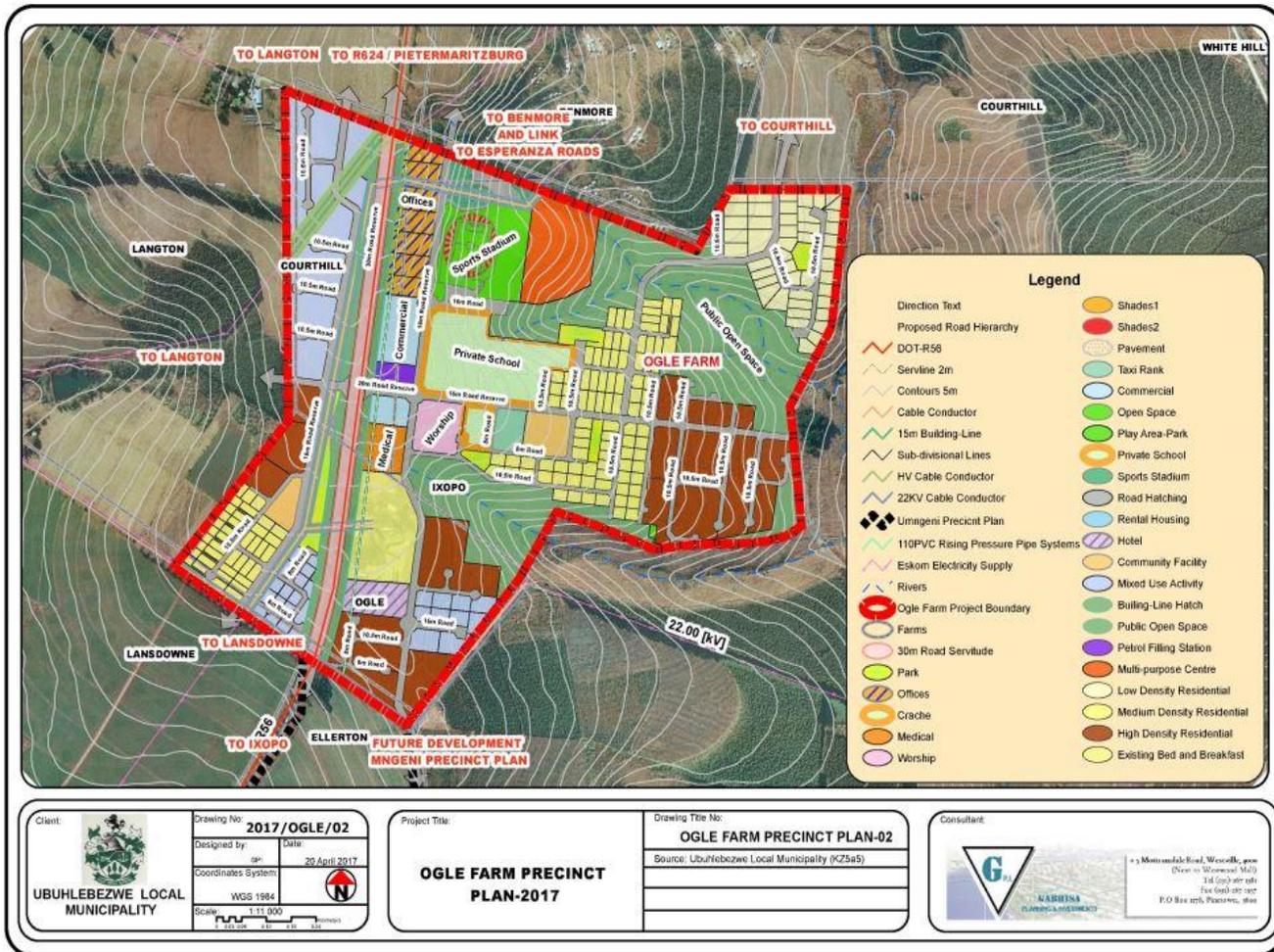
(CRU) aims to tenure for housing stock Settlements' ownership individual

Project	Ward	Units	Comments	Total Budget
Buhlebethu Community Residential Units	4	150 units	The implementing agent (IA) have done the necessary feasibility studies, the land surveying processes as well as has produced a conceptual architectural design plan for the project. The project is still at planning stage with all relevant Planning Land use application having been facilitated by both the IA and Municipality. Comments from the Department of Transport are still outstanding to make the Planning application complete and for the project to be considered by the Municipal Planning Tribunal.	

GREENFIELD HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

Ogle Farm development is located to the north of Ixopo, along the R56 (at Amble Inn). It will include middle to high income residential development. Pre-feasibility studies were completed in 2015, which included detailed

geotechnical studies, environmental desktop studies, a land audit, land evaluation and preparation of conceptual layout plans.



Ogle Farm Proposed Development

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

Ubuhebezwé Municipality is facing a number of housing development related issues that should be addressed in order to realize the ideal of sustainable human settlements.

Housing Backlog

Housing backlog in Ubuhlebezwe Municipality manifests itself in the form of substandard dwelling units, particularly in the traditional authority and informal settlement areas. These dwelling units are constructed in traditional material and are self-built units, which do not meet any building standards. In fact, they are built without any building plans or involvement of authorities.

Lack of Bulk Infrastructure

The municipality is experiencing problems with the confirmation of bulk services from the District for some of the housing projects. This is particularly problematic in the urban projects.

Improved coordination between the municipality and Eskom will also contribute to the implementation of housing projects in rural areas.

Sustainability of Settlements

Rural settlements in Ubuhlebezwe are not sustainable in the short to long term. Most people in the area do not derive a sustainable living from rural agriculture.



There is a heavy dependence on welfare grants (“survival capital”) and external in-flows of remittances from urban centres or commercial farms. The key challenge is therefore to transform these rural villages into sustainable human settlements with basic services, social infrastructure and economic development opportunities.

LAND FOR HOUSING

There are certain challenges in Human Settlement development projects that relates to land issues. These include the following:

- Slow and complex land identification and development processes;
- Limited land in close proximity to the town centre;
- Slow and complex land purchasing procedures
- Strategies need to be developed to assist in fast tracking of land identification and release.

ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF LAND

The majority of informal settlements manifest itself in the illegal occupation of land. People seek employment opportunities or better access to services in urban areas and occupies open pieces of land. These unoccupied pieces of land are usually in close proximity to a town, and might be on land not suitable for human habitation or development. It becomes problematic for the municipality to deal with and accommodate these illegal occupants.

It has also been found that some completed houses are being rented or sold illegally, and are being illegally extended. This is problematic because the housing delivery process is to curb the housing backlog challenge and if more houses are being illegally used the housing backlog will not be addressed.

Existing informal settlement data:

Informal Settlements							
No.	Name	Area (location)	Property description	No. of structures / dwellings	Land ownership	Extent of land occupied (ha)	Zoning (Ubuhlebezwe Land Use Scheme)
1	Shayamoya/Chocolate City/Zwelisha	Ixopo	Portion of Erf 174; Portion of RE 175	517	State land	10.71	Transitional residential
2	Draaihoek (east and west)	Ixopo		137	State land (western portion)	4.54	Transitional residential
			782-787; 790-796; 819; 834	129	Private properties (eastern portion)	6.88	Transitional residential; Passive Open Space; Residential 2

3	MorningView	Ixopo	2/1628; 1738; 1629-1638; 1733-1735; portion of 1738	383	State land	10.91	Transitional residential; Residential 2
4	ValleyView	Ixopo (behind taxi rank, next to R56)	Portion of Erf1; Portion of Erf 2; Portion of Erf 174	158	Ixopo Transitional local council; Ubhlebezwe Municipality	1.47	Administration
5	Highflats	Highflats	3/1938; 37/1938; 38/1938; portion of 39/1938; portion of 46/1938; portion of RE/1938	400	Transnet	5.68	Transitional residential; Residential 1; Limited Commercial
	Total			1724			

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

In terms of the Municipal Systems Act all Municipalities are required to prepare and review their IDP during the 5-Year period of its lifespan. As part of the IDP process, the municipality has developed a Spatial Development Framework (SDF). Ubhlebezwe Municipality finalised the development of a four generation IDP and SDF and it was adopted by municipal council on the 25th of May 2017. The reviewed SDF and Housing Sector Plan were then adopted by Council on the 24th May 2018.

Moreover, a number of sector plans have been developed/reviewed, which impact on a number of spatial issues such as the; Housing Sector Plan and Migration Plan (HSP), Three Year Capital Investment plan, Spatial Development Framework, Urban Regeneration Plan which unanimously informs the development and growth of the Municipal jurisdiction . It should be noted that the Municipality also facilitated the preparation of the Wall to wall Land Use Management Scheme as well as the Rural Land Use policy to look into the alignment with the elements of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act No. 16 of 2013.

The single Municipal Planning Tribunal (MPT) has been developed as requirement in terms of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act of 2013 (SPLUMA). On 23 February 2017 Council adopted and approved names of persons to serve on the MPT as required by SPLUMA. SPLUMA also requires that the names of MPT nominees be gazette and a notice informing the public of the MPT Establishment be advert on a local newspaper, this has been done.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

The Infrastructure Planning and Development department is also responsible for the development of road, public transport infrastructure, public facilities, electrification project as well as the implementation of maintenance programmes.

The mandate objectives are achieved by among others:

- Design and construct roads infrastructure as per Department of Transport standards
- Design and construct sport facilities as per the Department of Sport and Recreation specifications
- Design and built all municipal buildings to meet Building regulation standards.
- Design and built all electrification projects to meet Eskom standards through the Schedule B programme.
- Implementation of project under the guidelines of the EPWP

ACTIVITY	UNIT OF MEASURE	2017/2018 OUTPUT ACHIEVED
Number of km of new surfaced roads	Km	0
Number of km surfaced roads rehabilitated	Km	1.22
Number of km new gravel roads constructed	Km	7.4
Number of km patched gravel roads	Km	0
Public Transport Facility (i.e. Ixopo Bus Rank)	No.	0
Number of sport facilities constructed	No.	0
Number of sport facilities upgraded	No.	1
Number of community halls constructed	No.	1
Number of community halls Renovated	No.	6
Number of bridges constructed	No.	0
Number of crèches constructed	No.	0
Number of skills centre constructed	No.	0
Number of street light installed	No.	0
Number of Households electrified	No.	1178

CAPITAL PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN 2017/2018 FINANCIAL YEAR:

WARD	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	Photos	ORIGINAL BUDGET	BUDGET SPENT IN 2017/2018 FINANCIAL YEAR	PROJECT DURATION
1	Construction of Harold Nxasane road		R 2 470 926.44	R 2 154 912.95	5 months
2	Upgrading of Jeffrey Zungu Sportfield Phase 2		R 14 165 207.37	R 6 417 731.22	8 Months (Multi-year project)
	Construction of Golf Course Roads		R 7 648 819.76	R 4 711 591.34	6 Months (Multi-year project)
	Golf Course Electrification		R 11 856 540.09	R 4 000 000.00	4 months (Multi-year)

	Rehabilitation of Chapel street		R 9 229 089.50	R 7 518 810.15	8 Months (Multi - year project)
	Fencing of Ixopo Rank		R 480 896.46	R 397 360	4 Months
2	Revamping of the Municipal Building		R 27 706 849.42	1 905 676.83	12 Months (Multi-Year Project)
4	Construction of Sprezza Access Road		R 3 314 238.93	R 3 168 045.78	4 Months
5	Umkhunya 980 households Electrification Phase 2		R 25 103 856.72	R 19 086 200.52	21 Months (Multi-year project)

	Construction of Butateni Access Road		R 1 820 092.30	R 1 619 022.64	4 Months
7	Construction of Mkhwanazi Access Road		R 1 596 788.42	R 1 341 048.33	4 Months
9	Construction of Kintal Hall		R 2 793 361.78	R 1 744 217.91	5 Months
10	Construction of Mncadi Access Road		R 1 254 015.25	R 1 11 219.88	4 Months

SOCIAL AND LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Social Development Department comprises of the following Units:

- Community Services (Waste Management, Cemeteries, Parks and Gardens, Community Services Centre, Youth and Sport Programmes, Library Services)
- Public Participation (Functionality of Ward Committees, IDP Imbizos , Community Works Programme)
- Local Economic Development and Tourism (LED, Tourism, Operation Sukuma Sakhe, Community Development Programmes, Business Licensing)
- Community Safety (Law Enforcement by Traffic Unit , Disaster Management and fire rescue services, learners and motor licensing activities)

LED, TOURISM AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DEFINING LED

Local Economic Development is about local people working together to achieve sustainable economic growth that brings economic benefits and quality of life for all in the community. LED is thus an outcome not an input. It cuts across all departments.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

Local Economic Development is guided by principles and clauses outlined in:

The White Paper for Local Government provides the context and the direction on the role of municipalities in economic development.

It clearly states that Local Government is not directly responsible for creating jobs rather it is responsible for taking active steps to ensure that the overall economic and social conditions of the locality are conducive to the creation of employment opportunities.

The White Paper views municipalities as stimulators, and facilitators of LED. The White Paper further stipulates that the powers and functions of local government should be exercised in a

way that has a maximum impact on development of communities in particular meeting the basic needs of the poor and on growing the local economy.

i) National Framework for Local Economic Development which views LED as creating a platform and environment to engage stakeholders in implementing strategies and programs.

ii) The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa views municipalities as being responsible for facilitating LED and the juxtaposition of the constitution goes further to say that municipalities have a key to play in creating a conducive environment for investment through provision of infrastructure and quality services rather than by developing programs and attempting to create jobs directly.

STRATEGIC FACILITATING AND STIMULATING ROLE OF THE MUNICIPALITY

- Play a connector role in respect of LED drawing upon resources locked in a range of different stakeholders into their localities.
- Invest in basic by providing good quality cost effective services and by making the local area a pleasant place to live and work.
- Review existing policies and procedures to promote local economic development.
- Marketing and Investment Support can be provided in order to attract and secure potential Investors.
- SMME development e.g. (co-operative development and business infrastructure access to finance etc.)
- Economic development within communities e.g. (Municipal-community partnerships).
- Plug the leaks in the local economy (retain income)
- Develop social capital (encouraging and developing the presence and capacity of all relevant collective stakeholders in the local economy, e.g. business forums, NGO's, CBO's etc.).
- Prepare strategic LED plans and identify business clusters and opportunities.

Progress was made by LED unit during 2017/2018 financial year on ward-based projects implementation, business support services, capacity building for SMME's / Cooperatives and

forming a partnership to help small farmers in Ubuhlebezwe through a partnership with LIMA on a programme called Abalimi Phambili.

Ward-based projects

The forth teen Local Economic Development projects implemented by Ubuhlebezwe Municipality in partnership LED forum stakeholders are as follows:

Ubuhlebezwe Municipality LED Projects 2017 / 2018

NAME OF THE PROJECT	WARD	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
<p>1. IKHWEZI LOKUSA CENTRE</p>	<p>1</p>	 <p>This project is based in Ncakubane ward 1 of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal boundaries and it deals with beads, texture and clothing. The project was assisted with machine overlocking jaki 2 machines kingstar. It has employed 15 people consists of 11 women and 4 men.</p>
<p>2. ZAMANDLA BUSINESS ENTERPRISE S</p>	<p>14</p>	