

**DRAFT INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN**  
**2018/19**  
**UBUHLEBEZWE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**



***There is a lovely road that runs from Ixopo into the hills. These hills are grass-covered and rolling, and they are lovely beyond any singing of it. The road climbs seven miles into them, to Carisbrooke; and from there, if there is no mist, you look down on one of the fairest valleys of Africa. About you there is grass and bracken and you may hear the forlorn crying of the titihoya, one of the birds of the veld....***

*(Cry the Beloved Country; Alan Paton: December 1948 – Chapter 1)*

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#### **ABBREVIATION OF TERMS**

<b>Abet</b>	<b>Adult Basic Education</b>
<b>ASGIS</b>	<b>Accelerated Growth initiatives of South Africa</b>
<b>CDW'S</b>	<b>Committee Development Workers</b>
<b>DoBE</b>	<b>Department of Basic Education</b>
<b>DOE</b>	<b>Department of Energy</b>
<b>DOT</b>	<b>Department of Transport</b>
<b>DCOGTA</b>	<b>Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs</b>

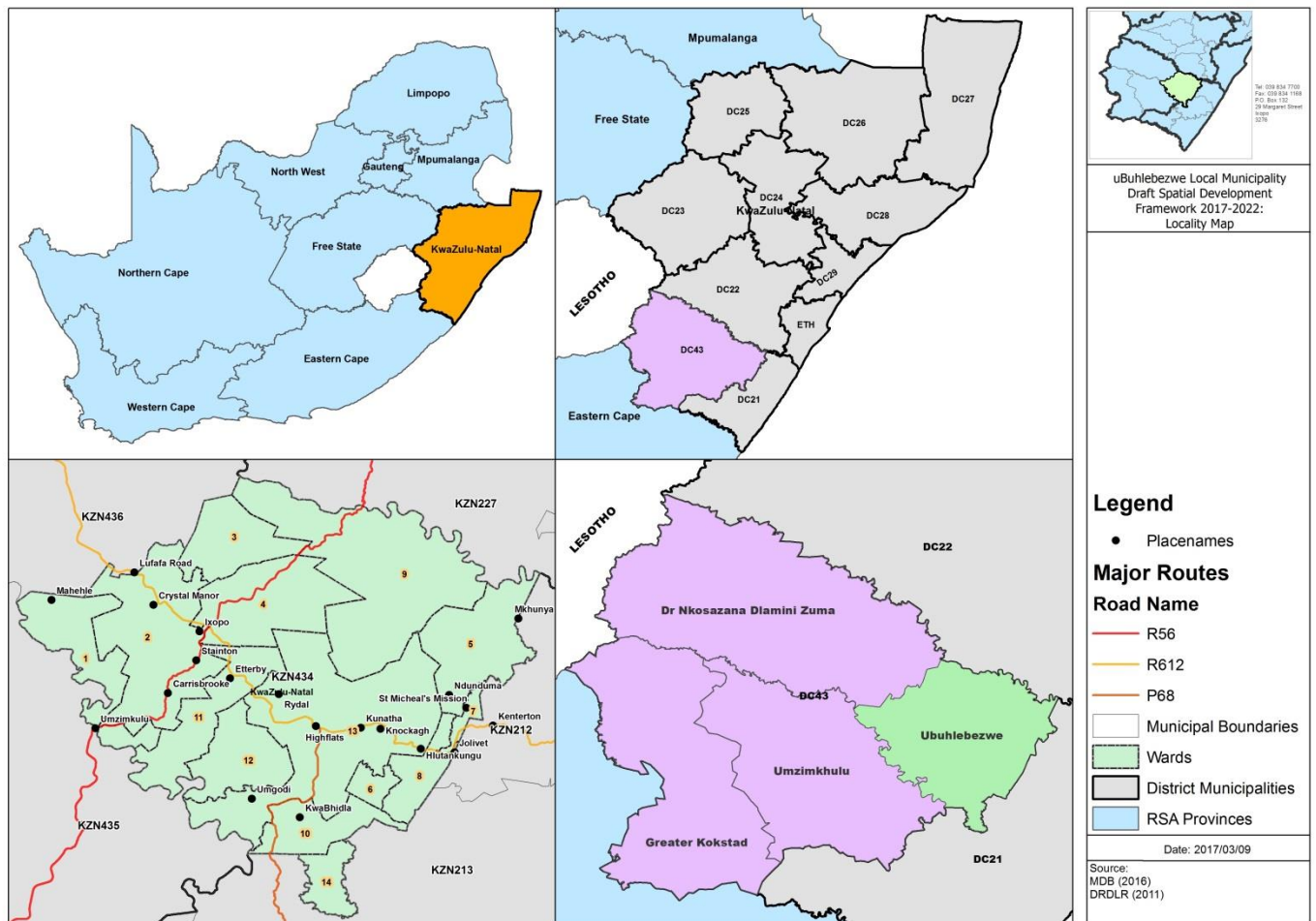
<b>DAEA Development</b>	<b>Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Rural</b>
<b>DOH</b>	<b>Department of Human Settlement</b>
<b>DO Health</b>	<b>Department of Health</b>
<b>DO Welfare</b>	<b>Department of Welfare</b>
<b>DRDLR</b>	<b>Department of Rural Development and Land Reform</b>
<b>DOBE</b>	<b>Department of Basic Education</b>
<b>DOW</b>	<b>Department of Works</b>
<b>EAP</b>	<b>Employee Assistance Programme</b>
<b>EPWP</b>	<b>Expanded Public Works Programme</b>
<b>ESKOM</b>	<b>Electricity Supply Commission</b>
<b>EXCO</b>	<b>Executive Committee</b>
<b>Fg</b>	<b>Figure</b>
<b>GDP</b>	<b>Gross Domestic Product</b>
<b>GIS</b>	<b>Geographic Information Systems</b>
<b>IDP</b>	<b>Integrated Development Plan</b>
<b>IGR</b>	<b>Intergovernmental Relations</b>
<b>IGRF</b>	<b>Intergovernmental Relations Framework</b>
<b>IWMP</b>	<b>Integrated Waste management Plan</b>
<b>KPA</b>	<b>Key Performance Area</b>
<b>KPI</b>	<b>Key Performance Indicator</b>
<b>LLF</b>	<b>Local Labour Forum</b>
<b>LM</b>	<b>UBuhlebezwe Local Municipality</b>
<b>LED</b>	<b>Local Economic Development</b>
<b>LGTAS</b>	<b>Local Government Turn Around Strategy</b>
<b>LUMS</b>	<b>Land Use Management Systems</b>
<b>MANCO</b>	<b>UBuhlebezwe Management Committee</b>
<b>MIG</b>	<b>Municipal Infrastructure Grant</b>
<b>MFMA</b>	<b>Municipal Finance Management Act</b>
<b>MSA</b>	<b>Municipal Systems Act</b>
<b>MTAS</b>	<b>Municipal Turnaround Strategy</b>
<b>NSDP</b>	<b>National Spatial Development Plan</b>
<b>PDA</b>	<b>Planning and Development Act</b>

<b>PGDS</b>	<b>Provincial Growth and Development Strategy</b>
<b>PSEDS</b>	<b>Provincial Spatial Economic Development Strategy</b>
<b>OPMS</b>	<b>Organisational Performance Management Systems</b>
<b>PMS</b>	<b>Performance Management Systems</b>
<b>HGDM</b>	<b>Harry Gwala District Municipality</b>
<b>SCM</b>	<b>Supply Chain Management</b>
<b>SCOPA</b>	<b>Standing Committee on Public Accounts</b>
<b>SDBIP</b>	<b>Service Delivery, Budget and Implementation Plan</b>
<b>SDF</b>	<b>Spatial Development Framework</b>
<b>WSDP</b>	<b>Water Services Development Plan</b>
<b>WSP</b>	<b>Workplace Skills Plan</b>
<b>WV</b>	<b>World Vision</b>

## SECTION A: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### WHO WE ARE :

#### *Spatial location of UBuhlebezwe Local Municipality*



**Fig 1: Spatial Location of UBuhlebezwe Municipality**

From a regional perspective, UBuhlebezwe Local Municipality is well located, within southern KwaZulu-Natal between Pietermaritzburg, Kokstad and the Eastern Cape. The seat of the Harry Gwala District Council is the town of Ixopo, which is located approximately 85km south east of Pietermaritzburg, the capital of Kwazulu Natal, at the intersection of two national routes; R56 and R612. Ixopo forms the primary development node of the Municipality. The importance of Ixopo cannot be underestimated in the socio economic development of the area as a whole. 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.

UBuhlebezwe Local Municipality (ULM) is one of the four local municipalities that constitute the Harry Gwala District Municipality (HGDM). The ULM is characterised by large agricultural plantations, natural vegetation and traditional authority land. The main administrative centre of the municipality is the town of Ixopo. 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 in the area. 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 majority of citizens residing within Ubuhlebezwe are still living below the poverty line. The location of Ubuhlebezwe makes us easily accessible and linkable to the South Coast tourism region in the east, and Southern Drakensburg to the west, therefore tourism is one of the critical areas that the Municipality needs to focus on. In addition, Ubuhlebezwe is located at the intersection of at least three established tourism regions, namely: Southern Drakensberg; Natal Midlands; and UGu South Coast.

## **Demographic Profile**

Demographic information used in this Intergrated Development Plan for Ubuhlebezwe Municipality is obtained from StatsSA. The information incorporates the newly demarcated ward boundaries, following the redemarcation processes. The total population before redemarcation, according to Census 2011 was 101 690, however, according to the Community Survey 2016, the population for Ubuhlebezwe is at 118 346. (Census, 2011 and Community Survey, 2016)

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/ km<sup>2</sup>.

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 in 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

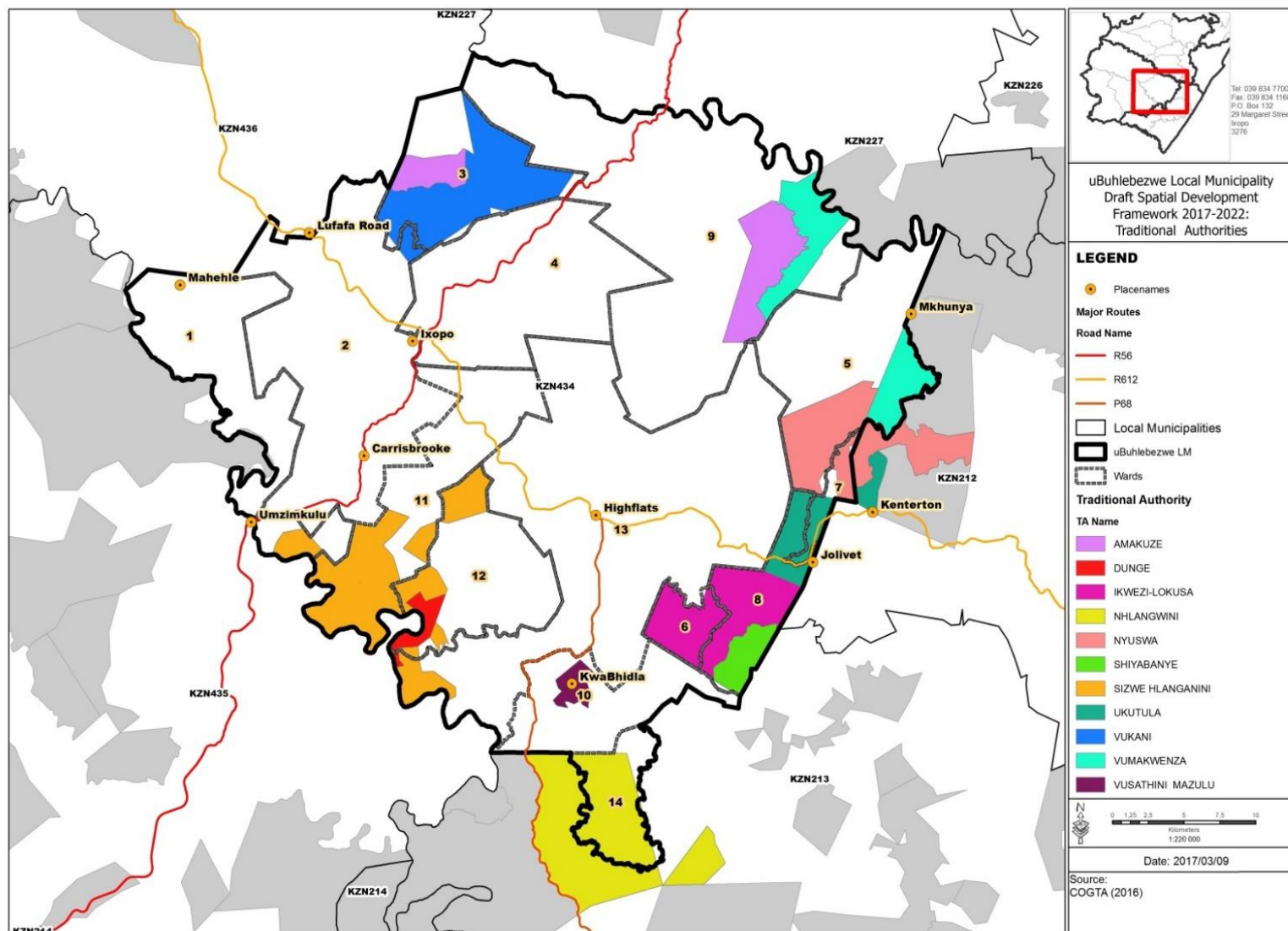


of poverty. In actual facts it will become difficult for the municipality to cater for the provisions of pensioners, proving social security systems to people in need as well as the non-working population.

### Wards and Traditional Authority Areas depicted on a map

#### Traditional Authority Area

Vukani; Vumakwenza, Amakhuze, Nyuswa, Ukuthula, Mjoli-Mawushe, Ikhwezi lokusa, Shiyabanye-Nhlangwini, Dlamini-Vusathina Mazulu, Amadunge, Amabhaca and Amazizi.



Fg 2: Traditional Authorities

## Economic Profile

### District Economy

The most prominent employment sectors within the District are Agriculture including cattle, dairy, poultry, citrus, sugar-cane, fruit, and forestry, followed by Community Services, Trade and Domestic Employment. Up to 10,6% of the working population in the District are involved in construction and small scale manufacturing. It is interesting to note that in spite of male migrancy, males are dominant in local employment. The District is known for its progressive farming methods, which have resulted in a continually increasing output and consequent increasing prosperity.

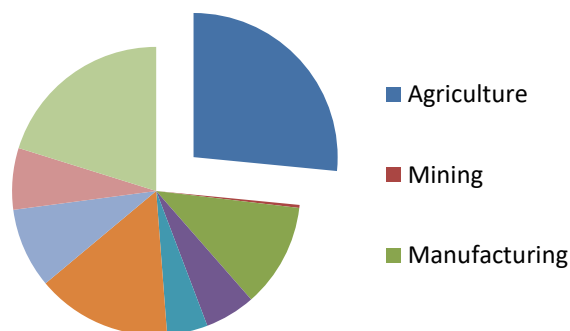
### Gross Value Added (GVA), Constant 2010 prices (R 1000), 2015

Sector	Harry Gwala	Ubuhlebezwe
Agriculture	1,953,774	496,177
Mining	34,313	6,284
Manufacturing	831,197	218,259
Electricity	407,738	106,053
Construction	379,166	85,318
Trade	1,865,647	283,078
Transport	702,642	167,943
Finance	674,007	129,105
Community services	2,525,090	377,260
Total Industries	9,373,574	1,869,477
Taxes less Subsidies on products	772,782	180,145
Total (Gross Domestic Product - GDP)	10,146,357	2,049,622

Source: Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs

Sector	Ubuhlebezwe Sector GVA Share
Agriculture	24.2%
Mining	0.3%
Manufacturing	10.6%
Electricity	5.2%
Construction	4.2%
Trade	13.8%
Transport	8.2%
Finance	6.3%
Community services	18.4%
Total Industries	91.2%
Taxes less Subsidies on products	8.8%
Total (Gross Domestic Product - GDP)	100.0%

### Ubuhlebezwe Sector GVA Share



Source: Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs

### 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 2010. In terms of percentages the average employment contribution to the district population has declined by 0,3% between 2010 and 2015.

Municipality	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Harry Gwala	94 749	93 351	96 088	101 051	107 537	112 306
Greater Kokstad	26 964	26 643	27 553	28 698	30 117	31 256
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

Community Survey 2016

## **Spatial Profile**

### **Access**

The main corridor within the Ubuhlebezwe Municipality is the R56, which links into the N2. The corridor centres on tourism and agriculture. It links Ixopo to towns such as Kokstad, Matatiele, Pietermaritzburg and Port Shepstone. The primary corridor facilitates stronger cross border economic flows and economic development in the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal. The R612 and R617 serve as secondary corridors, which link the remaining areas of Ubuhlebezwe to the R56 (main corridor). These corridors provide the potential to exploit the under-utilized location and economic advantages of the hinterland areas thus providing a potential for export-oriented growth particularly in the agricultural sectors.

### **Settlement Patterns**

Ubuhlebezwe is not just an administrative and local government structure, but an economic and social functional entity as well. It has a well-defined settlement pattern and functional structure. In economic terms, it is part of the Greater Ixopo economic functional region. Movement within the area tends to go towards Ixopo and even the economic/transportation infrastructure is oriented towards this area. However, a limited form of modular development occurs in Highflats and other emerging nodes in the traditional authority areas. This presents an opportunity for the concentration of development and decentralization of service delivery to these areas. In fact, Ixopo is identified in both Ubuhlebezwe and Sisonke IDPs as the main service centre and economic hub within the District. It accommodates different government Departments and a wide range of shopping and commercial facilities.

These urban centres serve as a link between the areas outside of Ubuhlebezwe and the expansive commercial agriculture as well as the dispersed rural settlements located at the peripheral areas, with marginal economic development.

## *How this plan was developed*

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The UBuhlebezwe Integrated Development Plan (IDP) was prepared in terms of the Municipal Systems Act No.32 of 2000 which requires all municipalities to prepare an IDP for their area of jurisdiction. The IDP is an integrated planning and development tool which has the following aims:

- To integrate and coordinate service delivery within the Municipality;
- To assist the Municipality in fulfilling its powers and functions;
- To harness and align the resources of the Municipality and other service providers with the implementation of the IDP;
- To form the basis upon which the annual budgets of the Municipality and other service providers must be based; and
- To empower the community within UBuhlebezwe Municipality to participate in the implementation of the IDP.

At the onset of the IDP Review process, an IDP, Budget, SDF & PMS Process Plan was developed and approved by Council setting out the steps which were required for the preparation of the IDP and the roles and responsibilities of the Municipality, Departments and the Representative Forum.

The Process Plan also established the advertising requirements and the procedures for adopting the IDP and submitted to Council for approval. In following the phases of the IDP, emphasis was given to community consultation via Clustered IDP roadshows held in October 2017. Separate consultations workshops were also conducted with the existing community structures such as the Ixopo Business Forum, Ratepayers.

These needs were analysed and categorised and then forwarded to the Infrastructure Planning and Development Department in preparing the projects submitted as part of the MIG Plan. The main aim of the public participation process was not only to get community needs but also to get the status quo on services that are provided by the District and local municipality, governments departments such as Health, Transport, Home Affairs and other service providers involved in service delivery and community development.

### ***Participation Mechanisms***

Chapter 4 of the Municipal Systems Act of 2000 argues that a municipality must encourage and create conditions for, the local community to participate in the affairs of the municipality and in UBuhlebezwe Municipality this has mainly been undertaken in the following ways:

- *IDP Representative Forums*

The Forums represents all stakeholders and is as inclusive as possible. Additional organisations such as CBOs, NGO are encouraged to participate in the Forum throughout the process.

- *Media*

Amongst other means, the local newspapers circulating within the area are used to inform the community on the progress with respect to the IDP review processes.

- *Notices*

Notices on the IDP Review processes are placed on the Municipal Notice Boards, public buildings and the Municipal Website.

- *Ward level IDP meetings*

UBuhlebezwe Municipality has in total fourteen (14) wards after the new demarcation, IDP meetings are held each year where these wards are clustered into three and the fourth one being the ratepayer's meeting. The intention of these meetings is to ascertain the needs of the community and also give feedback to community on the Municipality's different programs and projects.

- *Centralised Ward Committee meetings*

Meetings were held at a central venue where all fourteen (14) wards were represented by members of the ward committees.

- **Public / Stakeholder Participation during the IDP process**

The Municipal Systems Act (MSA) No.32 of 2000 as amended requires that all municipalities prepare an IDP, which is a five (5) year plan reviewed annually. Table below indicates the involvement by all stakeholders and the local community during this IDP review:

Meeting	Date	Venue	Participants
<b>IDP Public Consultation</b>	17 October 2017	Jolivet Hall	Wards : 5,7,8 & 9
<b>IDP Public Consultation</b>	18 October 2017	Highflats Hall	Wards : 6,10,12,13 & 14
<b>IDP Public Consultation</b>	19 October 2017	Peace Initiative Hall	Wards : 1,2,3,4 & 11
<b>IDP Public Consultation</b>	19 October 2017	Soweto Hall	Ratepayers
<b>IDP Representative Forum</b>	25 November 2017	Municipal Council Chamber	All government departments, Management from the municipality
<b>Ward Committee meeting</b>	07 March 2018	Peace Initiative Hall	Ward Committee members, councillors. CDW's, Ward Support Clerk, Municipal Management & Officials
<b>Approval and submission of the Draft IDP to COGTA</b>	22 March 2018	COGTA	Local Municipality
<b>Publication of the Draft IDP (21 days' notice)</b>	April 2018	Local Municipality	Local Municipality

Table 1: Stakeholder Participation during the IDP process

### Key challenges facing the Municipality

#### Municipal Transformation & Organisational Development

- Inability to retain skilled staff due to location of the Municipality.
- Inability to offer high salaries due to size of the Municipality and grant dependency.
- Unavailability of high quality service providers, in close proximity, for the provision of training programs

#### Service Delivery & Infrastructure Development

- Ubuhlebezwe Municipality although striving for Excellency, there are still some challenges in terms of service delivery, however the municipality is already engaged in processes of addressing them. There is a challenge with the landfill site; currently the municipality is using the one at Umzimkhulu under Umzimkhulu Municipality.
- Funds are so limited that the municipality is unable to address backlog in terms of CIP.
- Due to size and lack of revenue, the Municipality depends on the District Municipality for the provision of water and on Eskom for electricity. These are some of the avenues from which the Municipality could be generating revenue, however establishing and capacitating these units requires funding.

#### Municipal Financial Viability

- There are budgetary constraints, due to low revenue base.
- The Municipality is highly dependent on Grant Funding.
- There is resistance from business owners and home owners in paying for rates and services
- The majority of the population resides in rural areas and do not contribute to payment of rates and services.

#### Social & Local Economic Development



- 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.
- Private ownership of land makes it difficult to develop the town and attract investments.
- High levels of illiteracy means the majority of our community members are unemployable, therefore skilled people come from outside the Municipality.

#### Cross Cutting Interventions

- Spatial development is still hindered by the unavailability of land, which affects Housing developments as well
- Previous unavailability of an environmentalist within the Municipality led to environmental matter being neglected

#### Good Governance and Public Participation

- There are not challenges experienced with this KPA

### *The municipality's long term Vision and Mission*

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**The Municipality's Vision** is "To provide affordable quality services through good governance", whilst the **Mission Statement indicates that** "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."

The Ubuhebezwe Municipality has developed its public and stakeholder participation mechanism which is part of the IDP/Budget Process Plan. There are forums sitting as per the plan where there are issues discussed in order to address challenges facing the local community, how they can be addressed. This is why there is IDP representative forum so that the municipality together with the participating stakeholders can all know each department's long term plans so that they are aligned with the municipalities. COGTA also comes on board as they are making provision for MIG projects i.e. Infrastructural Capital Projects so that people can be able to live in a healthy and safe environment. The District is also working closely with the local municipality, as their competency is on basic services i.e. water and sanitation, they also participate in our IDP forums.

### *What is being done to address the challenges*

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#### Municipal Transformation & Organisational Development

- The Municipality has a Retention Policy in place, where employees, especially those in scarce and critical positions are incentivised as a way of keeping them in the employ of the Municipality.
- The Municipality offers bursaries to staff that want to study, or further their studies within their field of work. Upon completion of their studies, the employee is contracted to serve the Municipality for a period of three years.
- At the beginning of each calendar year, employees are asked to submit their wishlists for training, which is then included in the Municipality's Workplace Skills Programme.

- In the pursuit of creating an enabling environment that is conducive to producing good work, the Municipality has budgeted for the expansion of municipal offices, in the 2018/19 financial year.

#### • **Service Delivery & Infrastructure Development**

- In spite of the limited funding, each financial year, the Municipality prioritises one road within town to be refurbished. This is aimed at attracting investors to the area and giving residents easy accessibility.
- Council prioritises projects that will have impact within the wards, this ensures that all our wards are catered for according to their needs.
- Ubuhlebezwe Spatial Development Framework identifies important nodes, which are EXobho (Primary Node), Highflats (Secondary Nodes) and Hlokozi, Hluthankungu, Nokweja, Jolivet, Mahehle (Tertiary Nodes). These nodes have different functions or roles in the development of Ubuhlebezwe. The successful development of Ixopo Town would have many economic benefits for the people of Ubuhlebezwe. In five years' time, Ubuhlebezwe would have made significant progress in terms of attracting investors to the town, thereby creating a platform for a sustainable revenue base for the municipality.
- Highflats is one of the nodes that have been identified in the Spatial Development Framework. The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform has assisted the Municipality in undertaking the development of this node.
- Ubuhlebezwe wall to wall scheme was approved in April 2016 as required in terms of Section 24 of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013 Act No. 16 of 2013 (SPLUMA ). The scheme included the following guidelines:-
  - Land development in biodiversity
  - Development in agricultural areas
  - Development in Ingonyama Trust Land

#### **Social & Local Economic Development**

In order to address some of the challenges experienced with our Local Economic Development. Ubuhlebezwe Municipality, together with the Department of Trade and Industry, has developed a Business Retention & Expansion framework which seeks to find methods for retaining investment in the area and possibly expanding business.

Ubuhlebezwe continues to develop its tourism routes. The focus of route development in Ubuhlebezwe will be on a combination of a mountain/quad bike, hiking and drive route/s that traverse Ubuhlebezwe and link different tourism products on-route. The development of a route could include a number of activities and destinations.

Secure funding for the restoration of the section of line running from UMzimkhulu to Ixopo, which is of tremendous historical significance. And try to link rail activities to the Ubuhlebezwe route as a product on-route as well as to link rail activities to surrounding areas' rail activities.

Ubuhlebezwe is also establishing visitor's information centre. This project includes the establishment of a one-stop facility for tourism information and orientation and the integration of the centre into the municipal systems and procedures

With regards to non-availability or shortage of land for development, Ubuhlebezwe is an area that is abundant in opportunity, but tapping on these opportunities is a challenge. Ubuhlebezwe has abundant land which is privately owned. The challenge is that the municipality will need to access this land for the development of agriculture, commercial, tourism, manufacturing etc. hence Ubuhlebezwe is in a process of land release programme.

## Municipal Financial Viability

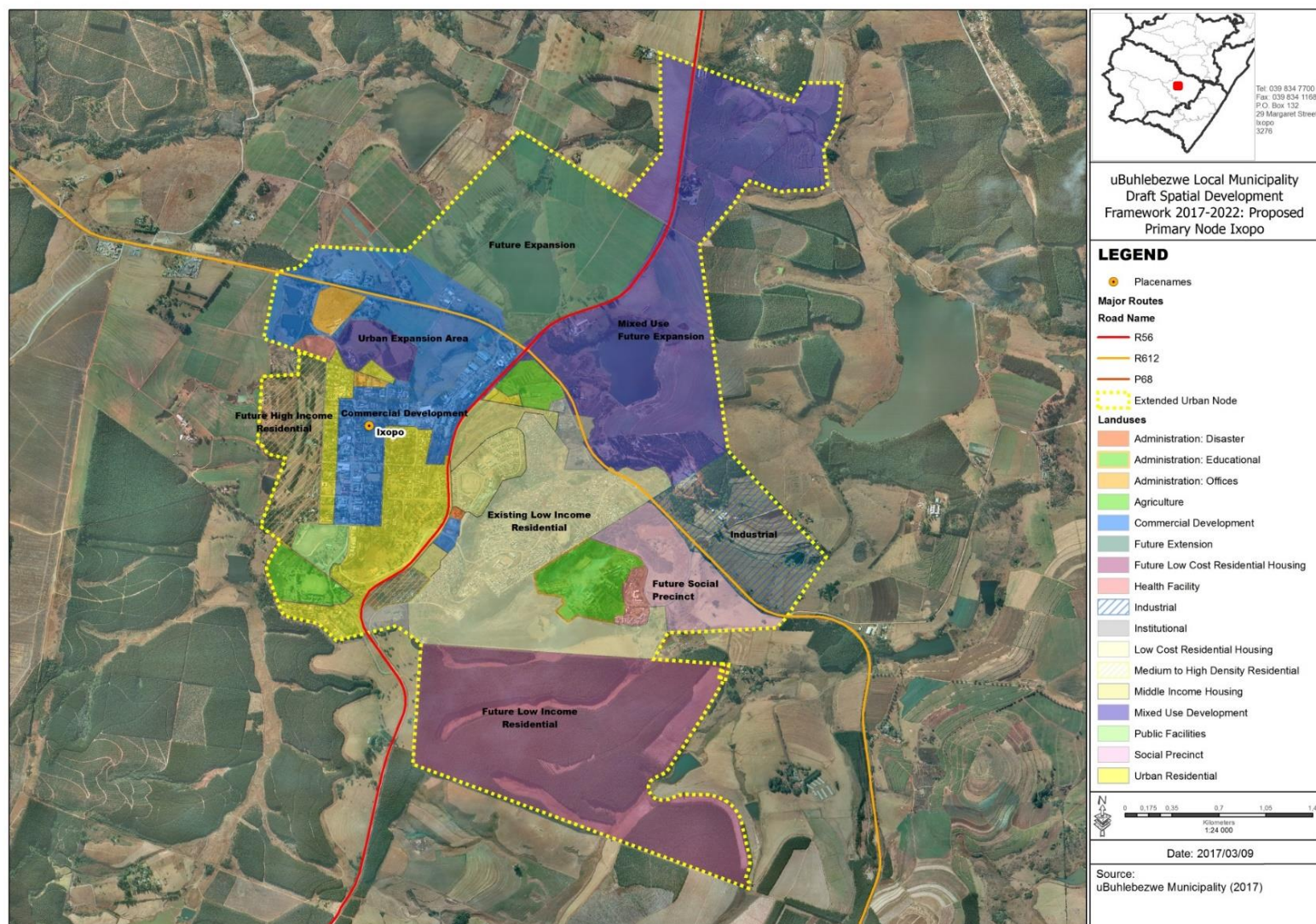
To address the ongoing challenges encountered with revenue collection, the Municipality has embarked on a number of Revenue collection Strategies. The strategies have had a positive impact thus far, and we shall continue utilising them whilst we continue looking for others:

- The Municipality has engaged the services of a debt collector to assist with collection.
- Municipal staff also randomly makes reminder phone calls to debtor to come and pay their bills.
- The Municipality conducted a data cleansing and address harvesting exercise to ensure the all bills are sent correctly.
- The Municipality has a revenue collection task team consisting of EXCO and Management that does door to door visit to our debtors, business and residential, reminding them of their bill and finding out the challenges that they are experiencing with payment.

## Cross Cutting Interventions

- The Municipality's SDF and Housing Sector Plans seek to address the challenge of spatial growth and development and Housing.
- An Environmental Officer has been appointed who ensures that the Municipality complies with all environmental matters

## SPATIAL VISION:



Fg 3 : proposed primary node Ixopo



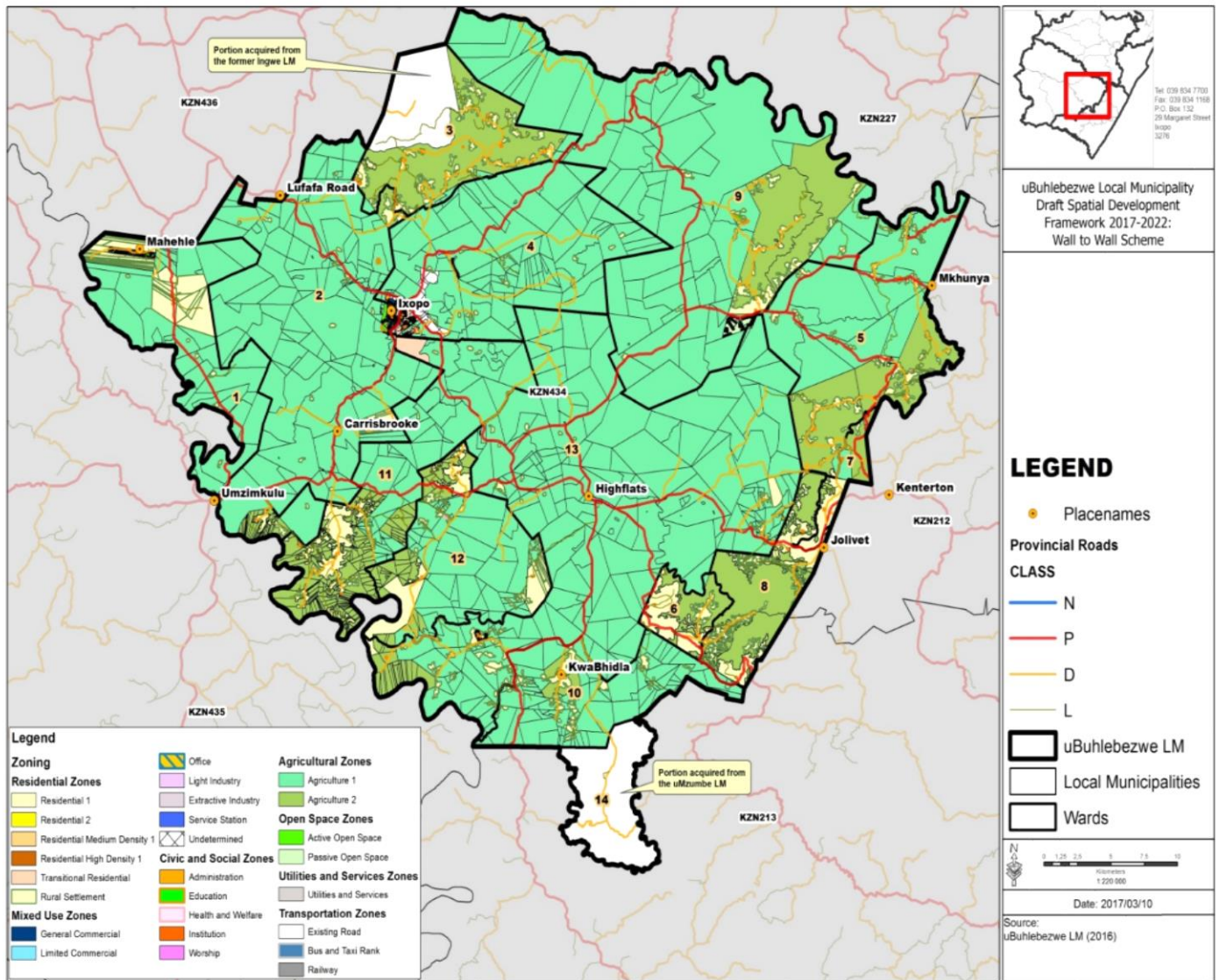
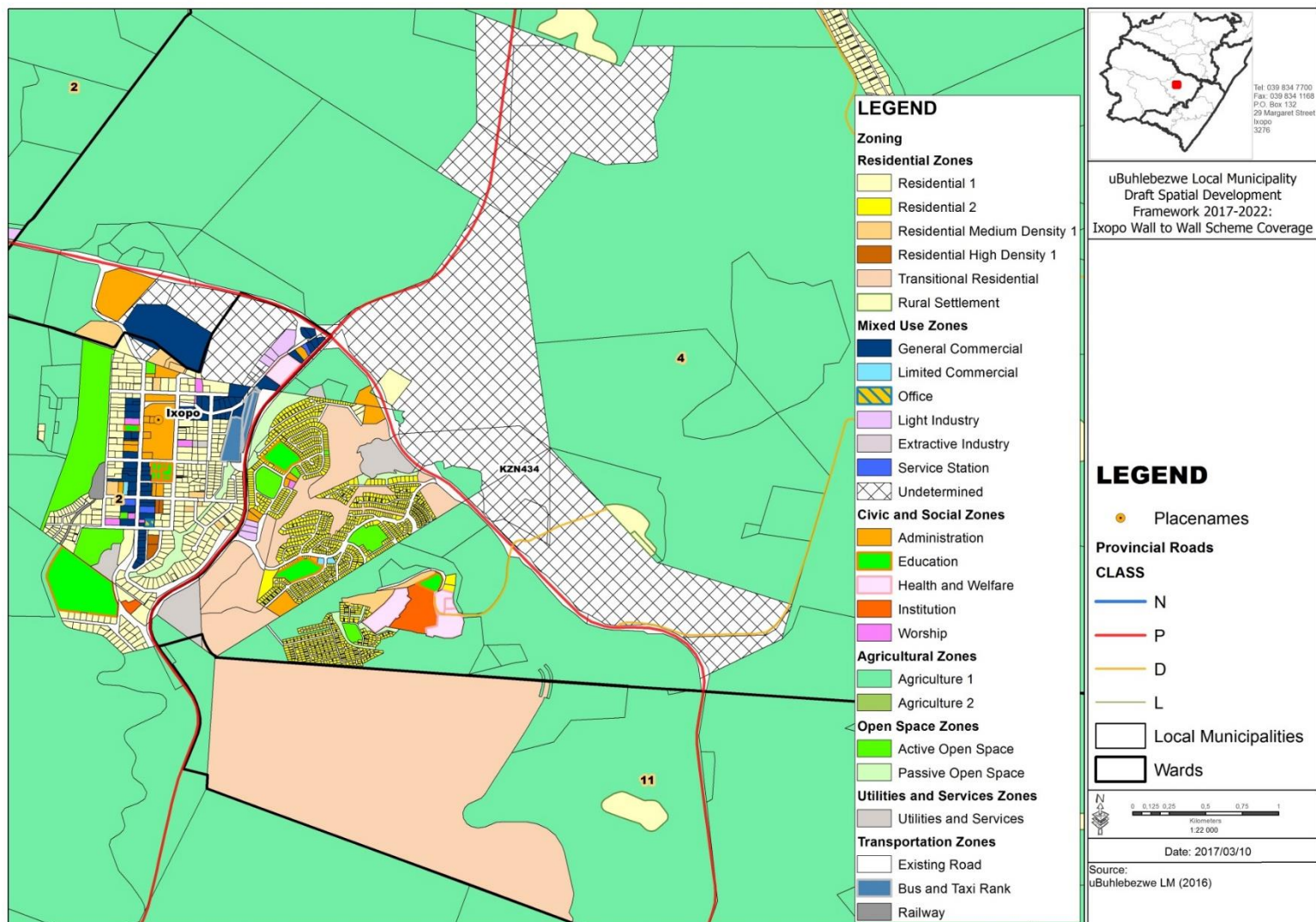


Fig 4: Wall to Wall Scheme



**Fig 5 : Wall to Wall scheme coverage**



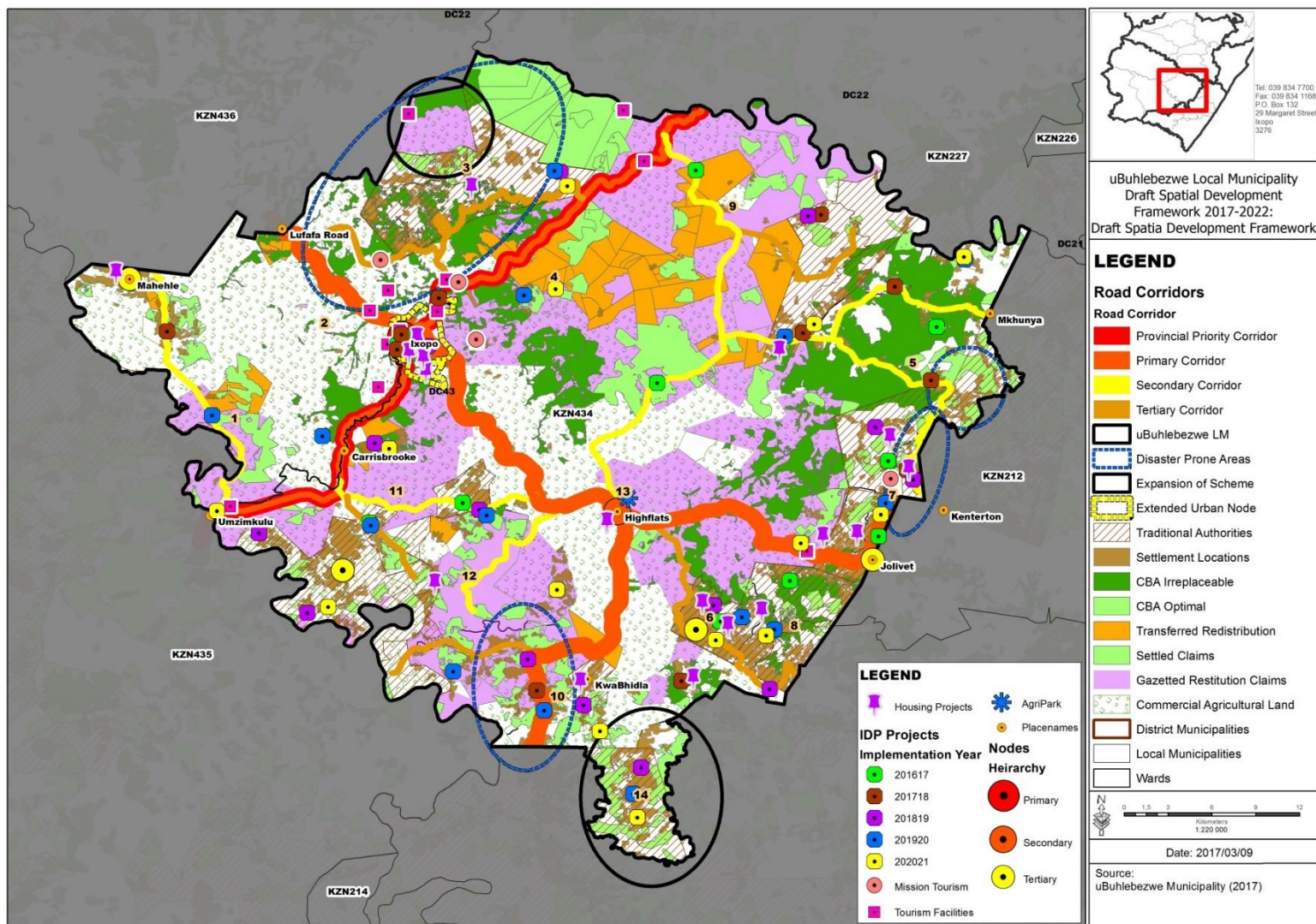


Fig 6 : Road corridors



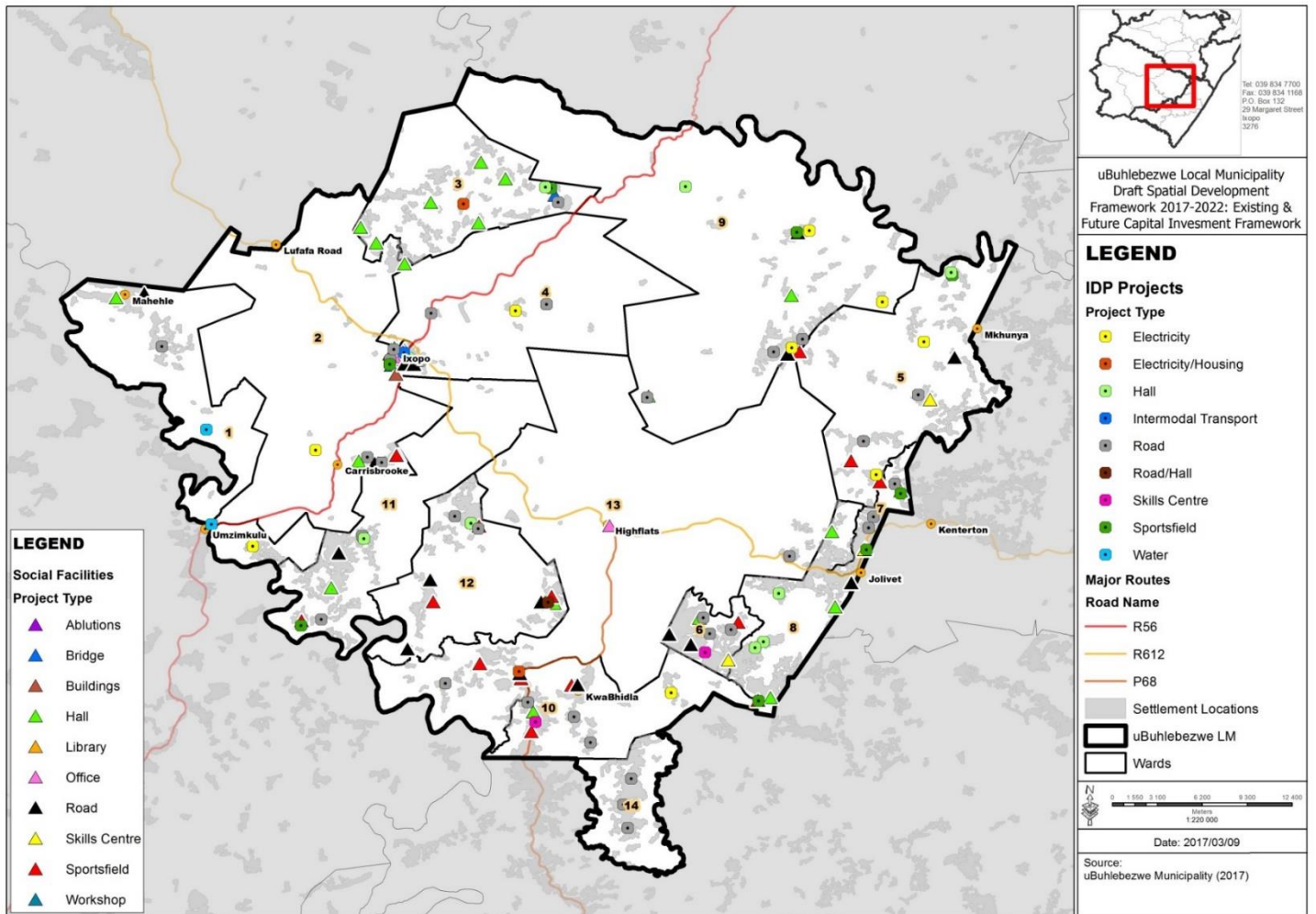


Fig 7 : Existing and future development

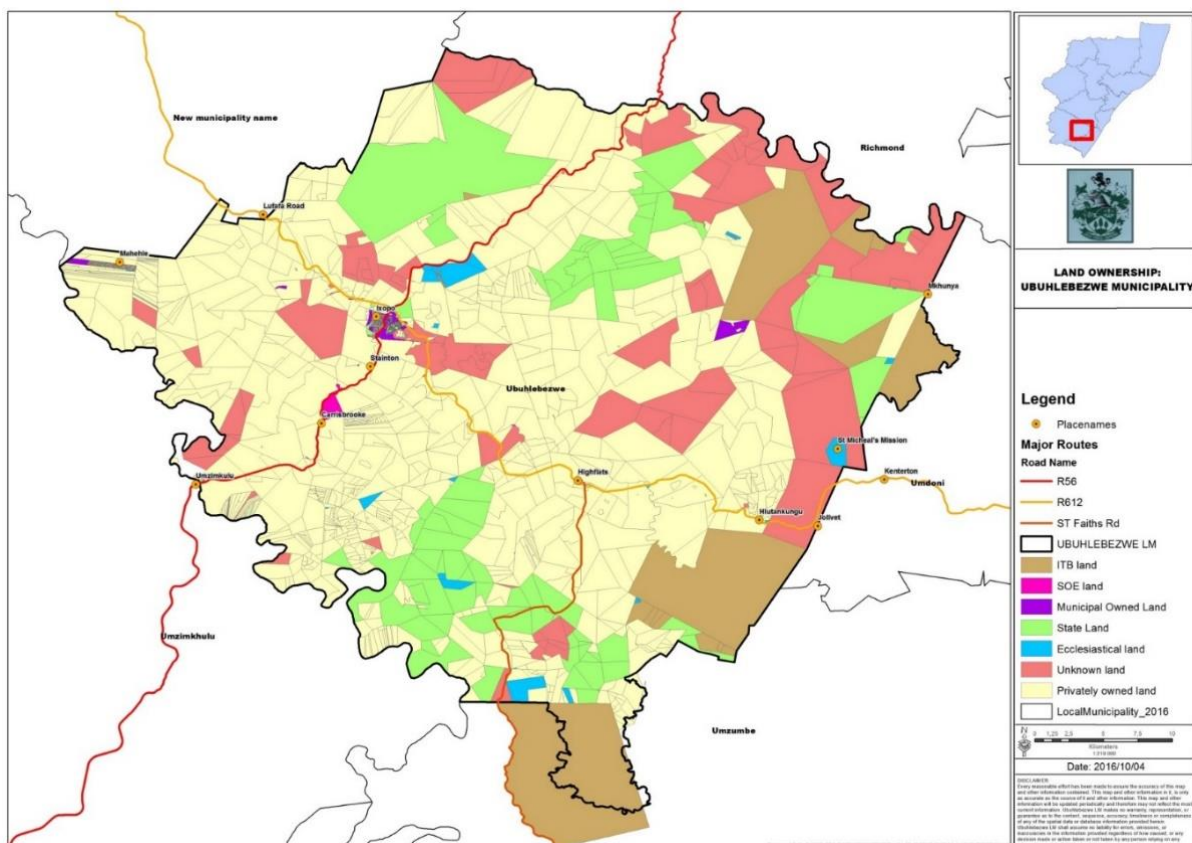


Fig 8: Land Ownership

## CATALYTIC PROJECTS:

The Municipality, in its strategies, has identified some catalyst projects that have the potential to unlock and address some of the Key Challenges that we are facing. These include:

Project Description	Implementing Agent	Funding	Beneficiaries	Status quo
Small holder farm support	LIMA	R 4 363 861.76	800 farmers	The project was approved in august 2016 and the project is under implementation for the period of four years.
Ogle Farm Proposed Development	Ubuhlebezwe Municipality	As per Business Plan	-Business -Community	The project is still on planning stage.
Wosley Farm	Ubuhlebezwe Municipality	As per Business Plan	Community Residents	Seeking Funding from (Human Settlement to buy the land). This project is aimed at moving the informal settlements that are built on the periphery of the town to Wosley Farm, in order to use this land for development, because of its prime location
Erection of market stalls (Ixopo Taxi Rank)	Ubuhlebezwe Municipality	R 1 000 000	Street vendors Ixopo town)	The project is under construction.
Construction of Light Industrial Park	Ubuhlebezwe Municipality	R 850 000.00	10 (mechanic, automotive & body work) Highflats SMMEs	Business plan submitted to COGTA still waiting their response.
Construction of a highflats agro-processing and packhouse	Ubuhlebezwe Municipality	R 2 000 000.00	Cooperatives and SMMEs	Business plan was approved by the Department of Economic and to Department of Rural Development and Land Reform(DRDLR) . Currently the DRDLR is busy conducting the feasibility study for the preparation of the business plan.
Expansion of Municipal Offices	Ubuhlebezwe Municipality	R 14 500 000	Community Staff Council	An architect was engaged in 2017 and drawings for the proposed structure have been adopted by Council. In 2018 the project for the expansion of Municipal office will commence vigorously.
Golf Course Electrification	Ubuhlebezwe Municipality	R	Community, Residents Business	
Golf Course Roads	Ubuhlebezwe Municipality	R	Community, Residents Business	

Table 2: Catalytic Projects

*Expectations from the Municipality, in terms of outputs, outcomes, and deliverables, over the next years:*

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Key Performance Indicator	Output	Outcome	Status Quo / Time Frame
<b>Land Release Programme</b>	Ogle Farm Multi Facet Development Project and Wolseley Farm Proposed Housing Development	Improved economy	Ogle Farm land acquired.  Wolseley Farm 2017-2021 )pre-feasibility study has been done. Funding to be sourced from DOHS for land purchasing. Bulks confirmation has been received from the District)
<b>Nodal Development</b>	Developed Nodes	Regulated land use in areas not covered in the scheme.  To encourage development and investments along the nodal areas.	2017-2021 (the municipality needs to re-look the tertiary nodes)
<b>Preparation of the wall to wall scheme as required in terms of the KwaZulu Natal Planning and Development Act</b>	Wall to wall scheme	Bring uniformity in land use in areas not covered in the scheme by 2015  To review the wall to wall scheme annually based on the	2017-2021

Key Performance Indicator	Output	Outcome	Status Quo / Time Frame
		development trends experienced by the municipality.	
High Income Housing Development	Golf Course Housing	<p>Restructuring of Ixopo town.</p> <p>Attracting high income areas to buy property in Ixopo</p> <p>Revenue generation through rates.</p> <p>Improved Economy</p>	<p>Provision of bulks have been confirmed with the District</p>
Expansion of the Ixopo Town	Ogle Farm Development & Craigiburn Farm	<p>Improved economy</p> <p>Expansion of Ixopo</p> <p>Investments opportunities</p> <p>Improved health system with the proposed private clinic development</p>	<p>Ogle Farm: In depth studies and plans are being developed.</p> <p>The District Municipality has confirmed bulk services.</p> <p>Craigiburn Farm: the purchase of this farm is still a vision for the Municipality, on ways to the the Primary Node which is Ixopo.</p>

Key Performance Indicator	Output	Outcome	Status Quo / Time Frame
<b>Community Residential Units</b>	Ubuhlebethu Community Residential Units	Housing for working class.  Improved standard of living  Improved economy	In depth planning studies have been conducted.  The District Municipality has confirmed bulk services.
<b>High Income Estate Housing Deelopment</b>	OR Tambo Housing Estate	Improved economy  High income Housing  Improved outlook of the Ixopo Town  Investment Opportunities	Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality proposes to construct a residential development with associated facilities and infrastructure that will cater to accommodating the high-income residential needs.
<b>Rehabilitation and Expansion of Highflats</b>	Middle Income and Commercial development	Improved economy  Middle income Housing  Improved outlook of the Highflats Town  Investment Opportunities	As part of its plans to grow the secondary node, which is Highflats Town, the Municipality is proposing to source funding to purchase Esparanza Farm for Commercial and middle income residential

Key Performance Indicator	Output	Outcome	Status Quo / Time Frame
			developments and Walker Farm for Low cost Housing in Highflats.
Expansion of Municipal Offices	Renovated Municipal Offices	Staff retention  Inclusion of community in council meetings: public participation  Municipal growth	The project commenced with the adoption of designs in 2017, expansion will begin in the 2018/19 financial year.

Table 3: Expectations from the municipality

*Progress measurement, in terms of the Organizational Key Performance Indicators linked to departmental indicators*

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Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (No.32 of 2000), requires that all municipalities develop the Organisational and Individual Performance Management System. Wherein six (6) National Key Performance Areas are outlined, i.e.

- **Municipal Transformation & Institutional Development,**
- **Basic Service Delivery & Infrastructure,**
- **Municipal Financial Viability & Management,**
- **Good Governance & Public Participation,**
- **Social & Local Economic Development and**
- **Cross Cutting Interventions**

Key performance indicators are set with measurable outputs, measurable objectives and allocated budgets. Progress is monitored monthly and quarterly with reports as well as the portfolio of evidence produced by the relevant HOD or Manager.

Alignment has to be shown as well between the IDP, Budget, Organisational Scorecard, SDBIP and signed performance agreements and plans for the Municipal Manager and Directors directly accountable to the Municipal Manager. This process has since been cascaded down to line Managers to ensure proper implementation of all planned activities.



## SECTION B: PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES AS WELL AS GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND IMPERATIVES

### Planning and Development Principles

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES	APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES
Land development optimizes the use of existing resources and infrastructure (Spluma Development Principles)	This is especially applicable to Ubuhlebezwe in a sense that we always strive to align our development projects in line with the development basic infrastructure. As much as project are planned and prioritized by the Municipality but nothing gets implemented without the basic infrastructure services laid out. Our developmental plans are aligned with District development plans in order to ascertain the timeframe attached per developmental proposal.
Promote and stimulate the effective and equitable functioning of land markets (Spluma Development Principles)	The Municipality adopted a Land Disposal Policy which translates this principle in a manner of offering different disposal of Municipal land to a variety of people with different economic backgrounds.
Promote land development in locations that are sustainable and limit urban sprawl ( Spluma Development Principles)	<p>The Municipality does not own much land surrounding the ever growing town area and it becomes difficult to plan and implement service delivery projects e.g. LED initiatives and basic shelter closer to the CBD and economic opportunities.</p> <p>The Municipality has a high volume of informal settlements within the urban space and is currently facilitating land negotiations with the surrounding land owners in order to combat the ever growing informal settlements population. These target areas are within close proximity to the urban space and will not just offer sufficient</p>

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES	APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES
	housing development for the Town area but other land uses to support the broad public.
Development should be within limited resources (financial, institutional and physical). Development must optimise the use of existing resources and infrastructure in a sustainable manner ( <i>CRDP, National Strategy on Sustainable Development</i> )	The organisational structure has been developed to address issues relating the capacity so that services can be delivered timeously and efficiently, the municipal budgets also make provision of same.
Stimulate and reinforce cross boundary linkages.	Ixopo is located along the eastern boundary of Harry Gwala District, Municipality, it borders onto Dr Nkosazana Zuma, Richmond, Vulamehlo, Umzumbe and Umzimkhulu local municipalities, Ixopo is the main administrative centre located approximately 85km south east of Pietermaritzburg, and is strategically located at the intersection of four major provincial routes leading to Pietermaritzburg, the Drakensburg, the Eastern Cape and the South Coast (R56 and R612).
All to have access to basic services (water, sanitation, shelter and energy) must be provided to all households (NDP)	Water, sanitation and shelter developmental infrastructure plans are constantly being aligned between the Water authority (Harry District Municipality) and Ubuhlebezwe. Where energy is concerned the Municipality is currently facilitating electricity supply to the household within the vicinity of the Mahehle, Mkhunya and Ufafa areas. As a response to the promotion of going green, the Municipality in future will also be engaging with the relevant stakeholders to looking into the housing development in conjunction to the energy saving initiatives fit for human sustainable living.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES	APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES
Land development procedures must include provisions that accommodate access to secure tenure ( <i>CRDP</i> )	Rural housing projects within the municipality seek to give beneficiaries the ownership.
Tackle inherited spatial division (NDP)	<p>Our current SDF gives a guide which informs land development and management principles meant to deal with past imbalances. Our SDF also lays the direction of growth, special development areas for targeted growth and that is meant to deal with past segregational imbalances. The SDF also indicates where an area of development is promoted and where development is reduced – which in most cases it is guided by environmental issues among other things. The SDF evidently is aligned to the developmental elements contained within the National Development Plan (NDP), Provincial Growth and Development Strategy as well the District SDF accordingly.</p>
Develop social and spatial compacts (NDP)	<p>All developmental plans are a direct response of the need from the broad public e.g. electricity implementation project were a response to protest action which took place over the years. Social spatial developmental measures are definitely promoted in terms of the development of our urban, rural and regional spaces for communities. The SDF is guided and framed by the system of regulations within which we are most familiar.</p>
Prime and unique agricultural land, the environment and other protected lands must be protected and land must be safely utilised	<p>SDF makes provisions for protection of environmentally sensitive areas.</p> <p>We are currently conducting the Strategic Environmental Assessment. The Terms of Reference and SLA of which, have been approved and signed.</p>

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES	APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES
	The Municipality provided skip bins to all homeowner residing in around Ixopo Town to minimise the use of plastic bags, thereby protecting the environment.
Engagement with stakeholder representatives on policy, planning and implementation at national, sectoral and local levels is central to achieving coherent and effective planning and development.	Through IDP Representative Forum, SDF Steering Committee, Mayor's Forum, Municipal Manager's Forum, OSS and Inter-governmental Structures provides the platform to achieving coherent and effective planning and development.
If there is a need to low-income housing, it must be provided in close proximity to areas of opportunity ( <i>"Breaking New Ground": from Housing to Sustainable Human Settlements</i> )	<p>The Municipality has purchased Wolsely farm with the intention of initiating a low income project there, the farm is along the R 612 and is close to Ixopo Town.</p> <p>The municipality has initiated two projects, i.e Morningview middle-income project and Golf Course Project, both which are in close proximity of the town.</p>
During planning processes and subsequent development, the reduction of resource use, as well as the carbon intensity of the economy, must be promoted	<p>The municipality has developed a Waste Management Plan which address this issue.</p> <p>The Municipality provided skip bin to all homeowner residing in around Ixopo Town to minimise the use of plastic bags, thereby protecting the environment.</p>
Environmentally responsible behavior must be promoted through incentives and disincentives ( <i>KZN PGDS</i> ).	The municipality has a cleaning awareness campaign.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES	APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES
	<p>Processes for the purchase of bins that will be mounted on each street pole have been finalised and the project is underway.</p> <p>The Municipality has provided skip bin to all homeowner residing in around Ixopo Town to minimise the use of plastic bags, thereby protecting the environment.</p>
<p>-The principle of self-sufficiency must be promoted. Development must be located in a way that reduces the need to travel, especially by car and enables people as far as possible to meet their need locally. Furthermore, the principle is underpinned by an assessment of each areas unique competencies towards its own self-reliance and need to consider the environment, human skills, infrastructure and capital available to a specific area and how it could contribute to increase its self-sufficiency (<i>KZN PGDS</i>)</p>	<p>Ixopo precinct plan has identified the need for a shopping complex to service the people of Ixopo, this minimises chances of people having to travel to the nearest towns, e.g Pietermaritzburg.</p> <p>There is a Tusong Service centre located in Highflats, which seeks to meet communities coming from around the Highflats, Hluthankungu, Jolivet and many other communities, half way. There are Municipal services offered here and there are sector departments occupying some offices in the centre.</p> <p>The planning of the Ixopo town itself is such that, service departments such as home affairs, sassa, dpt of health are located withing the town, for easy access.</p> <p>The newly completed Ixopo Taxi Rank is also located in the towns' CBD.</p>
<p>Planning and subsequent development must strive to provide the highest level of accessibility to resources, services and opportunities (<i>KZN PGDS</i>)</p>	<p>Amenities such as banks, sector departments, municipalities(district and local) are highly accessible.</p> <p>Future developments are also propose within easy access to communities</p>

**Table 4: Planning and Development Principles**

Government Policies and Imperatives

Government Priority	Issue	Municipal Action
Millennium Development Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of jobs created</li> <li>• Number of early childhood development centres created (service delivery)</li> <li>• The number of women employed in the senior level : Employment Equity Plan</li> <li>• The number of clinics created in conjunction with the department of health</li> <li>• The number of people that receive assistance with HIV-Aids programs</li> <li>• Environmental programs implemented</li> <li>• The number of MoU signed with the government departments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Municipality creates employment through EPWP and LED grants. Vacant post are also filled timeously by following HR processes.</li> <li>• At Ubuhlebewe, 3 of our Directors are female, Director: IPD, Director SD, CFO.</li> <li>• Through IDP Representative Forum meetings and OSS, the municipality together with the Department of Education are working towards the construction of early childhood development centres.</li> <li>• Though creation of clinics is the Department of health's function, the municipality does provide basic services.</li> <li>• Regarding HIV/AIDS the municipality has made a provision for employee assistance programme. There is an HIV/AIDS coordinator employed by the Municipality who is hands on in coordinating and facilitating HIV/AIDS programs.</li> <li>• The number of people without water, sanitation and housing is declining.</li> <li>• The Municipality's plan is to conclude all MOU's within a period of three months</li> </ul>
National Plan Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More inclusive economic growth, decent work and sustainable livelihoods</li> <li>• Economic and social infrastructure;</li> <li>• Rural development, food security and land reform;</li> <li>• Access to quality education;</li> <li>• Improved health care;</li> <li>• The fight against crime and corruption;</li> <li>• Cohesive and sustainable communities;</li> <li>• Creation of a better Africa and a better world;</li> <li>• Sustainable resource management and use</li> <li>• A developmental state including improvement of public services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The planning towards economic growth is indeed inclusive. The Municipality's LED strategy addresses the needs of both formal and informal economies. The strategy seeks to finds ways of assisting local businesses to thrive whilst creative a conducive environment for the informal sector to grow.</li> <li>• The town of Ixopo forms the primary development node of the municipality, most economic services are available,</li> <li>• It has a high potential for development of industries, commerce and other economic activities and a major education and health centre.</li> <li>• The "land release programme", where in there will be housing and business activity taking place will certainly bring more economic activity, create jobs.</li> </ul>

Government Priority	Issue	Municipal Action
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently there is an Ixopo and Highflats precinct plan being developed that seeks to formalise nodes</li> </ul>
14 National Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve the quality of basic education</li> <li>Improve health and life expectancy</li> <li>All people in South Africa protected and feel safe</li> <li>Decent employment through inclusive economic growth</li> <li>A skilled and capable workforce to support inclusive growth</li> <li>An efficient, competitive and responsive economic infrastructure network</li> <li>Vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities and food security</li> <li>Sustainable human settlements and improved quality of household life</li> <li>A response and, accountable, effective and efficient local government system</li> <li>Protection and enhancement of environmental assets and natural resources</li> <li>A better South Africa, a better and safer Africa and world</li> <li>An efficient, effective and development-oriented public service</li> <li>A comprehensive, responsive and sustainable social protection system</li> <li>A diverse, socially cohesive society with a common national identity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Efforts to contribute towards the improvement of basic education includes back to school campaign, adoption of a school by each Councillor and donation Science, Mathematics, Biology kits and Dictionaries to High Schools.</li> <li>The Municipality's Community Safety Unit is fully capacitated, comprising of Disaster Management and Traffic Management. This ensure security, safety on the road and in cases of fire. The Municipality works closely with the SAPS.</li> <li>Employees are capacitated annually through the Workplace Skills Programme and staff bursaries are offered to willing employees. All Senior Managers have completed the CPMD course.</li> <li>The Community Development Unit together with the Department of Social Development have various programs that address matters of food security and community development.</li> <li>The Municipality has various policies, bylaws and strategies in place to ensure efficiency and effectiveness. The back to basics program assists with reporting on a monthly basis and the municipality has an effective PMS policy that it is implementing.</li> <li>There is an environmental officer employed who ensure compliance with all environmental legislation and requirements.</li> <li>Ubuhlebezwe Municipality, in its IDP, Budget, SDF &amp; PMS Process Plan, it outlines mechanisms for community participation, whereby the community needs are being looked in to and prioritisation takes place. Basic services such as, road networks, community facilities, infrastructure are being budgeted for, and incorporated in the Service Delivery &amp; Budget Implementation Plan to ensure that the municipality is responsive, accountable, effective and efficient to its community.</li> </ul>

Government Priority	Issue	Municipal Action
5 National Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic Service Delivery &amp; Infrastructure</li> <li>• Local Economic Development</li> <li>• Good Governance &amp; Public Participation</li> <li>• Municipal Transformation &amp; Institutional Development</li> <li>• Financial Viability</li> <li>• Cross cutting interventions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A provision of basic services such as water &amp; sanitation has been made by the district as their field of competency, provision of electricity has been facilitated by the municipality working with Eskom.</li> <li>• LED &amp; Social Development has identified projects through LED &amp; EPWP that are being implemented and will continue in the following financial years</li> <li>• The municipality has developed a process plan which then addresses mechanisms for public participation in the IDP and Budget processes within the municipality</li> <li>• The municipality has programmes designed and implemented to improve employment equity and skills development</li> <li>• To ensure financial stability within the municipality, ubuhlebezwe has ensured that all debts that are 90+ days old are now handed over, and the municipal budget is spent accordingly, with monthly submissions of section 71 reports</li> <li>• Ward Committees are functional in all 14 wards.</li> </ul>
State of the Nation Address (SONA 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unlocking the potential of small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs), cooperatives, rural and township enterprises</li> <li>• Agriculture for growth and food security</li> <li>• Promote opportunities for youth</li> <li>• Infrastructure programmes (transport networks, improve roads)</li> <li>• Delivering houses to the people</li> <li>• Fighting HIV/AIDS</li> <li>• Fight against crime and creating safer communities</li> <li>• Crime against women and children</li> <li>• Fight against corruption</li> <li>• Improving lives of the disabled people</li> <li>• Back to basics programme</li> <li>• Substance abuse (alcohol and drugs)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacitation programmes has been planned by the municipality to capacitate small businesses on how to implement and sustain their projects.</li> <li>• Ixopo has a potential in agriculture and through social development agriculture based cooperative and smmes's are supported and funded.</li> <li>• A Youth Development Strategy has been developed, wherein the youth participated by commenting on the strategy.</li> <li>• The municipality receives MIG funding from COGTA to implement projects such as access roads, street lights for safe communities, community facilities such as halls. Internal funds are used for the refurbishments of one road in town in each financial year.</li> <li>• Awareness campaigns are held every year to ensure that women, children and the disabled are aware of their rights.</li> <li>• Awareness campaigns for people abusing drugs and alcohol are held annually to make them aware of the impact it has on their lives.</li> <li>• The Municipality created a position for a performance, monitoring and evaluation officer who facilitates reporting on back to basics programme. The Municipality has been performing well in this regard.</li> </ul>



Government Priority	Issue	Municipal Action
KZN GDS (7 Goals)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Job creation</li> <li>• Human Resource Development</li> <li>• Human and Community Development</li> <li>• Strategic Infrastructure</li> <li>• Response to climate change</li> <li>• Governance and policy</li> <li>• Spatial equity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through LED projects/activities, the municipality has made a provision for such and through those projects, jobs are created in all financial years</li> <li>• The municipality is engaging, through its IDP/Budget process plan, with the department of education to facilitate the construction of school facilities</li> <li>• The municipality, through its LED and EPWP is able to eradicate poverty, also ensuring the healthy environment through cleaning awareness campaigns, human settlements is also on board and are, through our facilitations, building houses for the disadvantaged. SAPS and our community safety department work together in ensuring the safe and secure environment</li> <li>• The municipality has made provision for construction of new roads, rehabilitation of roads, there is also a project called revamping of Carrisbrook Railway as part of our tourism strategy</li> <li>• Working together with the District, are able to deal with disaster management</li> <li>• IGR structures are in place and are functional, where the chairpersons of each KPA are the municipal managers of all our five (5) local municipalities, with the district being the 6th</li> <li>• Spatial is one of the critical components in the IDP hence all municipalities within the district have formed a forum where alignment is being ensured.</li> </ul>
Operation Clean Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irregular expenditure</li> <li>• Annual Financial Statements</li> <li>• Expenditure Management</li> <li>• Asset Management</li> <li>• Financial and performance management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The municipality has developed a procurement plan, which is aligned to the budget, IDP, SDBIP as well as the organisational scorecard. This plan is tabled before council and thereafter implemented.</li> <li>• CFO is monitoring the financial records on a monthly basis to minimise errors on the AFS</li> <li>• We are now monitoring expenditure on a monthly basis through section 71 reports and the Accounting Officer undertakes to enhance monitoring monthly during MANCO meetings</li> <li>• The municipality has appointed the Asset Management Manager and Officer to enhance internal control over management of assets</li> <li>• Training has been conducted on the financial system. Recons are done monthly</li> </ul>
Back to Basics		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Municipality reports monthly and quarterly on back to basics.</li> </ul>

Table 5: Government Policies and Imperatives

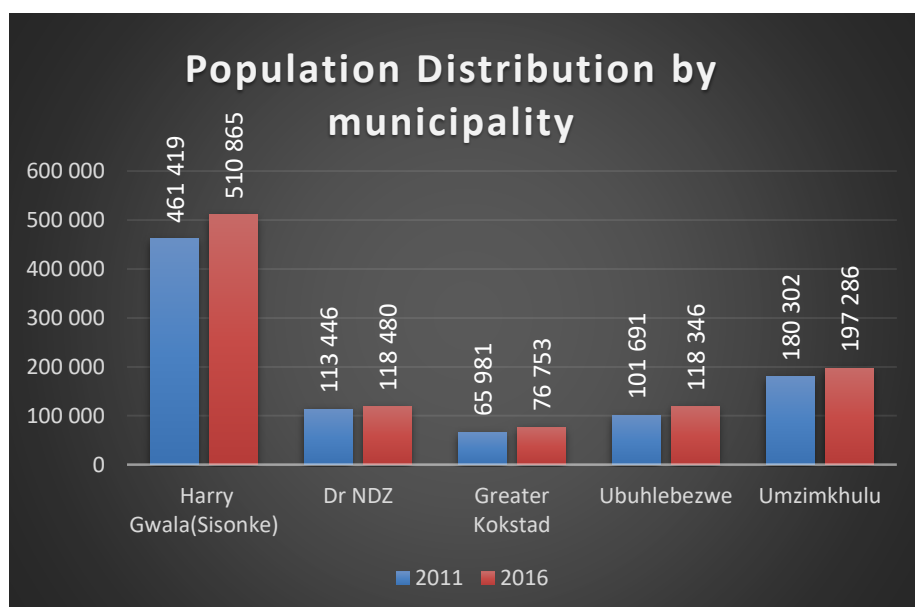
## SECTION C: SITUATION ANALYSIS

### *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 Ubuhlebezwe 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**

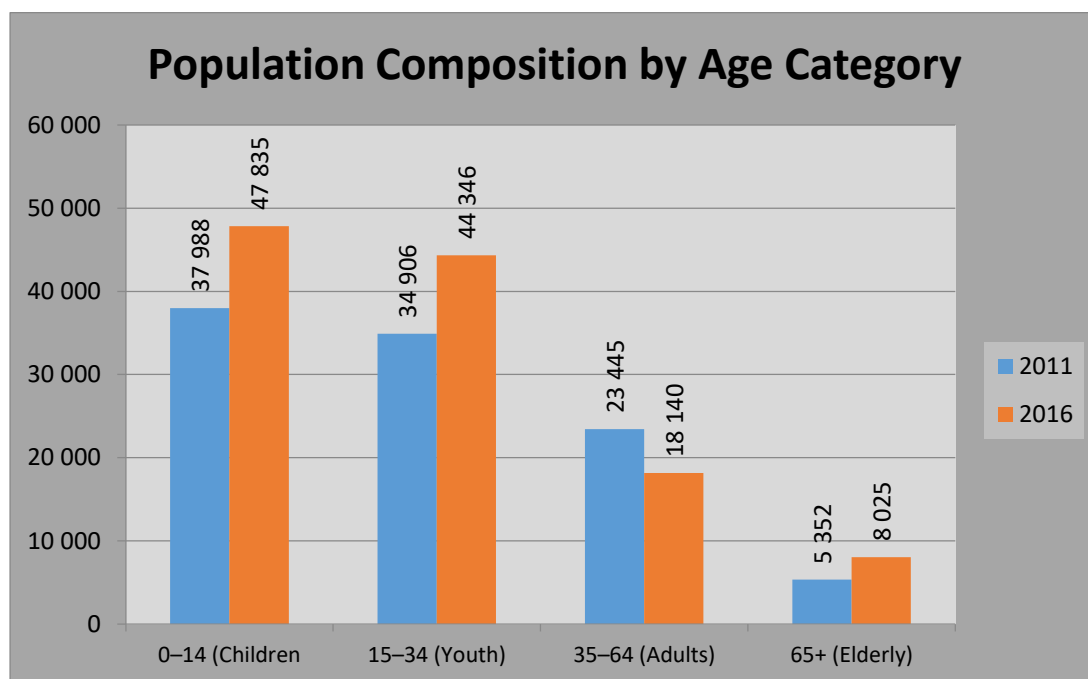
The table below depicts the population distribution by gender for Ubuhlebezwe Municipality for 2011 and 2016. There is a 1% increase in the percentage of males from 2011 to 2016; inversely the females declined by 1% over the same period.

	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).



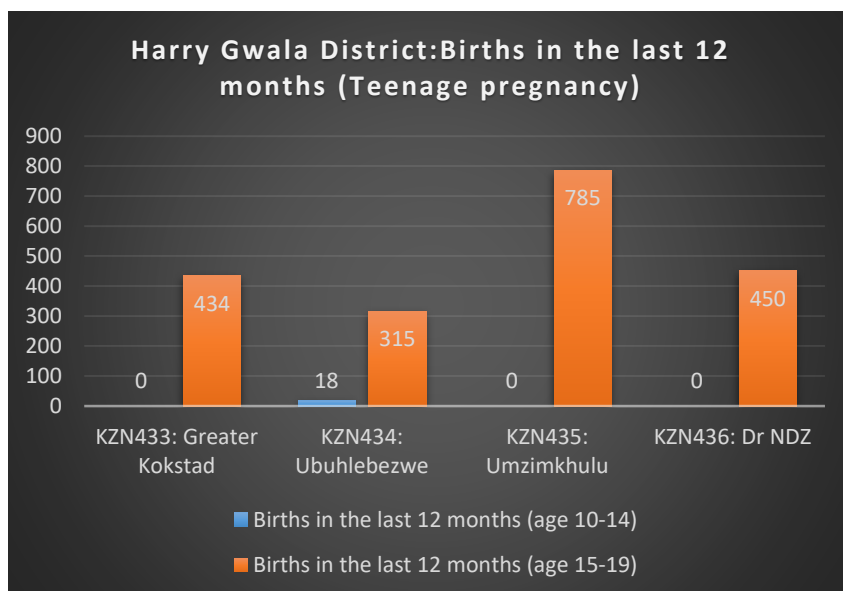
Source: Stats SA Community Survey (2016)

### 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.

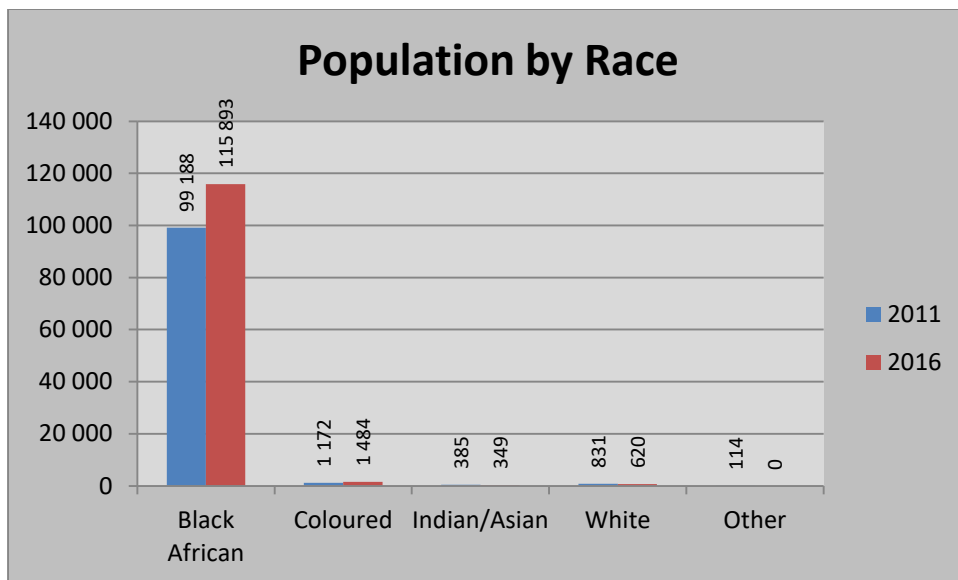
The IMR stands at 19, 4 i.e. 19, 4 infant deaths per thousand births.

### 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)

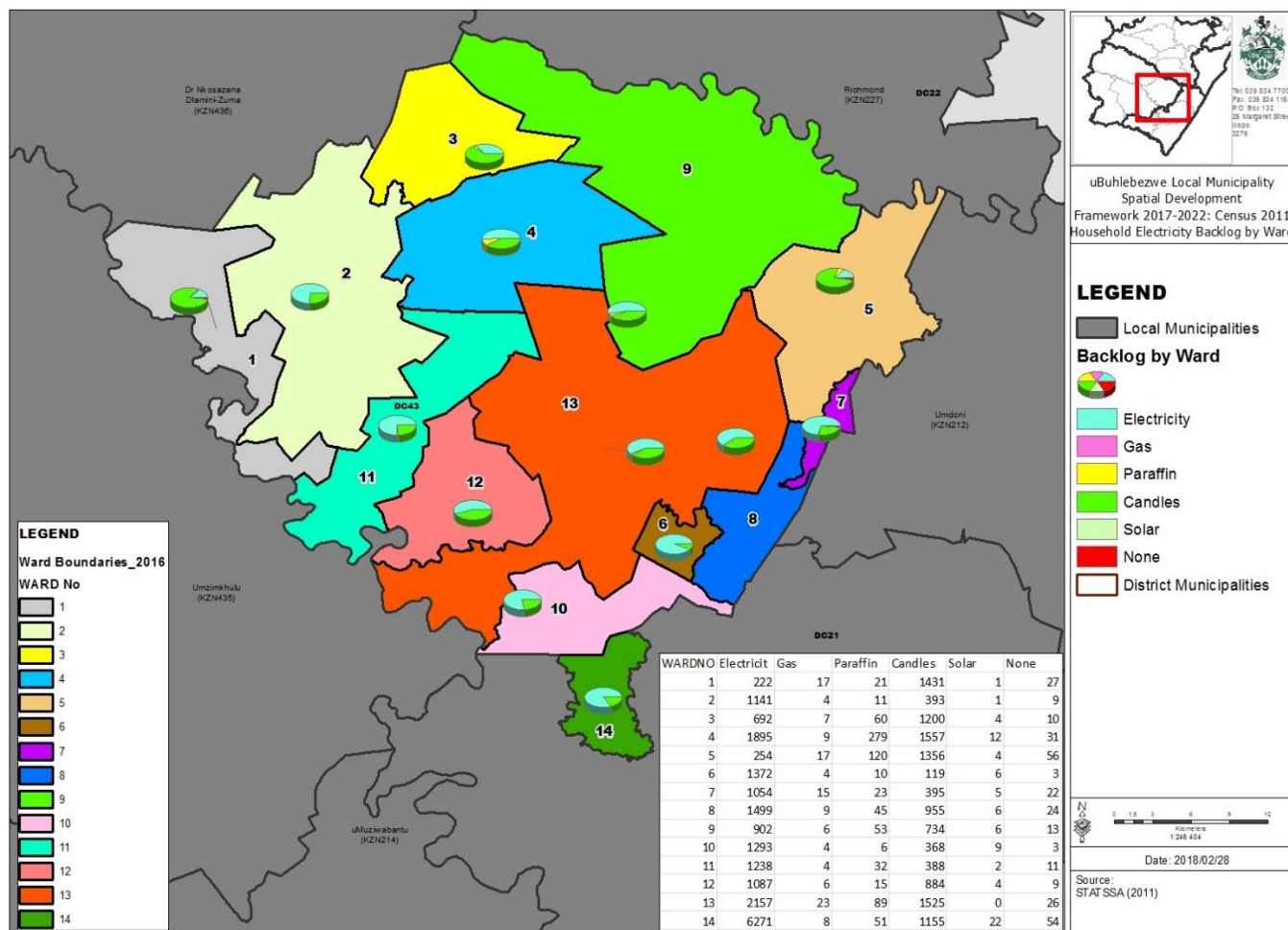
### Household and services

The section below covers the backlog status that is faced by Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality by providing a comparison of Census 2011 and CS 2016 data. As stated earlier in the passage, the demarcation process and the level of detail at which the CS 2016 is collected has had major implications in how the data is represented.

### Electricity

Electricity used for Lighting is commonly used to identify electrification Backlogs (CS). In the 2011 statistics the electrification backlogs are calculated per household and in 2016 they are based on the total population.

The backlog in 2011 was 10838 households. The backlog for 2016 is 26477 people. The map below depicts the backlogs from 2011 against the new ward boundaries.



**Fg 9: Electricity Backlogs**

### **(Piped) water**

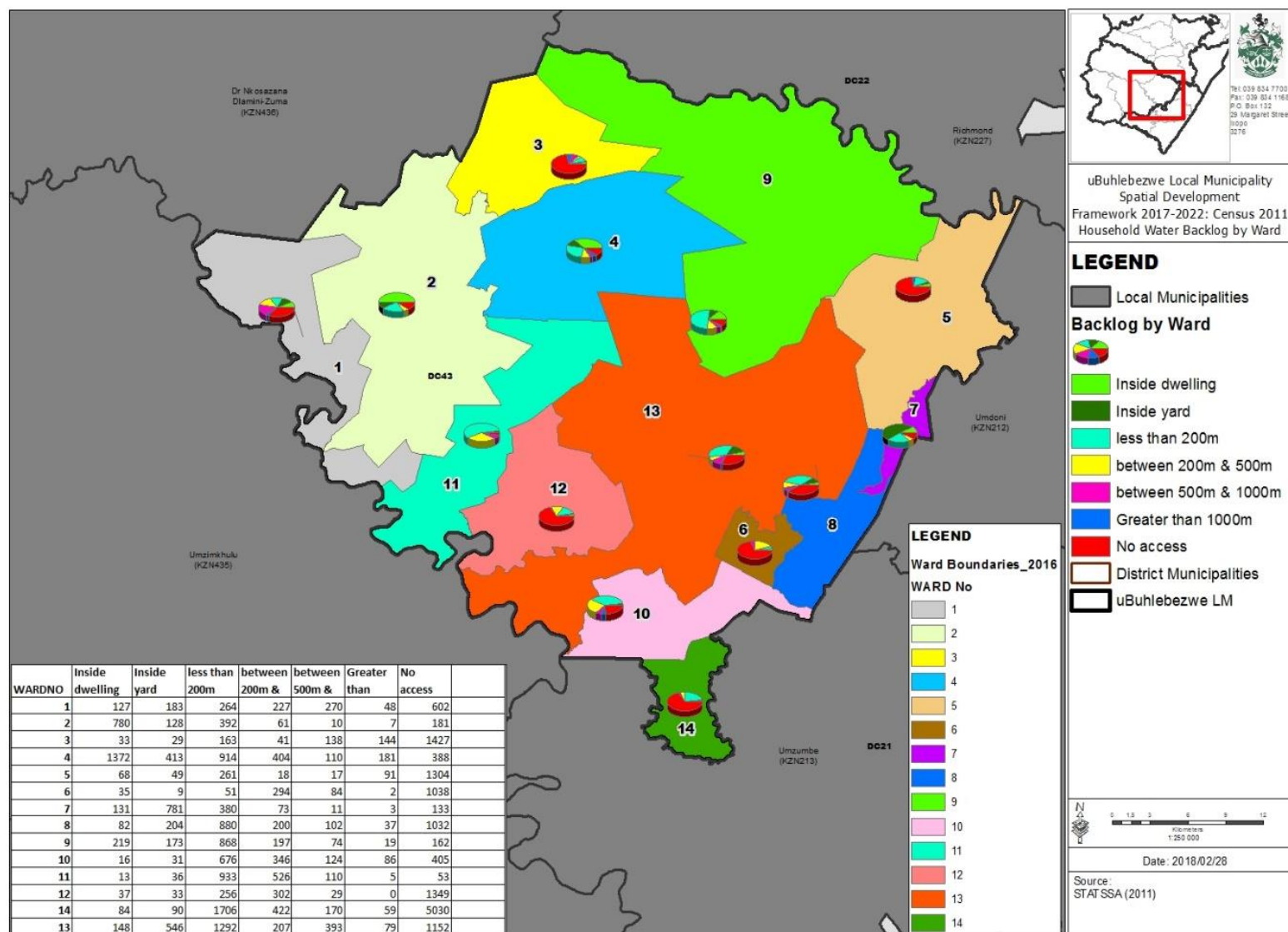
The minimum requirements for acceptable access to Piped Water are:

- Piped (tap) water inside dwelling/institution
- Piped (tap) water inside yard
- Piped (tap) water on community stand: < 200m from dwelling/institution

The following constitute backlogs:

- Piped (tap) water on community stand: distance between 200m and 500m from dwelling/institution
- Piped (tap) water on community stand: distance between 500m and 1000m (1km) from dwelling /institution
- Piped (tap) water on community stand: distance greater than 1000m (1km) from dwelling/institution.
  - No access to piped (tap) water

The (Piped) water backlog in 2011 was 12 468 households. The backlog for 2016 is 70834 (people). The map below depicts the backlogs from 2011 against the new ward boundaries. (community survey, 2016)



**Fg: 10 water backlogs**

### Sanitation

Minimum requirements for acceptable access to Sanitation are:

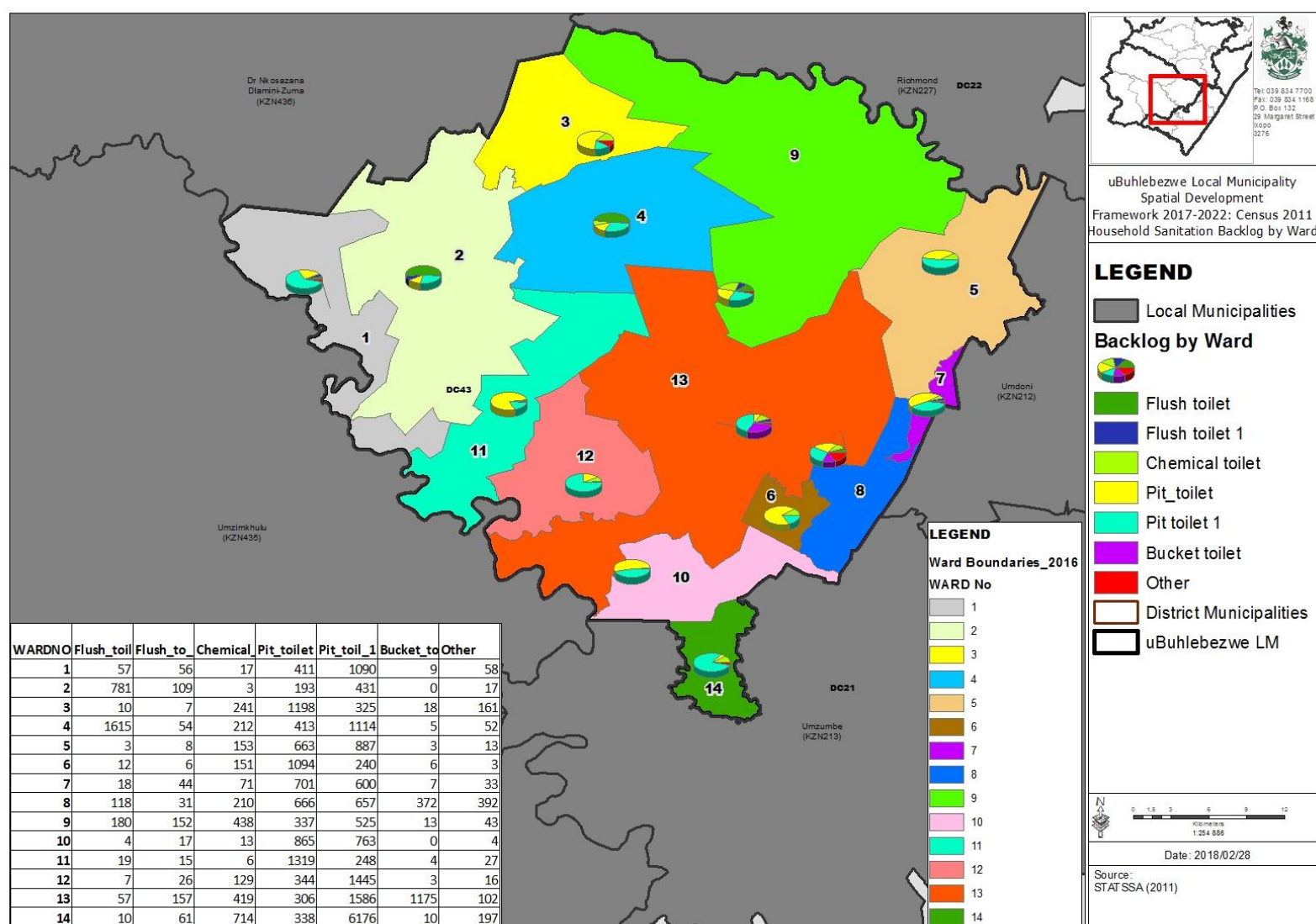
- Flush toilet (connected to sewerage system)
- Flush toilet (with septic tank)
- Chemical toilet
- Pit toilet with ventilation (VIP)

The following constitute backlogs:

- None
- Pit toilet without ventilation
- Bucket toilet
- Other



The sanitation backlog in 2011 was 10 287 households. The backlog for 2016 is 34 318 (people). The map below depicts the backlogs from 2011 against the new ward boundaries. (community survey, 2016)



Fg11: sanitation backlogs

## Refuse Removal

Minimum requirements for acceptable access to Refuse Removal are:

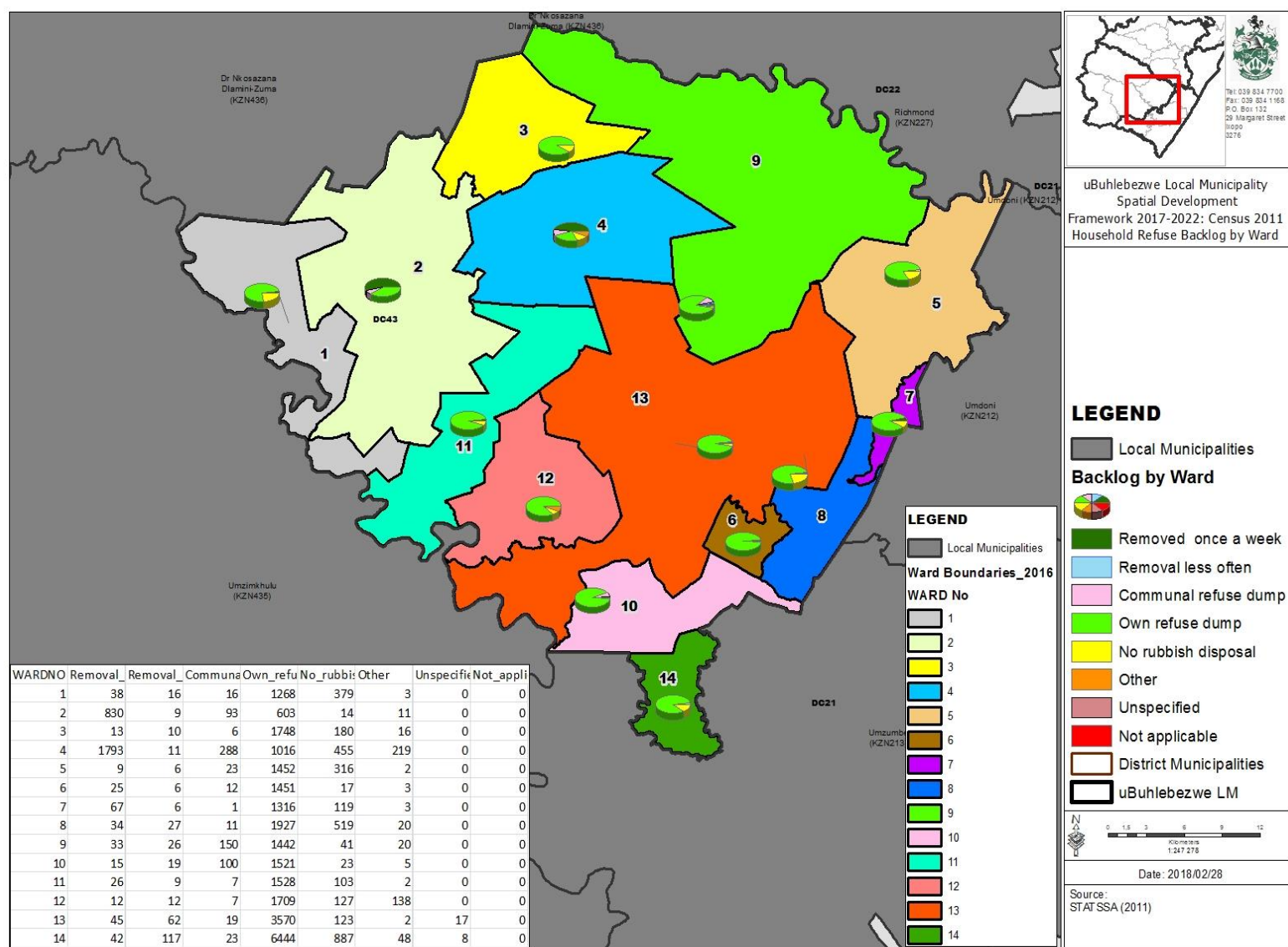
- Removed by local authority/private company at least once a week
- Removed by local authority/private company less often

The following constitute backlogs:

- Communal refuse dump
- Own refuse dump
- No rubbish disposal
- Other



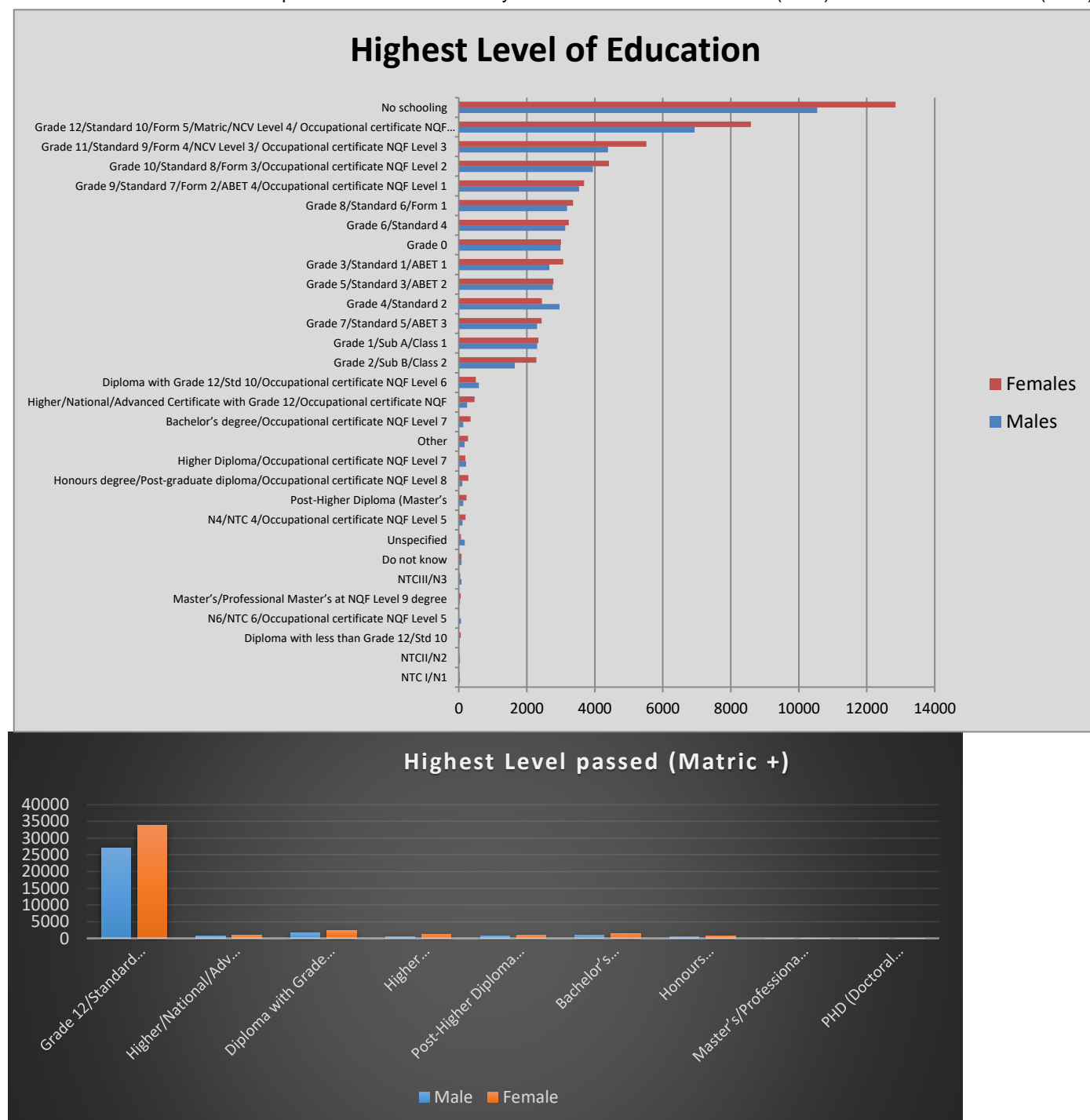
The Refuse Removal backlog in 2011 was 20 432 households. The backlog for 2016 is 109 424 (people). The map below depicts the backlogs from 2011 against the new ward boundaries. (community survey, 2016)



Fg 12: refuse backlogs

## 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).



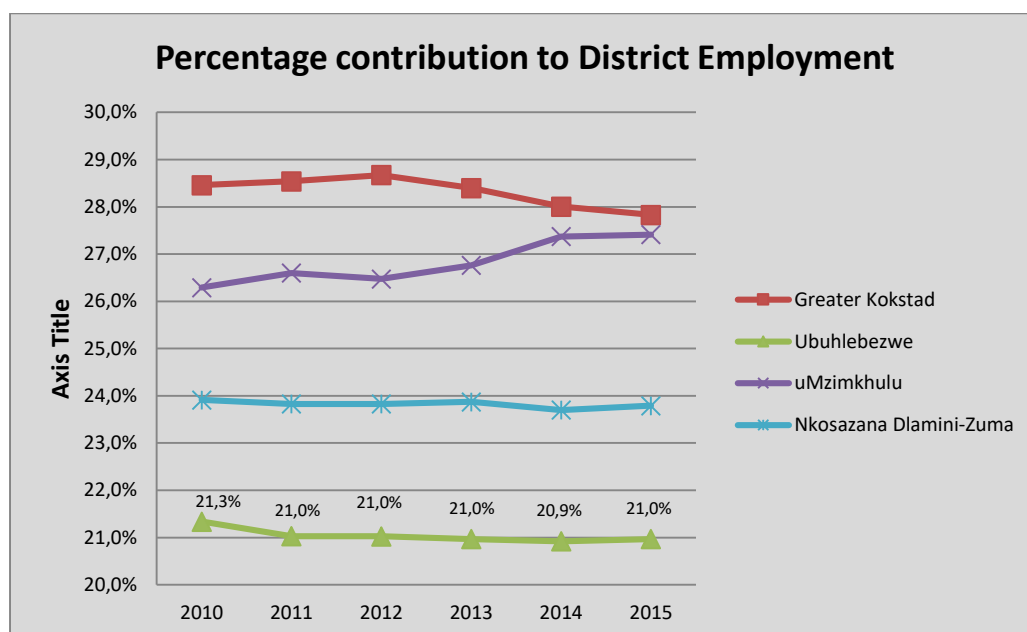
Source: Stats SA Community Survey (2016)

## 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	94 749	93 351	96 088	101 051	107 537	112 306
Greater Kokstad	26 964	26 643	27 553	28 698	30 117	31 256
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

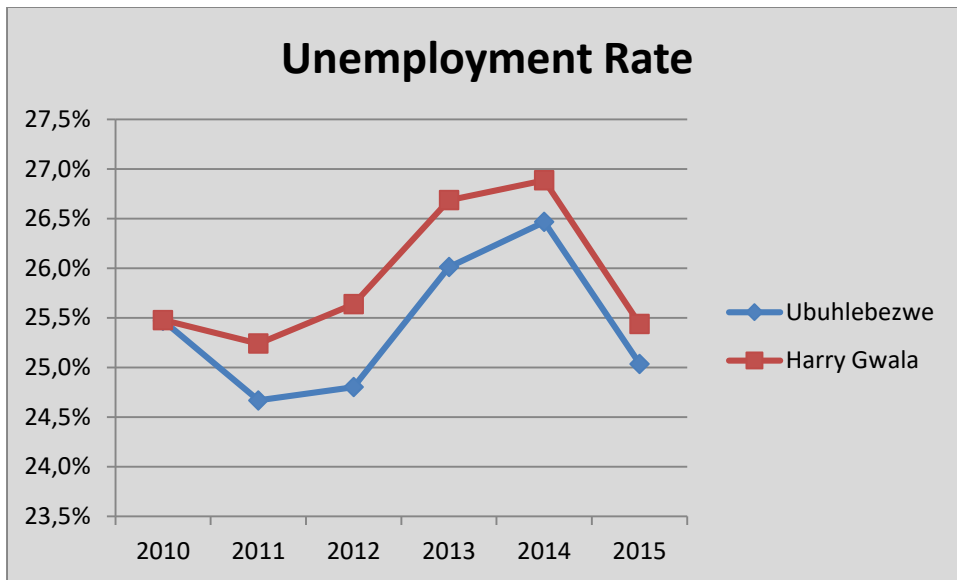
**Total Employment per Municipality. Quantec (2015)**



**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

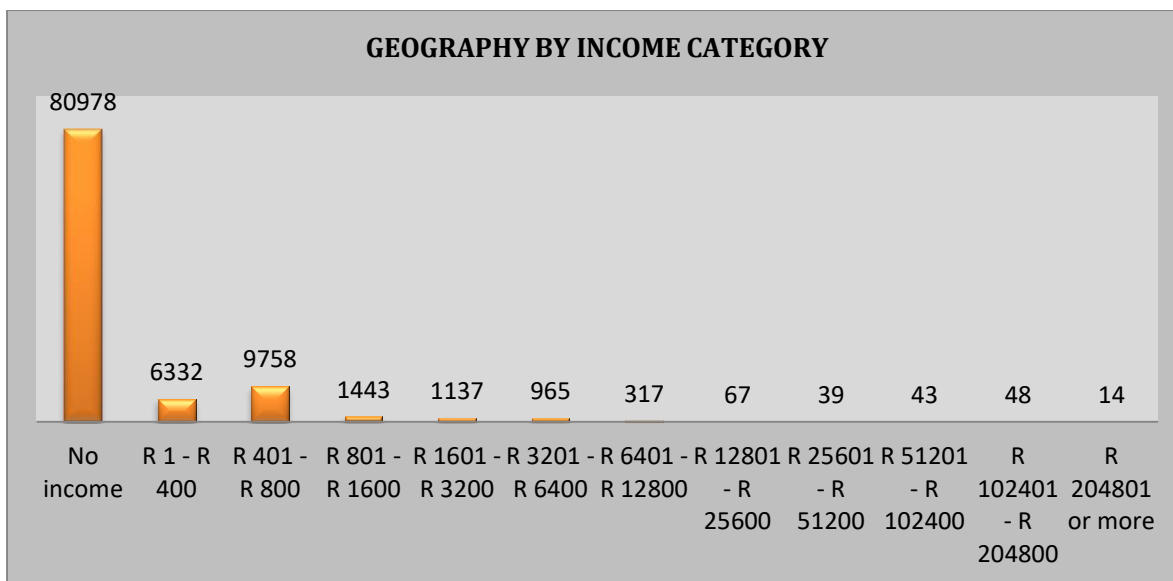
**Number of the unemployed people. Quantec (2015)**



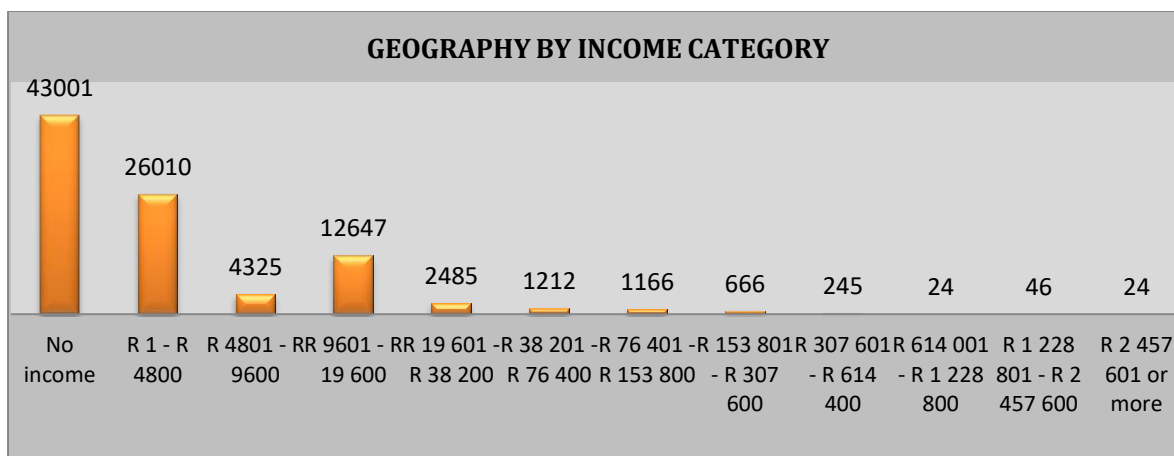
Unemployment Rate of Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality vs HGDM. Quantec (2015)

#### Income status

The Community Survey for 2016 by Stats SA does not cover the Income status, hence, the comparison shown below, still refers to 2001 and 2011.



Source: Census 2001 (Stats SA)



**Source: Census 2011 (Stats SA)**

The above figures show that there is still a high rate of people without source of income as it shows 46.8% of people not getting any income. And the highest earning is at 0%, which indicates that there is still a lot to be done to address the issue. But there is still a positive indication as it shows that there has been a decrease in people not getting any income, from 80.1% in 2001 to 46.8% in 2011.

## Key findings

### Municipal Transformation & Organisational Development

- Inability to retain skilled staff due to location of the Municipality.
- Inability to offer high salaries due to size of the Municipality and grand dependency.
- Unavailability of high quality service providers, in close proximity, for the provision of training programs

### Service Delivery & Infrastructure Development

- Ubuhlebezwe Municipality although striving for Excellency, there are still some challenges in terms of service delivery, however the municipality is already engaged in processes of addressing them. There is a challenge with the landfill site; currently the municipality is using the one at Umzimkhulu under Umzimkhulu Municipality.
- Funds are so limited that the municipality is unable to address backlog in terms of CIP.
- Due to size and lack of revenue, the Municipality depends on the District Municipality for the provision of water and on Eskom for electricity. These are some of the avenues from which the Municipality could be generating revenue, however establishing and capacitating these units requires funding.

### Municipal Financial Viability

- There are budgetary constraints, due to low revenue base.
- The Municipality is highly dependent on Grant Funding.
- There is resistance from business owners and home owners in paying for rates and services
- The majority of the population resided in rural areas and do not contribute to payment of rates and services.

### Social & Local Economic Development

- 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.
- Private ownership of land makes it difficult to develop the town and attract investments.
- High levels of illiteracy means the majority of our community members are unemployable, therefore skilled people come from outside the Municipality.

### Cross Cutting Interventions

- Spatial development is still hindered by the unavailability of land, which affects Housing developments as well
- Previous unavailability of an environmentalist within the Municipality led to environmental matter being neglected

### Good Governance and Public Participation

- There are not challenges experienced with this KPA
- 

### Cross Cutting Issues

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## Spatial Analysis

### INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality (ULM) intends to develop a fourth generation Spatial Development Framework (SDF) as a requirement in terms of the Municipal Systems Act of 2000, Act No.32 of 2000 (MSA) read in conjunction with Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act of 2013, Act No. 16 of 2013 which stipulates that a municipality is required to prepare and review a Spatial Development Frameworks (SDF). An SDF is an integral component of the Integrated Development Plan (IDP). The SDF helps guide the overall spatial distributions of current and desirable land uses within the municipality; redress the past imbalances; meet the basic needs of communities particularly the disadvantaged groups and people living in underprivileged areas. The SDF gives effect to the vision and missions of the municipality as identified in the IDP since there is a need to promote economic growth and assists the municipality to prioritize projects. It is for these reasons that the Ubuhlebezwe is developing a fourth generation SDF which will be reviewed annually for the coming five (5) years. The SDF is developed in line with the OGTA'S Spatial Planning Guideline 1 – 9 and COGTA'S Spatial Planning Modules (2012).

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. The Draft SDF seeks to guide, overall spatial distribution of current and desirable land uses within a municipality in order to give effect to the vision, goals and objectives of the municipal IDP as its objectives. The aims of a Spatial Development Framework are to promote sustainable functional and integrated human settlements, maximise resource efficiency, and enhance regional identity and unique character of a place.

It is for this reason that a number of plans/ strategies have are being developed and reviewed in order to redress the current spatial and economic issues facing the ULM. With plans such as the Urban Regeneration Strategy (URS), Housing Sector Plan, three Year Capital Investment Plan, Local Economic Development Strategy (LEDS) and



Tourism Plan in place, this thus necessitates a development of a fourth generation of the SDF to make a strategic plan that will give strategic direction for municipality and also accommodate any changing circumstances in the development of the area. The Ubuhlebezwe urban regeneration initiative forms part of a broader agenda for the reconstruction and redevelopment of Ixopo Town. It shows the strategic objectives of the spatial development vision and leads to the renewal and advancement of the social and economic node of the municipality. The Municipality also has a number of planned and currently implemented housing projects to assist in combating the existing poor housing structures, and land tenure. The following are some of the proposed and existing housing projects in place:

- The Community Residential Unit (CRU) Programme: This plan was formed due to the need for affordable rental housing for the growing number of the working class who currently living in overcrowded and sub-standard but expensive accommodation in the urban area. The aim of the CRU is to enable the provision of secure, stable rental tenure for lower income persons/ households.
- The Individual Subsidy Programme: The programme aims to assist individuals to qualify to purchase or buy an existing house and/ or an approved mortgage loan for housing.
- The Rural Housing Programme: This programme assists people in rural households and areas with communal tenure to access housing subsidies. The rural housing programme applies in areas of communal tenure only and requires that tenure rights first be confirmed through the land reform process.

The municipality is the process of finalising the Capital Investment Framework (CIF) which will assist in translating the development goals and strategies that are reflected in the ULM's SDF and IDP, into implementable projects with specific budget allocations and timeframes. With high demands for infrastructure development and maintenance to be accelerated, the CIF forms an integral part of the ULM's service delivery strategy. The projects emanate from community needs identified as part of the IDP process and they directly reflect the municipality's efforts to address backlogs in the delivery of basic services and housing.

The following represents the municipality's development vision as captured in the IDP.

#### **OUR VISION:**

"To provide affordable quality services through good governance"

#### **MISSION:**

"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."

It is within the above context that the SDF is regarded as a fundamental strategic component to the transformation of the ULM. Together with other municipalities' development programmes/ plans implemented through the IDP, this SDF seeks to promote sustainable livelihoods and facilitate socio-economic development of the municipality. Ultimately the overall objective of the ULM SDF is to facilitate development in the entire area of Ubuhlebezwe, at the same time achieve economic, social and environmental sustainability in the rural and urban areas and improve the living conditions of its inhabitants and consequently improve the overall quality of life of the population.

#### **Ubuhlebezwe Consolidated SDF - 2016/17**

#### **LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS - ALIGNED LEGISLATIONS AND PLANNING POLICIES:**

The review of the Spatial Development is comprehensively aligned to the following legislation and policies;

- ☐ The South African Constitution No. 108 of 1996
- ☐ Municipal Systems Act No. 32 of 2000
- ☐ South African Spatial Development Perspective
- ☐ National Development Plan
- ☐ The Sustainable development goals
- ☐ Urban Integrated Development Framework
- ☐ The New Growth Path

- ☐ The National Environment Management Act No. 107 of 1998 (NEMA)
- ☐ Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act No. 5 Of 2013
- ☐ State of the Nations Address
- ☐ Provincial Spatial Planning Guidelines 1-8
- ☐ The Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (PGDS)
- ☐ Provincial Spatial Economic Development Strategy (PSEDS)
- ☐ Provincial Spatial Development Framework.
- ☐ KZN LUMS/ Scheme Guidelines
- ☐ Provincial Spatial Development Framework
- ☐ State of the Province Address

#### **SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT ACT (SPLUMA) READINESS:**

Municipality has resolved to establish a Single Municipal Planning Tribunal (MPT) as contemplated in Sections 34(1) and 35(1) of Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013 (Act No. 16 of 2013). There was an advert published which was on calling for nominations to be part of the MPT which closed on the 20th of January 2017. In terms of Section 36 of the Act, the Municipal Planning Tribunal consists of five or more members, who, by reason of their integrity, qualifications, expertise and experience are suitable for membership. The Municipal Planning Tribunal must comprise of persons from the following categories –

- (a) officials in the full-time service of the Municipality; and
- (b) Persons who are not municipal officials.

The formation and approval of MPT members will result to a total 4 structures to oversee development applications as laid out in terms of Schedule 5 of the SPLUMA i.e. Authorizing Officer (AO), MPT, EXCO and Council. The following functions relate to the 4 structures;

- Authorizing Officer – deals with minor land use applications as reflected in the gazetted Municipal Bylaws.
- Municipal Planning Tribunal (MPT) – to consider major land use applications as reflected in the gazetted Municipal Bylaws.
- Extended Committee (EXCO) – to consider all items related to appeals on land use applications (as per the Council resolution CIPD 48/16).
- Council – to consider the processes pertaining the changes effected on the Scheme (as per Council resolution CIPD 49/16).

The Municipal council has recently approved the names of the members to form part of the MPT. The Municipality is in a process of Gazetting and publishing their names as part of the procedure before the first sitting. The first MPT sitting is envisioned to take place in April 2017.

#### **- LAND USE MANAGEMENT SCHEME – LUMS:**

Scheme or Land Use Management System (LUMS) Guidelines

In terms of the Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act No. 32 of 2000) (MSA) each municipality is required to prepare a Land Use Scheme for the whole municipality. A key component of Integrated Development Plans is the requirement to prepare a Spatial Development Framework together with a Land Use Management System (LUMS) which can be applied to the whole municipality.

In terms of the new Land Use Management System for KwaZulu-Natal, a system of wall-to-wall Planning Schemes is proposed as forming the basis for the single LUMS required for municipalities. The purpose of preparing LUMS is to promote coordinated, harmonious and environmentally sustainable development. A land use management

system, in its broader sense, refers to all of the actions required by a municipality to manage land. Some of the key elements of a comprehensive land use management system are as follows:

- Spatial Development Framework;
- Land Use Management Framework and Planning Schemes;
- Rates database;
- Cadastral and property database;
- Information regarding the provision of services;
- Property ownership and tenure;
- Environmental issues and requirements, and
- Transportation requirements.

#### Rural Component of a Planning Scheme

The rural component of a Planning Scheme should primarily be applied to manage land:

- Outside defined urban areas;
- So as to promote the general principles of sustainability, efficiency and integration;
- To ensure that prime agricultural land is protected, and
- To ensure that important areas of environmental significance and bio-diversity are protected.

UBuhlebezwe Municipality (with the assistance of COGTA) has initiated and adopted a planning scheme for the urban areas (including settlement areas) of uBuhlebezwe municipality. This process also included the development of rural land use management policy for rural areas within the municipality as well. The Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, Act No 16 of 2013 (SPLUMA) also requires municipalities to adopt wall-to-wall schemes by 2018. The approach entailed developing a new scheme that covers the whole of uBuhlebezwe which will be a uniform land use system that can be applied throughout the municipal area. The planning unit has sufficiently administered the implementation of the scheme and constantly minding the areas needing review which will be facilitated and approved by Council in terms of the SPLUMA bylaws .

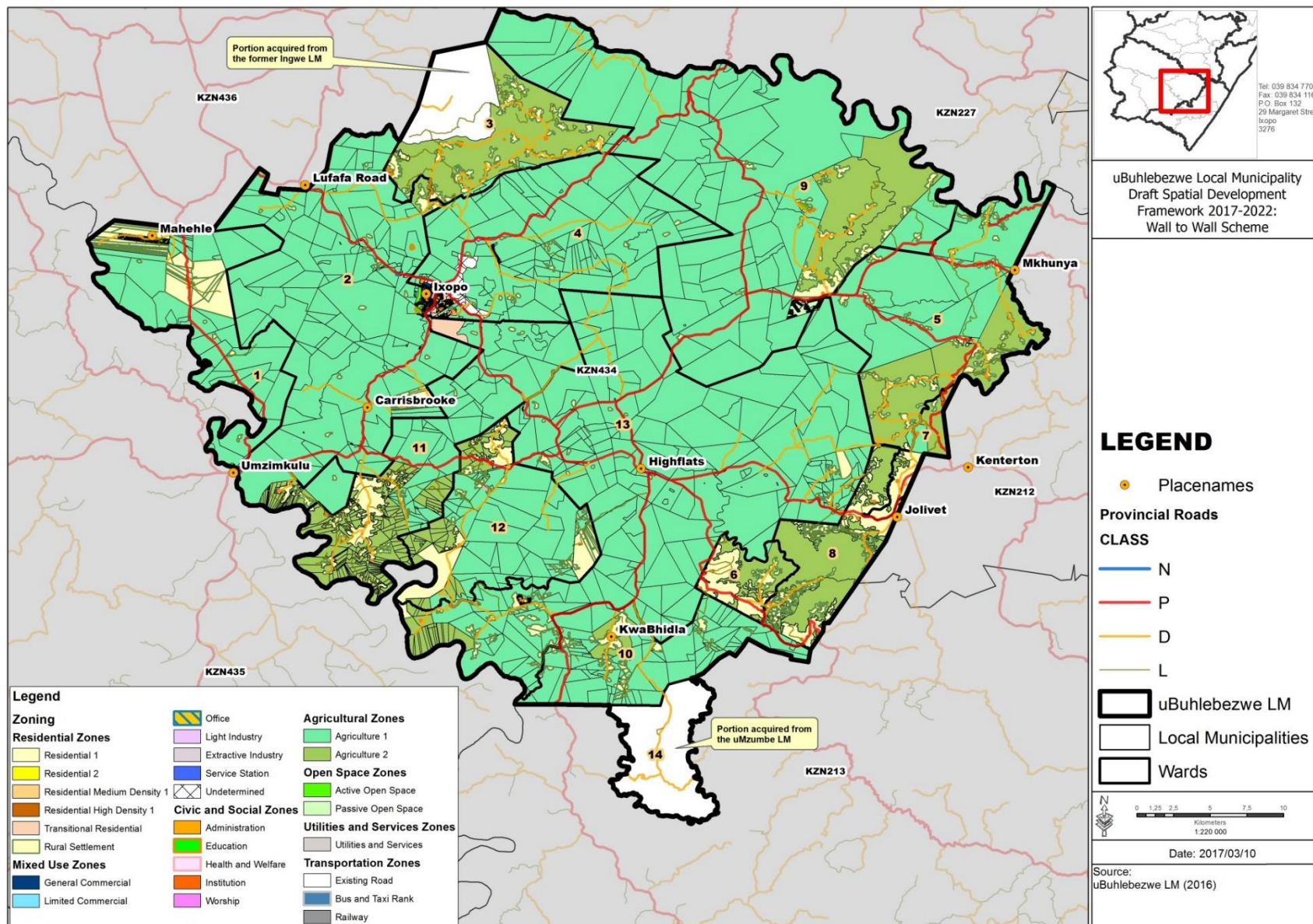
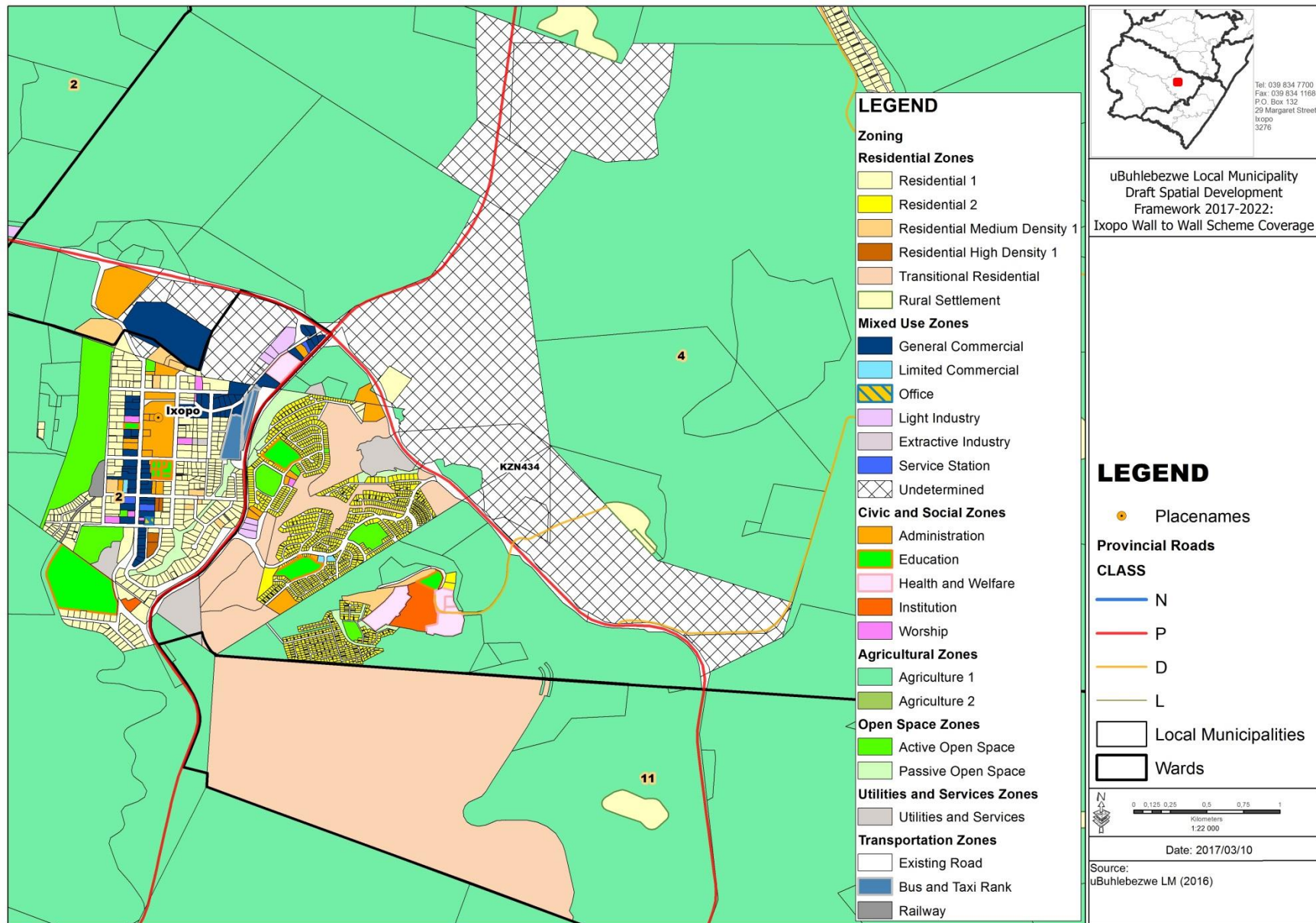


Fig 13:Ubuhlebezwe LM Wall to Wall LUMS





Fg 14: Finalized Urban LUMS

## : SUMMARY OF ISSUES AND INFLUENCES

DEVELOPMENT POTENTIALS	DEVELOPMENT CONTRAINTS	DEVELOPMENT TRENDS
The Municipality has recently acquired urban land parcels as a way to promote development and grow the Town of Ixopo.	The Municipality does not hold or own much of the land especially around the first, second and tertiary nodal areas.	Expansion of the commercial activities and foot print around the town of Ixopo; it involves among the following; Recently approved Ixopo mixed use development, extension of Tricycle Hardware, development of Shoprite store commercial development completed and functional in 2016.
Positive progress has been sourced for more land to cater to the ever-growing informal settlements of the first and second nodes i.e. Ixopo and Highflats	Electricity illegal connections around the Highflats area (second node).	Commercial growth activities in the Highflats area.
Newly built Ixopo taxi and Bus Rank.	2 supermarkets are still located uptown, creating a need to get transport from the ranks to uptown for the elderly	Development downtown will eliminate the need for congestion uptown due to Spar, Shoprite and banks
New Market stalls within Ixopo town area. As well as processes in place to administer the informal hawkers.		
Alan Paton's Railway Heritage Route Tourism initiative up and running.		
Heritage/Tourism initiative as well as the Margaret Mncadi Statue being formally opened in the 2015.		
Continuation of the construction of the Morning-view Middle-income housing development with a total number of (29 houses constructed and occupied)		

**Table 6: summary of issues**

### Urban Regeneration :

The Ubuhlebezwe urban regeneration Initiative forms part of a broader agenda for the reconstruction and redevelopment of Ixopo Town. It shows the strategic objectives of the spatial development vision and leads to the renewal and advancement of the social and economic node of the municipality. The urban regeneration initiative strives to reposition Ixopo to make a significant impact to the local, regional and provincial economy. The initiative is all about identifying and accessing key development issues and challenges. It focuses to develop effective strategies for the realisation of a shared development vision.

The urban regeneration highlights special measures that are to be implemented and addressed in Ixopo which include gateways (entry/ exit points), CBD expansion. CBD integration, activity streets, development precincts and rural or urban interface (growth boundary). The provision of a unique gateway landmark will improve legibility and the identity of Ixopo upon entering the town via the R56. The urban regeneration initiative promotes availability to infrastructure and supports SMME development. The objective of CBD integration refers to the effective integration of the area between uptown and downtown using rezoning and relocation of certain land uses as measures to make this possible.

The expansion of the CBD is indicated to the direction of the future growth of Ixopo town, which is the north of the existing town. An alternative linkage is suggested which would facilitate long-term integration between uptown and downtown, as well as identifying additional activity streets. The urban regeneration highlights that Ixopo can be divided into various precincts providing the opportunity of smaller functional areas. This will also enable the municipality to prioritise areas most in need of planning and outline the desired future development of the area. a comprehensive Urban Regeneration Strategy document and production of accompanying mapping. The fulfilment of deliverables as contemplated on the section below as the following elements to be covered:-

- Development vision, strategy and plan for the town;



- Spatial integration within an existing small town economy;
- Nodal development 'creating neighbourhoods', and reconsidering initial development plans;
- A facelift for the town and/or marketing the town CBD upgrade;

It should be noted that the 2016 Draft Urban Regeneration Plan will be facilitated to be finalised and adopted during the course of 2017.

## **NODES AND MOVEMENT CORRIDORS:**

### **NODES**

The various nodes are distinguished in terms of whether they are:

- ☐ Existing and to be maintained at that level
- ☐ Existing at a lower level and to be extended and consolidated into a higher level node
- ☐ New nodes to be introduced and phased in over time and as thresholds occur, but shown at the level which is ultimately intended.

### **THE PRIMARY NODE**

The area of Ixopo town is identified as a single Primary Node which will function as the main administration and economic town servicing uBuhlebezwe Municipality. The level of services and facilities of this area needs to be improved to complement this function.

Nodal Key Issues:

- ☐ The town centre can benefit from an urban regeneration programme which can introduce urban greening, proper street lights and street furniture.
- ☐ Furthermore any intervention geared towards spatial reorganisation will benefit the CBD immensely.
- ☐ There is a need to redefine land use management in the CBD and the resultant review of zoning measures.
- ☐ Review of certain existing uses currently located within the CBD but not appropriate in their locations.
- ☐ There is need to consider appropriate shelter for informal traders at strategic points
- ☐ Such shelter should be within easy access to public ablutions.
- ☐ There is a need to consider upgrade of existing infrastructure
- ☐ Projects that can be linked to corridor promotion are also suggested.

In each financial year, the Municipality prioritises projects within Ixopo which will see the town growing and attracting investments. The best identified approach is to gain ownership of farms and develop them with Housing projects and commercial activity. The Municipality has purchased Ogle Farm, and is looking at sourcing funding for the purchasing of Craigieburn Farm in the future, to further Develop Ixopo

### **THE SECONDARY NODE**

The area of Highflats is identified as the Secondary Node. Highflats has the potential to be developed into a smaller administrative centre complemented by some commercial activities.

Nodal Key Issues:

- ☐ Need for proper road and place signage
- ☐ Need to promote adventure tourism
- ☐ Need to upgrade services and infrastructure
- ☐ Formalisation of the residential development and;
- ☐ Introduction of land use management relevant to the node

□ It is suggested that service roads be introduced to properly access the node which is currently established in linear pattern along the main road.

It is anticipated that with the development of this area, a significant commercial node, there will be an influx of external skills required to support some the proposed projects. In this regard, areas for future residential development have been set aside. Ubuhlebezwe's vision for Highflats includes expanding commercial activity in the area that already has activity, along the R56. We have earmarked the Esperanza Farm for commercial and middle income activity, and Walker Farm for Low cost housing.

### **TERTIARY NODE**

The areas of Mahehle, Nokweja, Jolivet, and Hlokozi are identified as Tertiary Nodes given the available services, facilities and functions. It is intended that the nodes will become a commercial node comprising of retail and agricultural activities. In terms of the noted tertiary nodes around the municipal jurisdiction, the Jolivet and Hlokozi areas are the most fast growing judging with much economic activity taking place in and around these two nodes. The Municipality has been receiving more and ingonyama trust applications meaning they are interested in getting themselves the recognition to own land i.e. getting approval from the Trust as formal permission to occupy their land and further formally develop their existing and planned businesses. This shows that there is interest in pursuing business activity and it seems to be concentrated in one point per the above nodes and providing the short-term commercial needs of communities surround these settlements.

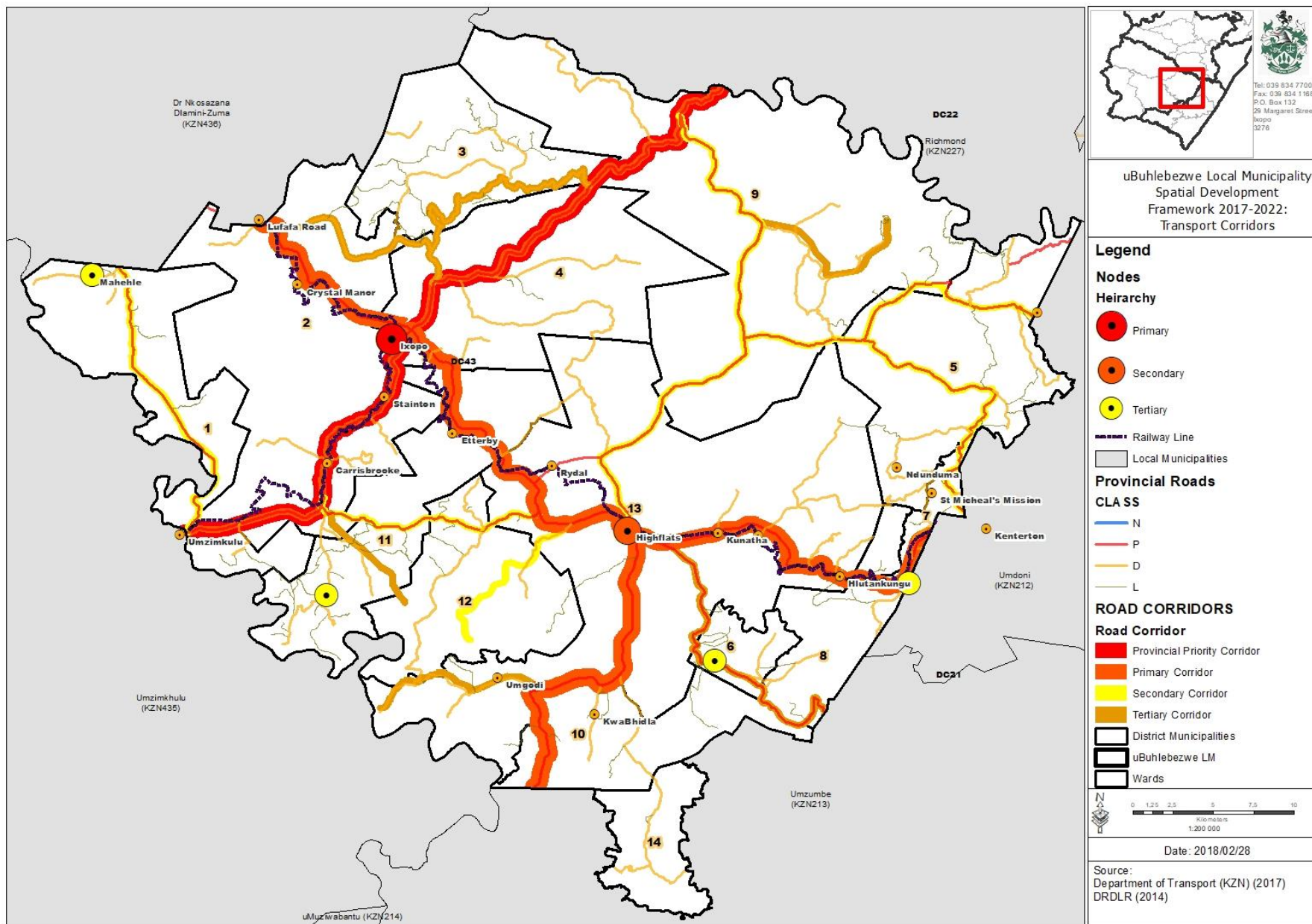
JOLIVET NODE

MAHEHLE NODE

NOKWEJA NODE

HLOKOZI NODE





k  
15:Transportation corridors

Fg

## **Capital Investment Framework**

The Capital Investment Framework (CIF) is a translation of the development goals and strategies reflected in the municipality's SDF and IDP into implementable projects with corresponding budget allocations and timeframes. Given the high demand for accelerated infrastructure development and maintenance, the CIF forms a fundamental aspect of the Ubhlebezwe's delivery strategy. The projects emanate from the community needs identified as part of the IDP process and directly reflect the municipality's efforts to address backlogs in the delivery of basic services.

It therefore indicates the municipality's investment priorities in the form of capital projects collated from the relevant sectorial departments. As part of the municipality's broader strategic and financial planning objectives, the CIF will therefore act as a framework for the integration of sectorial development projects and provide an indication of:

- The extent infrastructural projects to be implemented;
- The CAPEX budget required for these infrastructural projects;
- The availability of finance for this capital expenditure (capex);
- The operational expenditure (opex) budget required for the operation and maintenance of the infrastructure to be provided; and
- The available revenue options in terms grants and borrowing within the provisions of the municipal fiscal framework.

### **DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES:**

The municipal IDP identifies a number of development priorities for Ubhlebezwe as follows:

- Agricultural sector development;
- Timber sector development;
- Public transport infrastructure;
- Tourism development;
- Economic development;
- Electricity;
- Youth development;
- Social infrastructure;
- Water and sanitation;
- Land accessibility;
- Access to housing;
- Climate change;
- Biodiversity conservation;
- Roads and storm water infrastructure;
- Solid waste management;
- Service delivery back logs;
- Access to community facilities;
- Slum clearance;
- Investment and economic opportunities;

## **ENVIRONMENTAL AND BIODIVERSITY:**

Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality is currently developing the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) which will be aligned to the Environmental Management Framework current being prepared by the Harry Gwala District. The SEA will culminate into a Strategic Environmental Management Plan (SEMP) product. The SEMP is a strategic tool that will assist the municipality in determining the opportunities and constraints that are placed on the environment by the current and future developments. The municipal Spatial Development

Framework (SDF) will be assessed and aligned through the SEA process. The alignment will form basis for strategic spatial planning in the municipality by identifying areas where development is compatible, restricted or unsuited to conditions contained in the guidelines and Environmental Control Zones of the SEA. The SEA will assist the municipality in ensuring that sensitive areas such as areas with critical biodiversity, floodlines, wetlands, protected areas are set aside.

In terms of waste management, the Municipality has the Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP) which was approved by the Council in 2015. The IWMP will be due for new cycle of development in 2019. The development of IWMPs is mandatory as stipulated in Section 11 of the Waste Act. The IWMP assist the municipality in waste management (waste collection, waste storage and waste disposal).

The Department of Environmental Affairs has facilitated the development of the Climate Change Response Strategy for the Harry Gwala District. The climate change vulnerability assessment for the District has been undertaken. The assessment is based on tool produced by the Local Government Climate Change Support Program. Once the Climate Change Response Strategy for the District is being completed, Ubuhlebezwe Municipality will be in a position to determine the level of vulnerability of Ubuhlebezwe to climate change as well as devise the strategies that the municipality could adopt in order to respond to the climate change.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SECTOR TOOLS AND CONDUCTION OF BIODIVERSITY ANALYSIS AND DETERMINATION OF SENSITIVE AREAS.**

### **Hydrology:**

Three catchments are present within the Ubuhlebezwe Municipality that constitute the main Umvoti to Umzimkulu Water Management Area. The three catchments are:

- Mzimkulu catchment area
- Mkomazi catchment area
- Mzumbe catchment area

The Mzimkulu River catchment include the T52A, T52C and T52D quaternary catchments, the Mkomazi catchment include the U10J, U10K and U10L quaternary catchments and the Mzumbe catchment include the U80B, U80E, U80G and U80J quaternary catchments.

The following Rivers are present in the Ubuhlebezwe Municipality:

- Mkomazi River
- Mpambanyoni River
- Ncalu River
- Mtwalume River



- Nhlavini River
- Ndongyane River
- Xobho River
- Mgodini River
- Mzimkulu River
- Mhlabatshane River
- Mzumbe River
- Ndongyane River

There are a number of wetland systems distributed in the municipality with the three largest wetland systems at Ixopo, Highflats and on the Lufafa River.

## Vegetation

The vegetation of Ubuhlebezwe Municipality can be described as follows:

- The dominant vegetation type is the Midlands Mistbelt Grassland, covering most of the north-western and south-western parts of the municipality. This vegetation type occurs at an altitude of 760-1400 m and is characterised by Hilly and rolling landscape mainly associated with a discontinuous east-facing scarp. The vegetation type is dominated by forb-rich, tall, sour Themeda triandra grasslands transformed by the invasion of native 'Ngongoni grass (*Aristida junciformis* subsp. *junciformis*). Most of this vegetation type has been transformed by plantations.
- The northern parts of the municipality are characterised by the Eastern Valley Bushveld vegetation type. This vegetation type occurs in areas with deeply incised river valleys at an altitude of 100-1000 m and is characterised by semi-deciduous savanna woodlands in a mosaic with thickets, often succulent, dominated by species of Euphorbia and Aloe. Most of the river valleys run along a northwest-southeast axis which results in unequal distribution of rainfall on respective north-facing and south-facing slopes since the rain-bearing winds blow from the south. The steep north-facing slopes are sheltered from the rain and also receive greater amounts of insolation adding to xerophilous conditions on these slopes. Most of this vegetation type remains as natural areas.
- The south, south western, eastern and central parts of the municipality consist of Ngongoni Veld. This vegetation type occurs at an altitude of 400-900 m and is characterised by dense, tall grassland dominated by unpalatable, wiry Ngongoni grass (*Aristida junciformis*), with this monodominance associated with low species diversity. Thornvelds are found in valleys at lower altitudes, where this vegetation unit grades into KwaZulu-Natal Hinterland Thornveld and Bhisho Thornveld. Bush clumps contain species like Acacia species, Cussoni spicata, Ziziphus mucronata, Coddia rudis, Ehretia rigida etc.
- KwaZulu-Natal Sandstone Sourveld is found in the eastern and south eastern parts of the municipality. This vegetation type occurs at an altitude of 500-1100 m. Short, species-rich grassland with scattered low shrubs and geoxylic suffrutices. Proteaceae trees and shrubs like Protea, Leucospermum and Faurea can be common.
- KwaZulu-Natal Hinterland Thornveld is found in the northern parts of the municipality. This vegetation type at an altitude of 450-900 m and is characterised by Thornveld dominated by Acacia species on undulating plains found on upper margins of river valleys.
- Southern KwaZulu-Natal Moist Grassland is found in the eastern part of the municipality. This vegetation type occurs at an altitude of 1040-1440 m. Gently sloping valley bottoms of tall mixed veld dominated by Hyparrhenia hirta and sparsely scattered Acacia sieberiana. Themeda triandra is the dominant grass on veld that has been well managed and many species of Drakensberg Foothill Moist Grassland are well represented and include Diheteropogon filifolius, Harpochloa falx and Trachypogon spicatus. Overgrazed areas become dominated by 'mtshiki' species such as Sporobolus pyramidalis. Selective grazing causes certain wiregrass species (Elionurus muticus and Aristida junciformis) to become abundant.
- Other vegetation types found in the municipality are small portions of the Eastern Mistbelt Forests, Scarp Forests and Eastern Temperate Wetlands.

## Topography

Ubuhlebezwe demonstrates rugged terrain with hilly rolling country. In the East numerous river valleys fragment the Local Municipality making the topography steep with gently sloping valley bottoms. The landscape spans a range of altitudes from 1240 meters to 450 meters.

## Geology and Soil

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

- The western portion is underlain by Ecca Group Arenite and Shale which extend into the central portion.
  - The central portion is underlain by Tillite and Dolerite, and the eastern portion is underlain by Gneiss and Natal Group Arenite.
  - The soils around Ixopo are leached with a low nutrient status and problems with Phosphorus fixation and aluminium toxicity, these soils have low agricultural potential.
  - The soils east of Ixopo on the hillsides are shallow of Mispah and Glenrosa.
  - Deep alluvial soils are found in the valley bottoms pockets. Areas of calcareous duplex soils are also found east of Ixopo, these soils are highly erodible.
  - Around the edges of Ubuhlebezwe municipality soils are of the Table Mountain Sandstone plateau, with rugged low potential soils in the north of the Local Municipality. On the eastern boundary of the Municipality the soils are acid and leached. They consist of shallow sandy soils derived from the Table Mountain series with heavier soils that are derived from dolerite and Dwyka Tillite.
  - Within the Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality small pockets of high potential soils do occur, erosion on the steep slopes is problematic in these areas.
  - Synthesis
- 
- The geological features of a site determine the drainage features and patterns and the location of aquifers;
  - Identify areas that present a high risk geotechnically due to their unsuitability due to steep slopes or susceptibility to flooding.
  - Rock types found in the area must be identified.
  - Risks associated with each rock type must be interpreted and categorised.
  - The following aspects should be considered for any development.
  - There are different structural requirements for foundations on different soil types (e.g. collapsible soil, clay, undermined areas);
  - The cost of development, suitable land uses and density of development differ for various soil types;
  - Slope and soil type indicate susceptibility to erosion.

## Topography

- Flatter areas will be suitable for cultivations and slopes more suitable for grazing land. No development should take place on a natural slope steeper than 1:4.

## Threatened Ecosystem

Ecosystem threat status indicates the degree to which ecosystems are still intact or alternatively losing vital aspects of their structure, function and composition, on which their ability to provide ecosystem services ultimately depends (SANBI, 2011). Ecosystem types are categorized as Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN), Vulnerable (VU) or Least Threatened (LT), based on the proportion of each ecosystem type that remains in good ecological condition relative to a series of thresholds.

Threatened vegetation types in this municipality include:

- The Midlands Mistbelt Grassland and KwaZulu-Natal Sandstone Sourveld vegetation types are classified as Endangered. Threats to these vegetation types include sugar cane and timber plantations, cultivated land, urban sprawl, uncontrolled fires and poorly managed grazing by livestock. Alien species of concern include *Solanum mauritianum*, species of *Rubus*, *Acacia*, *Pinus* and *Eucalyptus*.
- The Moist Grassland, KwaZulu-Natal Hinterland Thornveld and Ngongoni Veld vegetation types are classified as Vulnerable. These vegetation types have been transformed for cultivation, plantations, by urban development resulting in the encroachment of woody aliens like *Solanum mauritianum*, *Arundo donax*, *Eucalyptus* species, *Melia azedarach*, *Sesbania punicea* and *Populus alba*.

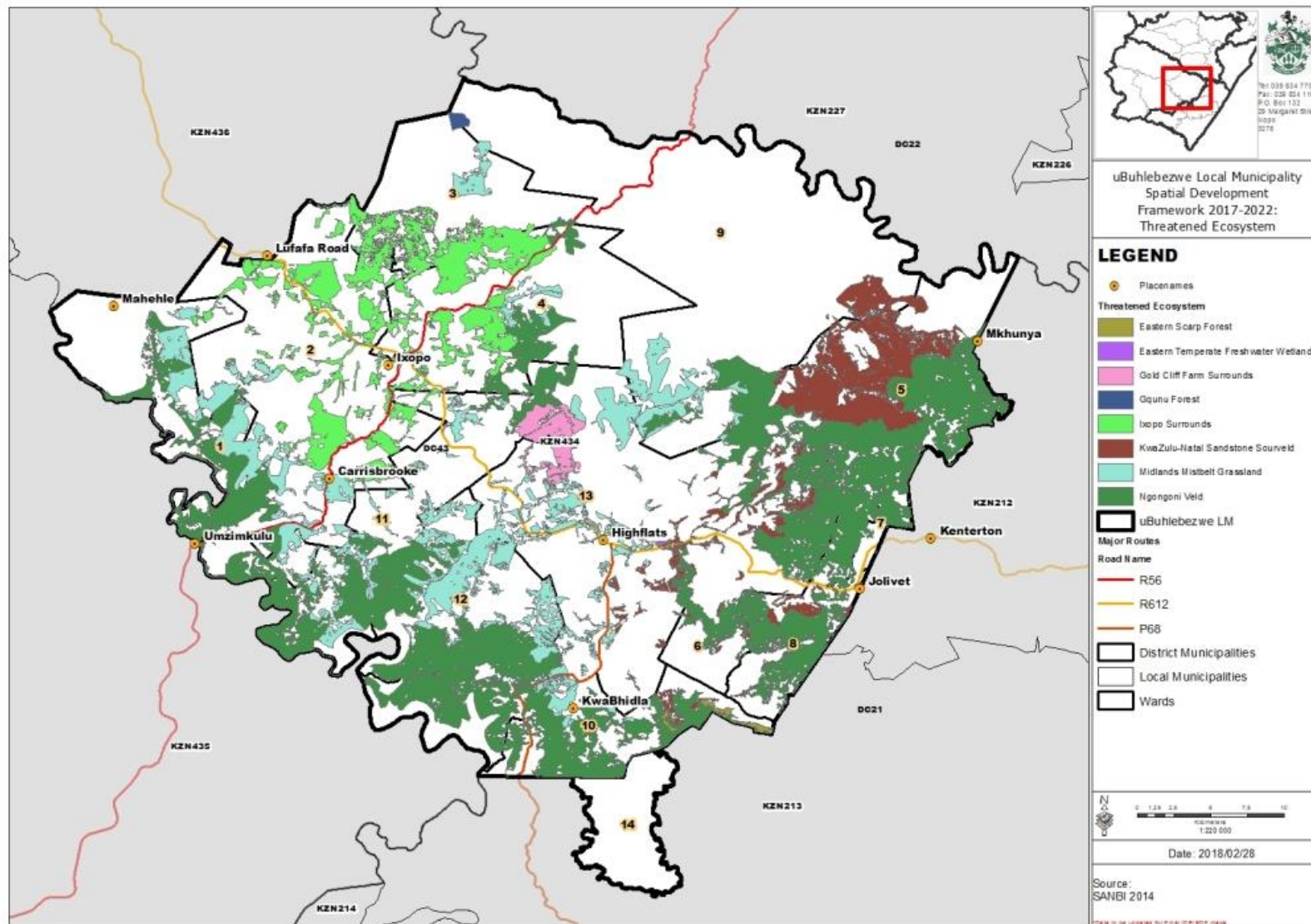


Fig 16: Threatened Ecosystem

## Biodiversity Priority Areas

The biodiversity sector map consists of two main layers namely Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs). The two main layers, CBAs and ESAs, are divided into further subcategories as set out below:

<b>Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) - Crucial for supporting biodiversity features and ecosystem functioning and are required to meet conservation targets</b>	
• Critical Biodiversity Areas: Irreplaceable	Areas considered critical for meeting biodiversity targets and thresholds, and which are required to ensure the persistence of viable populations of species and the functionality of ecosystems.
• Critical Biodiversity Areas: Optimal	Areas that represent an optimised solution to meet the required biodiversity conservation targets while avoiding areas where the risk of biodiversity loss is high Category driven primarily by process but is also informed by expert input.
<b>Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) - Functional but not necessarily entirely natural areas that are required to ensure the persistence and maintenance of biodiversity patterns and ecological processes within the critical biodiversity areas</b>	
• Ecological Support Areas (ESAs)	Functional but not necessarily entirely natural areas that are required to ensure the persistence and maintenance of biodiversity patterns and ecological processes within the critical biodiversity areas. The area also contributes significantly to the maintenance of ecological infrastructure.
• Ecological Support Areas: Species Specific	Terrestrial modified areas that provide a support function to a threatened or protected species, for example agricultural land.

**Source (Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, 2014)**

Areas of conservation concern in this municipality are as follows:

- Critical Biodiversity Priority Areas: Irreplaceable is identified for the eastern, south-eastern, western and central parts of the municipality. Most of these areas are currently used for plantations.
- Critical Biodiversity Areas: Optimal is scattered over the whole municipal area.
- Ecological Support Areas are found mostly in the north eastern part of the municipality.
- 100% Transformed areas are scattered in the south eastern and north western parts of the municipality.
- Unshaded planning units are identified for the northern parts of the municipality. This area contains large areas of natural vegetation of the Eastern Valley Bushveld vegetation type. This area should be protected.



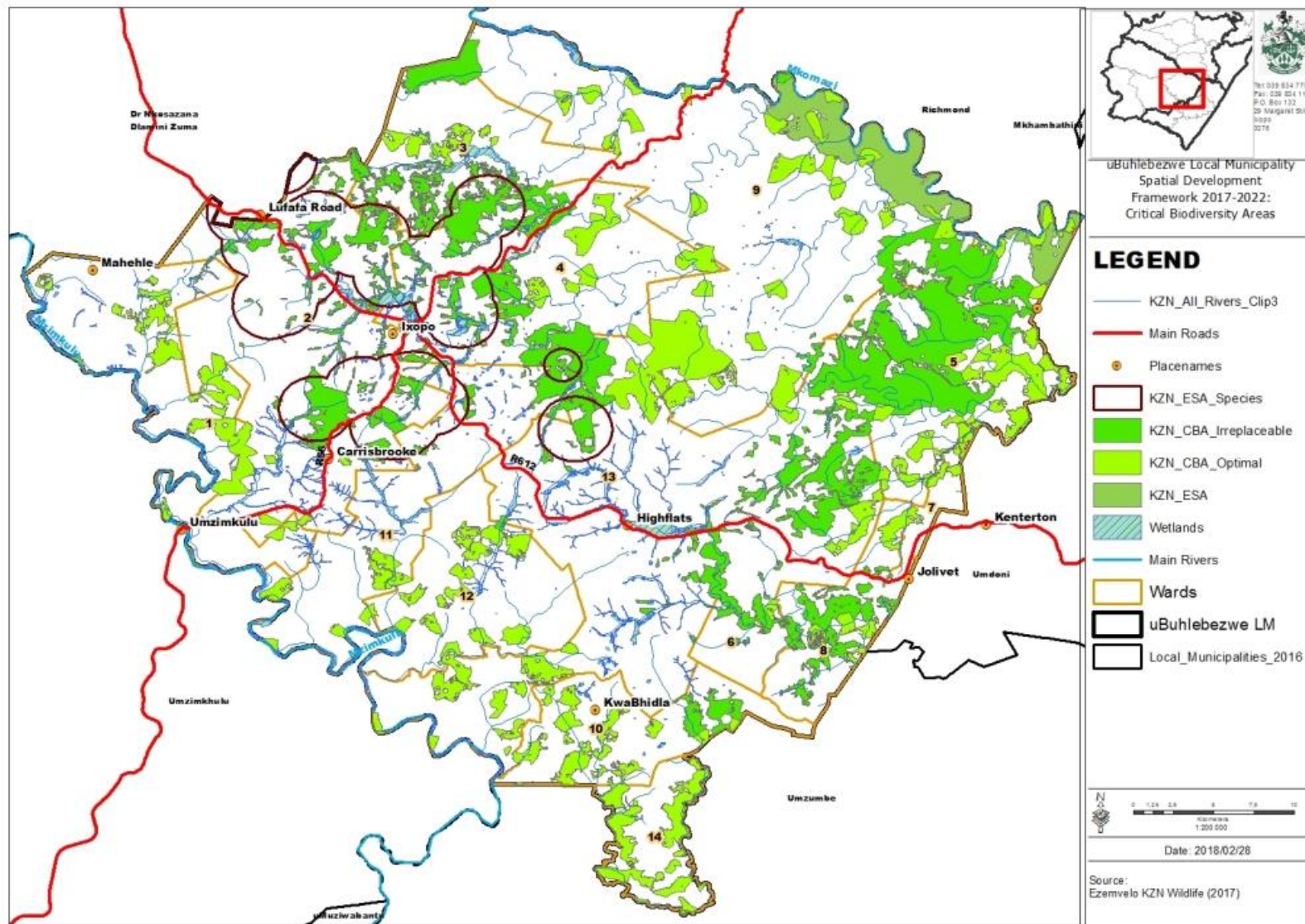


Fig 17: Critical Biodiversity Areas

## CONSIDERATION OF THE APPLICABLE STRATEGIC INTERGRATED PROJECTS OF 2013 IN THE NEXT SDF REVIEW.

The municipality intends to develop the geotechnical study and the river and wetland assessment study, in 2018/19 and 2019/20, respectively. The geological assessment study will determine, amongst other things, the type of slopes and soil found within the municipality and their implications on the spatial planning of the municipality. The river and wetland assessment study will assess the functionality of these water resources and devise strategies to address challenges faced by these resources.

### SUMMARY OF CAPITAL PROJECTS

In November 2017, the Municipality appointed a service provider to undertake the SEA at a cost of R698,362.00. The SEA will be undertaken in seven phases over seven months. It is anticipated that the SEA project will be completed in July 2018. The Phase 1: Inception report was presented and approved by the Project Technical Committee in November 2017. The project is currently in Phase 2: Situational Analysis which will be presented to the Project Steering Committee during the month of February 2018.

In 2016, the Municipality appointed the service provider to undertake the Basic Assessment for Ogle Farm Housing project at cost of R164,160.00. The application for the Environmental Authorisation was lodged with the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA) who requested an Agricultural Specialist study to be undertaken as part of the application. The Environmental Management Unit is currently procuring the services of an Agricultural Specialist.

### MEDIUM – LONG TERM PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS :

The Environmental Management Unit aims at undertaking the following studies:

Project Name	Anticipated Budget	Financial Year
Geotechnical Studies	R200 000	2018/19
River and Wetland Assessment Study	R800 000	2019/20

Table 07: studies

### SWOT ANALYSIS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT:

<b>Strengths:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The beauty, ambiance and pristine natural environment of the municipality are an asset.</li><li>• A large number of critical (rare and endangered) species that include, Blue Swallow, Yellow Cranes and Cape Parrot, are present in the municipality.</li><li>• Wetlands also provide important habitat for many species</li><li>• Scenic public open space is an important social and biophysical strength.</li><li>• Abundant water resources in a form of streams and perennial rivers</li></ul>	<b>Opportunities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Environmental education especially in the rural areas will help to achieve sustainability within the municipality. There is a large potential for this to be school based and include issues such as recycling that children can become involved in.</li><li>• Environmental capacity building within the local municipality will also be critical to ensure sustainability.</li><li>• A complex topography (rolling hills and mountains) across large sections of the municipality has an aesthetic appeal and holds considerable tourism development potential.</li><li>• Steeper slopes and mountainous areas are more inaccessible and are therefore less disturbed. These areas serve as habitat patches and dispersal corridors to a large number of species. It also acts as important water catchment areas.</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wetlands should be protected and degraded wetlands should be rehabilitated as a priority measure to improve water quality, water flow regulation and habitat provision at a local scale</li> </ul>
<p><b>Weakness:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indoor air pollution is likely to stay problematic because of the proportion of households without electricity.</li> <li>The effect of global warming / climate change, which are currently unknown, on aspects such as rainfall and temperatures.</li> <li>Steep river valleys and hilly terrain</li> <li>Lack of environmental management tools to guide current and future developments</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low temperature, frost/moisture stress</li> <li>Steep slopes</li> <li>Reliance on natural resources for water supply</li> <li>Mountainous areas increase the cost of infrastructure provision, especially in the case of roads</li> <li>Steep topography cause accelerated erosion</li> <li>Invasive plant species have a negative impact on the wetland system with the displacement of natural species and the excessive utilisation of water resources.</li> <li>Potential impacts of ground water quality resulting from absence of waste removal services in rural areas</li> <li>Lack of rehabilitation of degraded areas.</li> <li>Leaching of soil, particularly in areas around Ixopo, which reduces its fertility. Leaching is a natural occurrence, it can however be accelerated by the removal of natural vegetation, and by overgrazing.</li> <li>Increasing population growth rates implies increased impact on ecological systems</li> </ul>

# SWOT ANALYSIS

BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	<b>Strengths:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land Use Management System in place for guidance on the use of land.</li> <li>Awareness campaigns on town planning &amp; building control processes are conducted.</li> <li>A Slums Clearance Programme has been undertaken as an important program to bring important services to people.</li> <li>Development of Precincts plans that show an arrangement of land uses associated with the needs of the communities.</li> </ul>	<b>Weaknesses:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deteriorating air quality and general pollution.</li> <li>Overgrazing, excessive removal of vegetation, road construction activities, veld and forest fires and pollution pose potential threats to the environment</li> <li>Most of the land is privately owned</li> <li>Unavailability of a legal landfill site.</li> <li>Overall decrease in rainfall patterns poses a threat to sources of water.</li> <li>Soil erosion has impact on the flow of rivers, existence of estuaries and loss of agricultural land.</li> </ul>
	<b>Opportunities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A formalised Refuse Disposal site is important aspect to cater for the basic land disposal needs for an urban space as well as for the disposal of different waste from Health related to building rubble.</li> <li>The municipality consists of 77% of the land that is suitable for agriculture.</li> <li>Agricultural Strategy is under development and agricultural productivity in the area has been promoted by supporting 8 cooperatives on vegetable and broiler production.</li> </ul>	<b>Threats:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The main climatic limitation affecting the area is low temperature and frost which has a negative impact on agricultural development in the municipality. This limits the range of crops that can be grown, the length of the growing season and the level of production.</li> <li>In rural areas water is mainly drawn from natural sources like streams, rivers and fountains. Many areas in the municipal area do not have purified water and this makes these areas prone to cholera and other diseases.</li> </ul>

<b>BUILT ENVIRONMENT</b>	<b>Strengths:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Settlement density appears to be associated with accessibility, with higher densities in areas of high accessibility.</li> <li>○ The need for security of tenure and the provision of housing is a high priority in Ubuhlebezwe. Some has been earmarked for land reform projects.</li> </ul>	<b>Weaknesses:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Competing uses of land (productive agriculture vs subsistence agriculture/residential)</li> <li>○ Human settlement tensions- Rural versus Urban</li> <li>○ Limited land uses and therefore limited potential to grow.</li> <li>○ Unresolved land claims retarding development within Ubuhlebezwe.</li> <li>○ Scattered low density rural settlements surrounded by communal grazing and arable land.</li> <li>○ Slow progress of land reform in the District.</li> </ul>
	<b>Opportunities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Proposed Potential Duplex/Simplex development surrounding the town area offering accommodation choices to investors who prefer been located away from the CBD</li> <li>○ Revamp/Renovation Of Old Buildings and turning them it useful spaces e.g. de-concentration of residence away from Margaret street and making the street into a fully-fledged commercial activity zone.</li> <li>○ Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality has enquired the services of an implementing agent to handle the process of constructing 150 units of the Community Residential Unit (CRU) facility. It is considered as a need within the urban area in order for more options to housing needs to be available due to the growing number of the working class.</li> </ul>	<b>Threats:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Population density decline the further one moves away from the main transport routes. Levels of services are generally low, with the majority of residential structures being self-built.</li> <li>○ Ubuhlebezwe has abundant land which is privately owned hence the municipality is in a process of a land release programme. The challenge is that the municipality will need to access this land for further development.</li> </ul>

## • Disaster Management

The Disaster Management Act (Act 57 of 2002), as amended from time to time in chapter 5, clearly define the requirements that municipalities have to undertake in order to fulfill their disaster management obligations.

The area of jurisdiction of uBuhlebezwe municipality is prone to different types of disaster hazards ranging from natural and human induced. Whilst natural disaster hazards cannot be prevented but is of paramount importance to make sure that, initiatives and/ or measures are put in place to mitigate the effects of such natural phenomenon.

Human induced disaster hazards are by all possible means preventable and hence the municipality is very vigilant to such phenomenon and has further put in place drastic measures and / or programmes in place to effectively prevent such human induced hazards from happening and where it happens that, such hazards do occur, effective response systems get activated and deal with such.

One of the most fundamental issues in disaster management is that of ensuring that disaster management centres act as repository and conduits of information, and building capacity at a community level with the effort of building disaster resilient communities. The area of jurisdiction of the municipality has about twelve (12) traditional leaders, which therefore places indigenous knowledge information at the centre stage of disaster management in terms of incorporation whenever a risk assessment is done in terms of key performance area 2 of the disaster management framework. The traditional leaders are also represented in the Disaster Management Advisory forum.

uBuhlebezwe municipality shall endeavor to ensure compliance with all disaster management statutory prescripts including the constitution of the republic, which is an overarching legislative document in the country, with the purpose of ensuring a safe environment and building resilient communities whilst reducing disaster vulnerabilities.

The municipality is currently striving to promote a continuous and integrated multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary process of planning and implementation of measures aimed at:

- Preventing or reducing the risk of disasters
- Mitigating the severity or consequences of disasters
- Emergency preparedness
- A rapid and effective response to disasters and
- Post –disaster recovery and rehabilitation

As indicative above, the following projects are testimonies that, uBuhlebezwe municipality is hard at work with special emphasis in prioritizing disaster management issues:

- Establishment of the Disaster Management Centre
- Development of the Disaster Management Policy Framework
- Reviewed Disaster Management Plan in 2017
- Disaster Management Advisory Forum
- Disaster Risk Assessment
- Disaster Risk Reduction
- Disaster Response and Recovery
- Information Management and Communication
- Education, Training, Public Awareness and Research
- Funding Arrangements for Disaster Risk Management

## • DISASTER MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

The uBuhlebezwe Disaster Management Framework was developed and approved by Council in 2014, in terms of section 42 of the Disaster Management Act, (Act 57 of 2002), in line with the National Disaster Management Framework of 2005. The Disaster Management Framework is essential to ensure an integrated and uniform approach to disaster management in its area of jurisdiction by-

- a) The municipality and statutory functionaries of the municipality.
- b) All municipal entities operating in the area of jurisdiction



- c) All non-governmental institutions involved in disaster management in the area
- d) The private sector

The Disaster Management Framework also put more and more emphasis in ensuring that all role players in the disaster management arena (including Government, None Government Organizations, Traditional Authorities and the Private Sector) work together in a coherent and coordinated fashion to prevent and or mitigate the occurrence of disasters.

The uBuhlebezwe municipality's disaster management framework, is consistent with the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act 57 of 2002), the National Disaster Management Framework of 2005 and the KwaZulu Natal Disaster Management Framework.

The Disaster Management Framework was approved by Council in 2014, and is currently being implemented to ensure disaster management issues are done in an integrated approach within the area.

#### • **DISASTER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY FORUM**

The stakeholder participation structure in uBuhlebezwe municipality was established in 2014 and has since been functional to date. The forum is the body in which the uBuhlebezwe municipality and relevant disaster management role-players consult one another and coordinate their actions on matters relating to disaster management in the municipality.

The advisory forum sits four times on annual basis, which translate to one (1) meeting in three (3) months. The effectiveness and sustainability sitting of meetings on quarterly basis has seen the implementation of disaster management issues evolve from being reactive to be more proactive with more emphasis on prevention and mitigation of hazards.

The forum is very effective and it is chaired by the Chairperson of the Social Development Portfolio Committee who is also a member of the Executive Committee, and the traditional leaders also sit in the forum. Different sector departments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector are represented in the forum.

The representation if the disaster management advisory forum for uBuhlebezwe municipality is as follows:

No	Stakeholder	RESPONSIBILITIES
1.	Line Function Departments in the municipality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide expertise and technical information pertaining to their line function departments</li> <li>To act as leading agencies in dealing with certain hazards that require technical skills</li> </ul>
2.	Traditional Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure that, traditional values and indigenous information is also forms part of disaster management planning in the municipal area</li> </ul>
3.	South African Weather Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide advices on weather patterns and cascade early warning systems as part of ensuring state of preparedness</li> </ul>
4.	SASSA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To make provision of the different types of grants to needy communities</li> <li>To also provide relief such as food vouchers and/or groceries</li> </ul>
5.	Home Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure that, communities receive their identity documents</li> <li>To control illegal emigration of people to and from the South African Borders</li> </ul>
6.	South African Liquor Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsible of regulating liquor licenses in the area</li> <li>Attend to all liquor related complaints and ensure that, they are resolved timeously</li> </ul>
7.	Provincial Disaster Management Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide oversight on disaster risk management issues implementation at a local level</li> <li>Assist with training and capacity building</li> <li>Provide enormous disaster related support</li> </ul>
8.	None Government Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide support (disaster relief) whenever a need arises</li> </ul>
9.	uBuhlebezwe Municipal Disaster Management Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Point of coordination for Disaster Management</li> <li>Ensure development of Disaster Management plans and monitoring the implementation thereof</li> <li>Conduct risk assessment for the area of jurisdiction of the municipality in consultation with all relevant role players</li> <li>Promote prevention, mitigation and response initiatives by municipal organs of state, non-governmental organizations and communities in the area of jurisdiction.</li> <li>Measure performance and evaluate progress of initiatives</li> <li>Facilitate the activation of Joint Operation Centre whenever a need arises</li> <li>Make referrals to other sector departments</li> <li>Plan and execute awareness campaigns</li> </ul>

No	Stakeholder	RESPONSIBILITIES
10.	Community Based Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide both physical and emotional support during difficult times to victims</li> </ul>
11.	Eskom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide technical information and skills on electricity</li> <li>To conduct awareness campaigns</li> </ul>
12.	South African Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure safety and security</li> </ul>
13.	Fire Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure fire safety communities</li> </ul>
14.	Department of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deal with diseases and provide technical information on how to prevent and mitigate the effects of diseases</li> </ul>
15.	Department of Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To make provision of measures to prevent motor vehicle accidents</li> </ul>
16.	District Disaster Management Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support to the municipality on disaster management issues</li> </ul>

**Table 08: Representation of the disaster management advisory forum for uBuhlebezwe municipality**

#### • ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT CENTRE

The Disaster Management amended Act 2015, (Act 16 of 2015), section 16 subsection 4, read in conjunction with the Disaster Management Act of 2002, (Act 57 of 2002) indicate that, a local municipality MAY establish a disaster management centre in consultation with the relevant district municipality in accordance with the terms set out in a service level agreement between the two parties, in alignment with the national norms and standards.

In uBuhlebezwe municipality, the disaster management section is utilizing the fire station as the base for its disaster management centre. A new fire station is required by the municipality, at least to be built within the next five years.



**Figure 18: disaster management centre**

- **LOCATION OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT**

In terms of location, the disaster management unit is located within the Social Development Department under the section Community Safety with the organogram as follows:



- **VOLUNTEERS**

uBuhlebezwe municipality is fully aware of the Disaster Management Volunteer regulations and it endeavor to strive to comply with it in terms of ensuring that, a unit of volunteers is readily available whenever needed. Such volunteers were identified by the district municipality in consultation with its family of local municipalities.

Currently, based at the wards of uBuhlebezwe municipality are twenty nine (29) disaster management volunteers. Such data base is updated on monthly basis as part of ensuring that, such volunteers are still within the area of jurisdiction of the municipality.

Since the August 2016 elections the municipality is establishing ward base disaster management structures for purposes of involving the youth on disaster management issues and as well to utilize them as additional volunteers for disaster management. Such a structure has been successfully established in ward 2 of uBuhlebezwe. In partnership with working on fire, such structures are also trained on issues of disaster management and fire safety. The youths are also provided with fire beaters to act as first responders during a fire.

- **PREVENTION AND MITIGATION**

In line with section 47 of the Disaster Management 2002, (Act 57 of 2002), the municipality has put measures in place to the extent of its capacity to always provide guidance to other organs of state particularly the sector departments, private sector, non-governmental organizations, communities and individuals in municipal area to assess and prevent or reduce the risk of disasters.

- The risk assessment was done and is enshrined in the disaster management plan
- Currently the municipality is increasing the capacity for communities and households to minimise risks and the impact of disaster through awareness campaigns, education and training specifically on fire safety, where we do the same in partnership with Working on Fire. Communities are also provided with fire beaters and knapsack tanks to ensure that, as first responders, they have some mechanism to deal with the fires before the fire services can arrive.
- Contingency plans are also developed on seasonal basis, as part of ensuring that, a state of preparedness to deal with disaster incidents and/ or disasters is in place.

- **CLEARING OF STORM WATER DRAINS**

The technical department working in conjunction with the disaster management unit, as the summer season approaches makes sure that, storm water drains are cleared to allow free flow of access water, as part of risk reduction initiatives.

- **ENFORCEMENT OF LEGISLATION**

The disaster management section, working together with the fire services conduct fire safety inspections in all the business premises within the area of jurisdiction of the municipality, and when business license applications are processed, the disaster management and fire services unit also conduct inspections to ensure that, business comply prior to occupation by the business owners.

Joint inspections are also conducted where-in a number of line function departments come together and target specific areas that, have been identified to be not complying with the legislation. In such joint inspections, confiscation of illegal items is done, raids of specific premises. It is one of the ways or measures that, ensures risk reduction within the private sector.

- **DISASTER MANAGEMENT INTERDEPARTMENTAL AND BUSINESS COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

The municipality has gone an extra mile to establish, a Disaster Management and Business Compliance Committee of which its objectives is to deal with all issues that, pertains to disaster management and business compliance in the municipality. The Disaster Management Official is also the Chairperson of the disaster management interdepartmental and business compliance committee, whilst all the members of this committee also sit in the Disaster Management Advisory Forum.

- **DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN**

uBuhlebezwe municipality developed a disaster risk management plan in 2014, which was approved by Council within which a disaster risk assessment was conducted. After the August 2016 elections the municipality's wards spatial demographics changed from twelve (12) wards to fourteen (14) wards, with some voting districts inherited from Nkosanazana Dlamini Zuma and uMzumbhe municipalities as per map below.



Ward	Brief Overview	Hazards and threats
1	Ward 1 is situated on the North Western part of Ubuhlebezwe municipal area. Ward 1 shares municipal boundaries with Umzimkhulu Local Municipality, Ingwe local municipality, and ward 2 of Ubuhlebezwe Municipality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Storms</li> <li>• Motor Vehicle Accidents</li> <li>• Epidemics</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Snow</li> <li>• Lightning</li> </ul>
2	Ward 2 is situated on the North Western part of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal area. Ward 2 shares municipal boundaries with ward 1, ward 3, ward 4, ward 9 and ward 11 of Ubuhlebezwe local municipality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Storms</li> <li>• Strong winds</li> <li>• Motor Vehicle Accident</li> <li>• Hazmat Incidents</li> <li>• Epidemics</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Potential Unrest</li> <li>• Lightning</li> </ul>
3	Ward 3 is situated on the North Western part of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area. Ward 3 shares municipal boundaries with Richmond Local Municipality, Ingwe Local Municipality, Ward 2 and Ward 4 of Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Storms</li> <li>• Motor Vehicle Accidents</li> <li>• Hazmat Incidents</li> <li>• Epidemics</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Snow</li> <li>• Lightning</li> </ul>
4	Ward 4 is situated on the North Western part of Ubuhlebezwe municipal area. Ward 4 shares Municipal boundaries with ward 3, ward 2 and ward 9 of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Storms</li> <li>• Motor Vehicle Accidents</li> <li>• Hazmat Incidents</li> <li>• Epidemics</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Potential Unrest</li> <li>• Strong Winds</li> <li>• Illegal Connections of Electricity</li> <li>• Lightning</li> </ul>
5	Ward 5 is situated on the far North Eastern side of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area. Ward 5 Shares Municipal boundaries with Richmond Local Municipality, and Vulamehlo Local Municipality, ward 7, ward 9 and ward 8 of Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Storms</li> <li>• Hazmat Incidents</li> <li>• Epidemics</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Lightning</li> </ul>
6	Ward 6 is situated on the South Eastern part of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area. Ward 6 shares Municipal boundaries with Umzumbe Local Municipality, ward 7, ward 8 and ward 10 of Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Storms</li> <li>• Motor Vehicle Accident</li> <li>• Epidemics</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Lightning</li> </ul>
7	Ward 7 is situated on the eastern part of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area. Ward 7 shares Municipal boundaries with Vulamehlo Local Municipality, ward 8, ward 6, and ward 5 of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Storms</li> <li>• Motor Vehicle Accident</li> <li>• Hazmat Incidents</li> <li>• Epidemics</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Lightning</li> </ul>
8	Ward 8 is situated on the South Eastern Part of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area. Ward 8 shares Municipal boundaries with ward 7, ward 6, ward 10, ward 9 and ward 5 of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Storms</li> <li>• Motor Vehicle Accident</li> <li>• Hazmat Incidents</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Epidemics</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Potential Unrest</li> <li>• Lightning</li> </ul>
<b>9</b>	Ward 9 is situated in the centre of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area. Ward 9 shares Municipal boundaries with, ward 4, ward 5, ward 6, ward 8, 12 of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Storms</li> <li>• Motor Vehicle Accidents</li> <li>• Hazmat Incidents</li> <li>• Epidemics</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Illegal Connection of Electricity</li> <li>• Lightning</li> </ul>
<b>10</b>	Ward 10 is situated on the Southern part of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area. Ward 10 shares Municipal boundaries with Umzumbe Local Municipality, ward 12, ward 11 and ward 6 of Ubuhlebezwe local Municipality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Storms</li> <li>• Motor Vehicle Accidents</li> <li>• Hazmat Incidents</li> <li>• Epidemics</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Lightning</li> </ul>
<b>11</b>	Ward 11 is situated on the South Western part of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area. Ward 11 shares Municipal boundaries with Umzimkhulu Municipality, ward 12, ward 2, and ward 9 of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Storms</li> <li>• Motor Vehicle Accident</li> <li>• Hazmat Incidents</li> <li>• Epidemics</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Snow</li> <li>• Lightning</li> </ul>
<b>12</b>	Ward 12 is situated on the South Western part Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area. Ward 12 shares Municipal boundaries with Umzimkhulu Local Municipality; ward 10 and ward 11 of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Storms</li> <li>• Motor Vehicle Accidents</li> <li>• Hazmat Incidents</li> <li>• Epidemics</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Snow</li> <li>• Lightning</li> </ul>
<b>13</b>	Ward 13 is situated in the centre of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area. Ward 13 shares Municipal boundaries with, ward 4, ward 5, ward 7 ward 9, ward 8, ward 10, ward 11, ward 12, of Ubuhlebezwe Municipal Area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Storms</li> <li>• Motor Vehicle Accidents</li> <li>• Hazmat Incidents</li> <li>• Epidemics</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Illegal Connection of Electricity</li> <li>• Lightning</li> </ul>
<b>14</b>	Ward 14 is situated in the east south of the municipal area and it shares boundaries with ward 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Hailstorm</li> <li>• Road Accidents</li> <li>• Heavy Rain</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Strong wind</li> <li>• Snow</li> <li>• Lightning</li> <li>• Wild pigs</li> <li>• Snow</li> <li>• Substance Abuse and Crime</li> <li>• Hazardous Installations</li> </ul>

**Table 09: Risk profile**

After the risk assessment was done, risk profiles were populated for different wards and the profiles are presented below per ward.

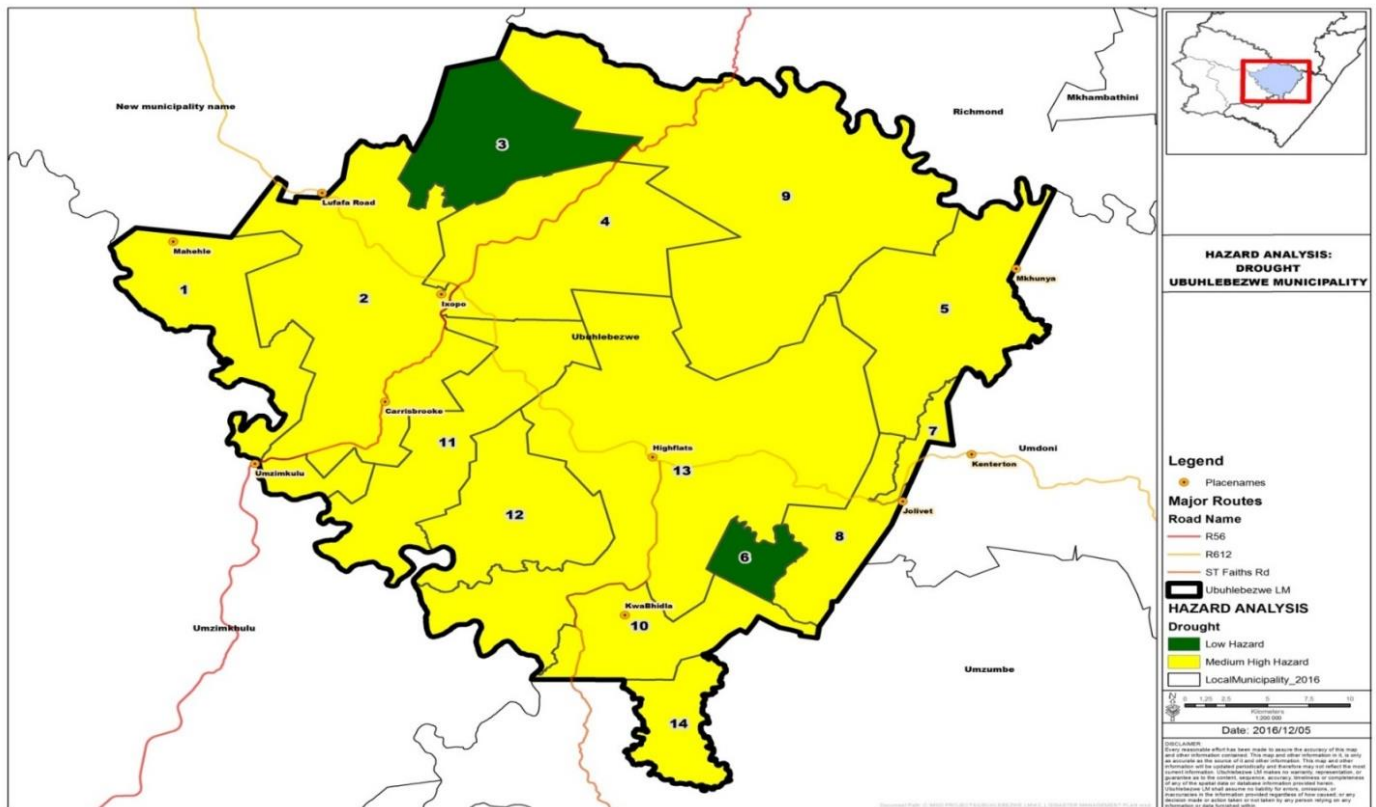


Fig 20: Drought Hazard

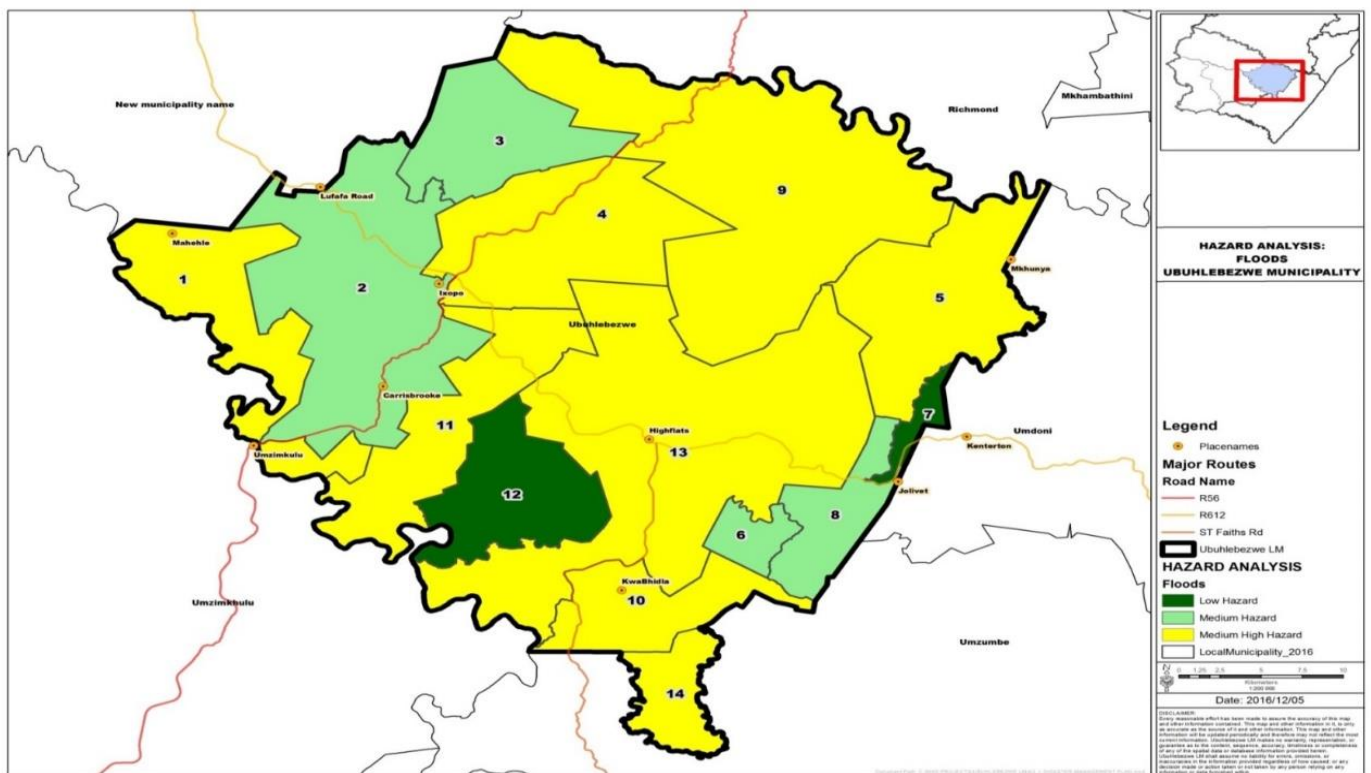
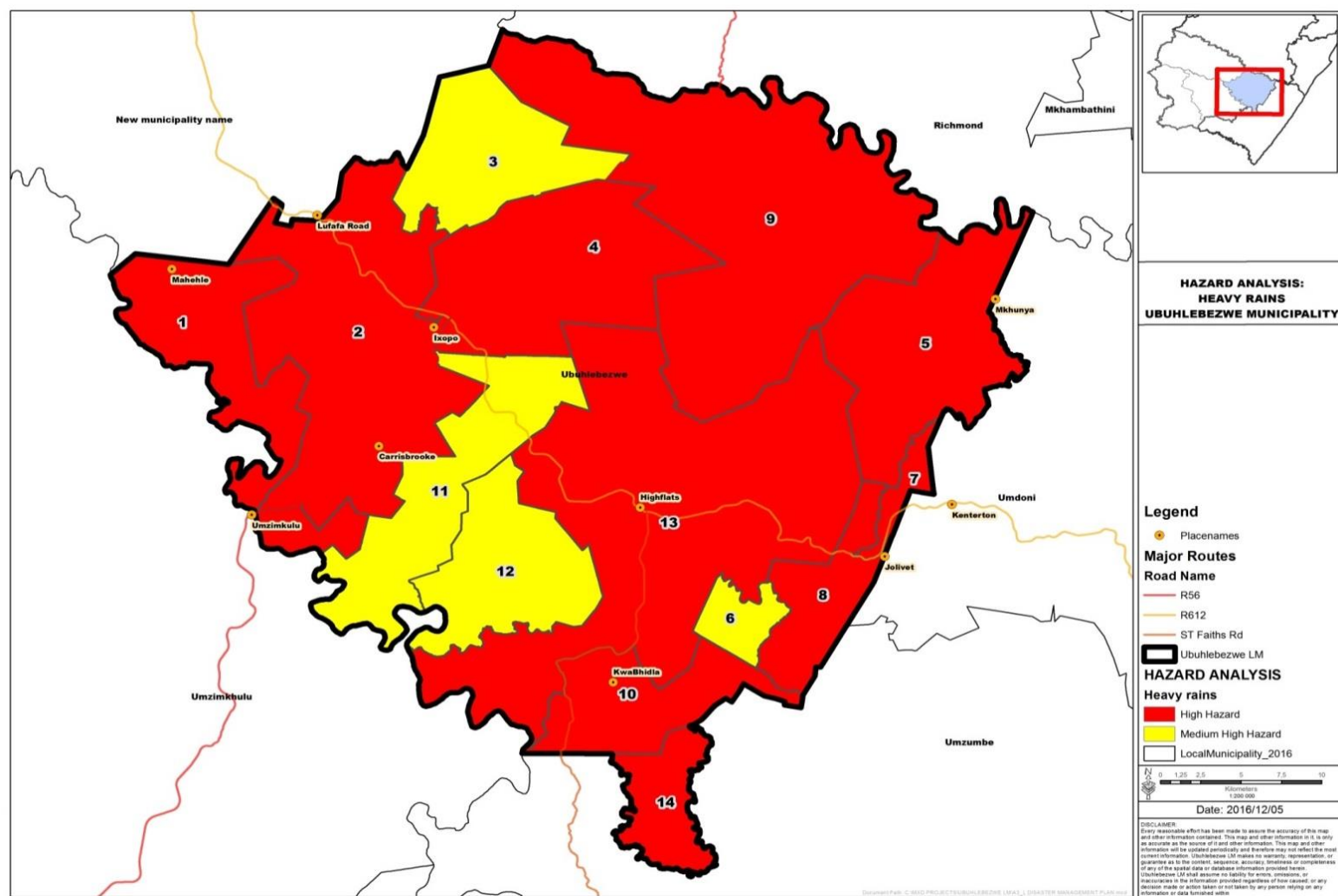
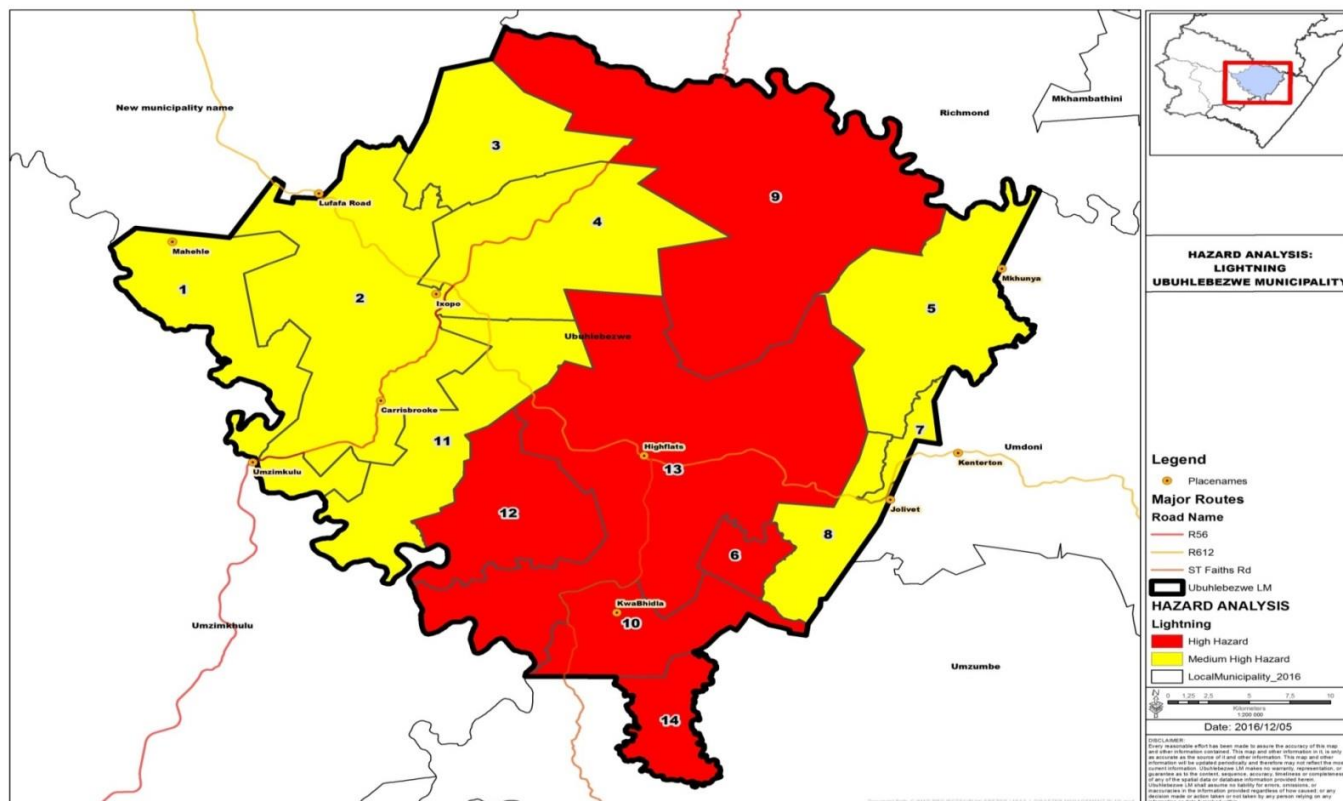


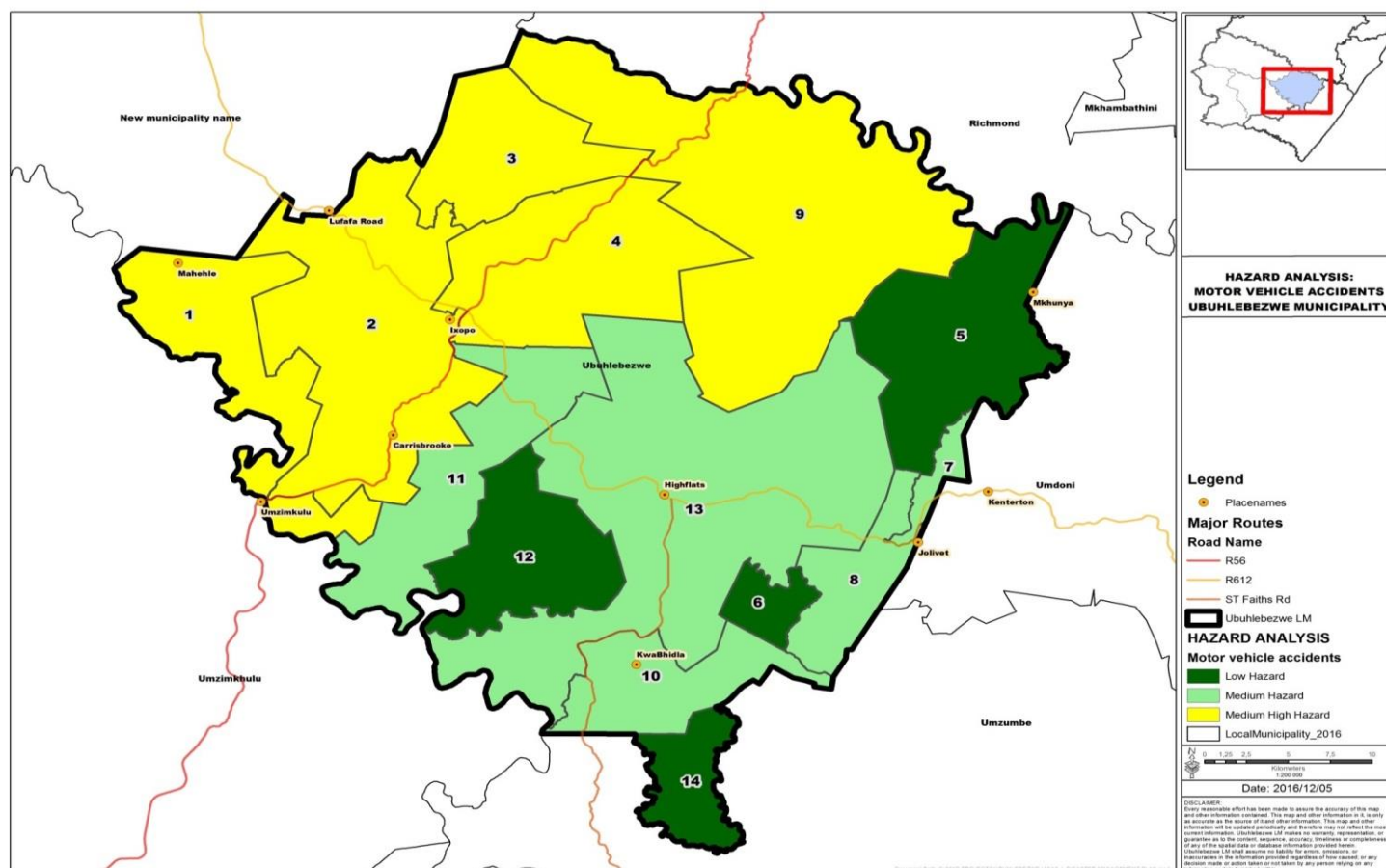
Fig 21 : Flood Hazard



Fg 22: Heavy Rain Hazard

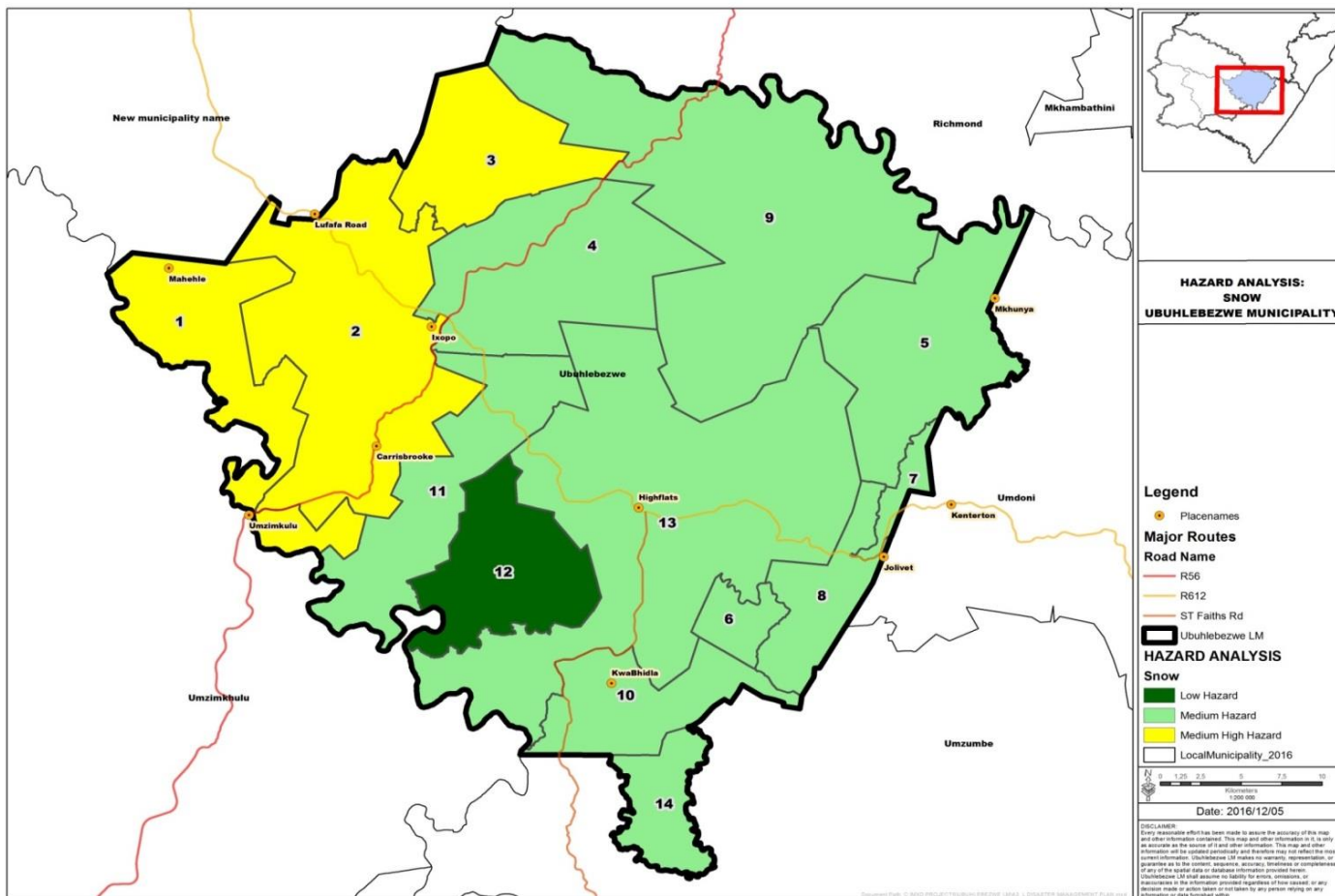


Fg 23 : Lightning Hazard

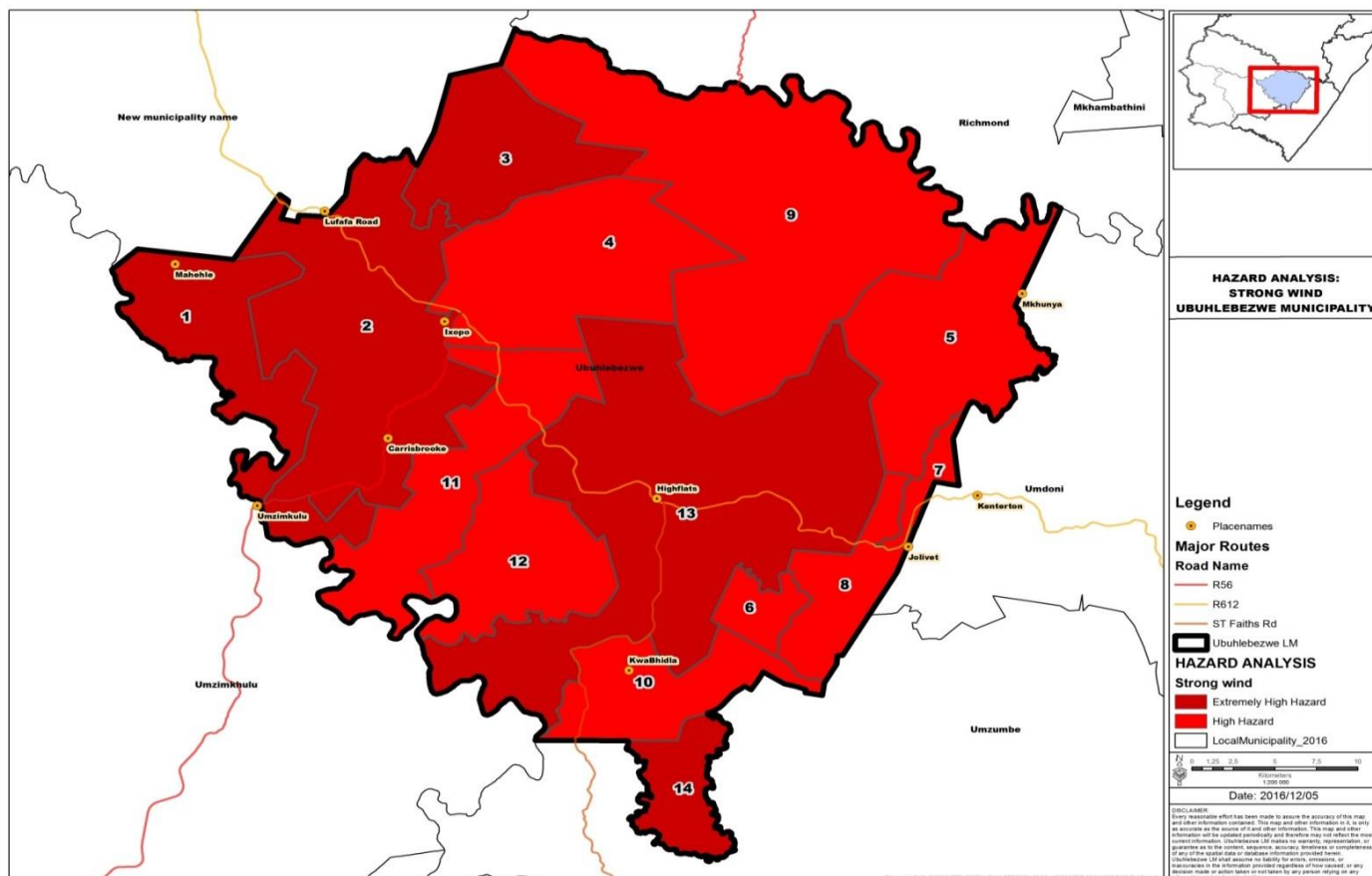


Fg 24: Motor Vehicle Hazard





Fg 25: Snow hazard



Fg 26: Strong Wind Hazard





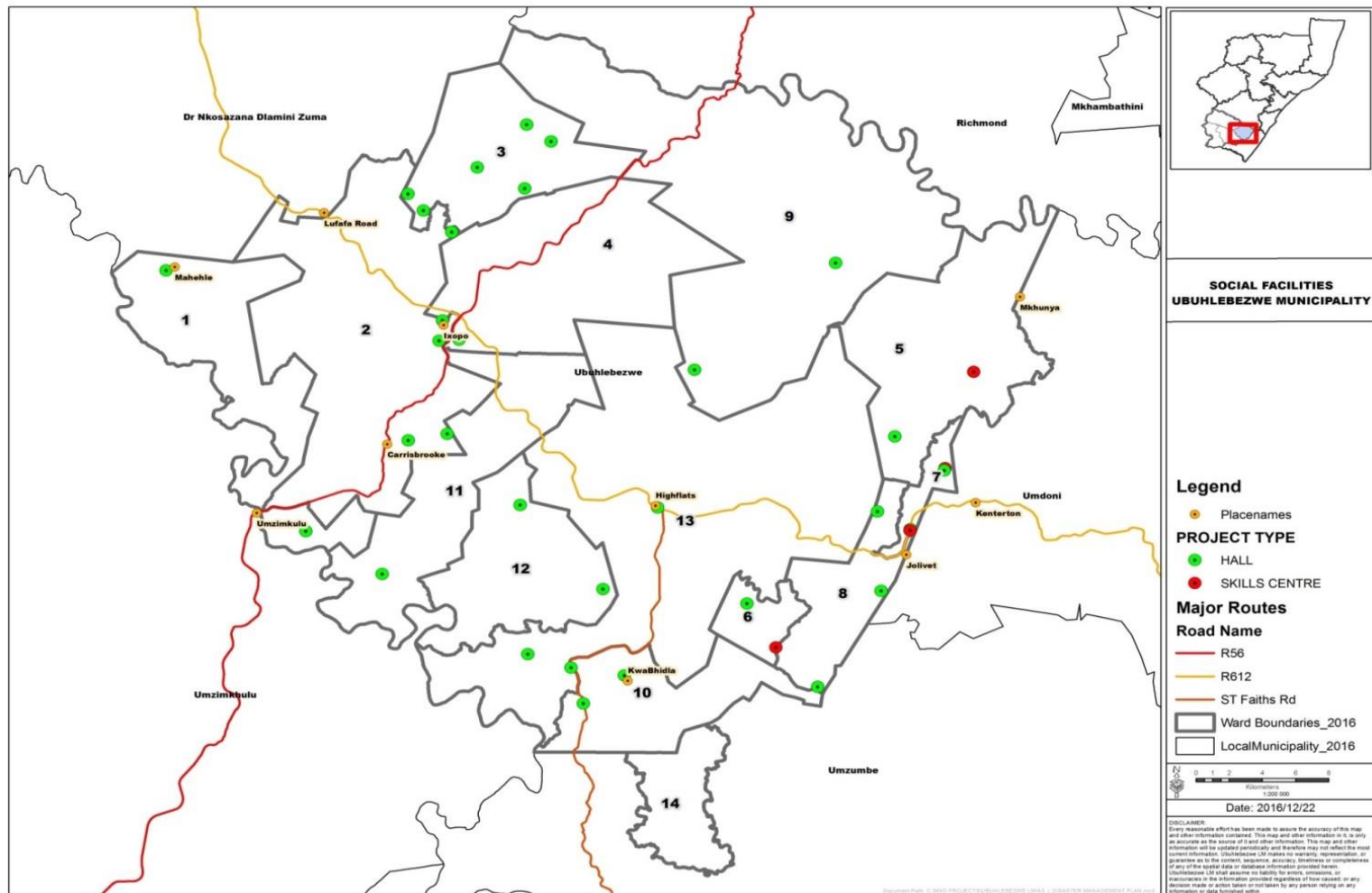
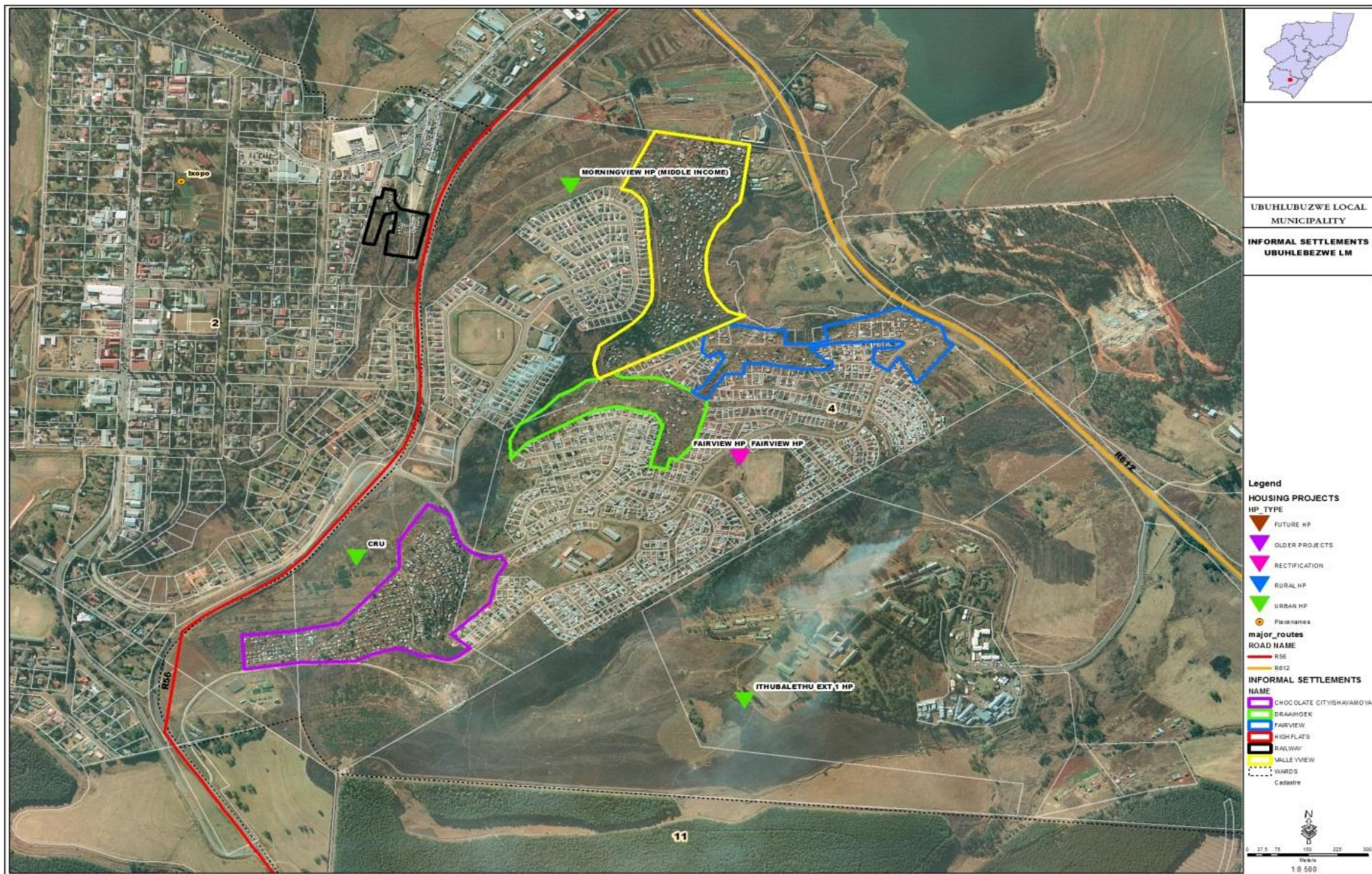


Fig 28: Social Facilities (Halls and Skills Centre)





Fg 29: informal settlements

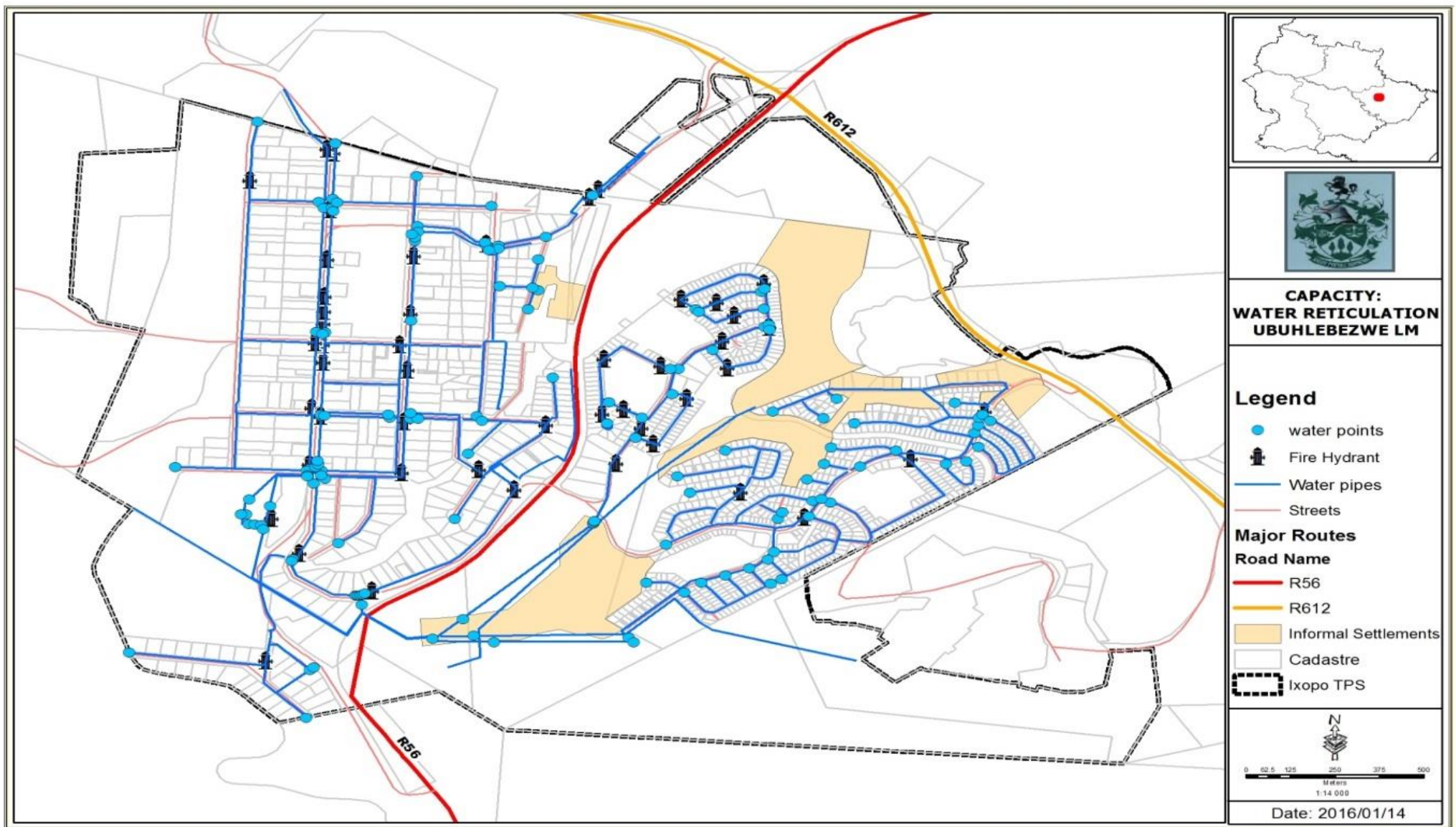




Figure 30: informal settlements High-flats







Fg 31: Water Reticulation in Ixopo