



Accounting Policies to Annual Financial Statements Effective from 1 July 2025

Reviewed / Approved By	Date	Signatures
Chief Financial Officer		
Municipal Manager		
Council		

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The annual financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (GRAP), issued by the Accounting Standards Board (ASB) in accordance with Section 122(3) of the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act 56 of 2003).

The annual financial statements were prepared on the accrual basis of accounting and incorporate the historical cost conventions as the basis of measurement, except where specified otherwise.

In the absence of an issued and effective Standards of GRAP, accounting policies for material transactions, events or conditions were developed in accordance with GRAP 3 as read with Directive 5. Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses were not offset, except where offsetting is either required or permitted by a Standard of GRAP.

The principal accounting policies, applied in the preparation of the annual financial statements, are set out below. These accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the preparation of the prior period annual financial statements, unless specified otherwise. Details of any changes in the accounting policies are provided in the note Changes in accounting policies.

These standards are summarised as follows:

Reference	Topic
GRAP Frame work	Framework for the preparation and presentation of financial statements
GRAP 1	Presentation of Financial Statements
GRAP 2	Cash Flow Statements
GRAP 3	Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
GRAP 4	The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates
GRAP 5	Borrowing Costs
GRAP 6	Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements
GRAP 7	Investment in Associates
GRAP 8	Investment in Joint Ventures
GRAP 9	Revenue from Exchange Transactions
GRAP 10	Financial Reporting in Hyperinflationary Economies
GRAP 11	Construction Contracts
GRAP 12	Inventories
GRAP 13	Leases
GRAP 14	Events After the Reporting Date
GRAP 16	Investment Property
GRAP 17	Property, Plant and Equipment
GRAP 18	Segment Reporting
GRAP 19	Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

Reference	Topic
GRAP 20	Related Party Disclosures
GRAP 21	Impairment of non-cash-generating Assets
GRAP 23	Revenue from Non-exchange Transactions (Taxes and Transfers)
GRAP 24	Presentation of Budget Information in Financial Statements
GRAP 25	Employee Benefits
GRAP 26	Impairment of Cash-generating Assets
GRAP 27	Agriculture
GRAP 31	Intangible Assets
GRAP 32	Service Concession Arrangements: Grantor
GRAP 100	Discontinued Operations
GRAP 103	Heritage Assets
GRAP 104	Financial Instruments
GRAP 108	Statutory Receivables
GRAP 109	Accounting by Principals and Agents
GRAP 110	Living and Non-living Resources
IFRS 4	Insurance contracts
IAS 12	Income taxes
IGRAP 1	Applying the Probability Test on Initial Recognition of Revenue
IGRAP 2	Changes in Existing Decommissioning, Restoration and Similar Liabilities
IGRAP 3	Determining Whether an Arrangement Contains a lease
IGRAP 4	Rights to Interests Arising from Decommissioning, Restoration and Environmental Rehabilitation Funds
IGRAP 5	Applying the Restatement Approach under the Standard of GRAP on Financial Reporting in Hyperinflationary Economies
IGRAP 6	Loyalty Programmes
IGRAP 7	The Limit on a Defined Benefit Asset, Minimum Funding Requirements and their Interaction
IGRAP 8	Agreements for the construction of Assets from Exchange Transactions
IGRAP 9	Distributions of Non-cash Assets to Owners
IGRAP 10	Assets Received from Customers
IGRAP 11	Consolidation – Special Purpose Entities
IGRAP 12	Jointly Controlled Entities – Non-monetary Contributions
IGRAP 13	Operating Leases – Incentives
IGRAP 14	Evaluating the Substance of Transactions Involving the Legal Form of a Lease
IGRAP 15	Revenue – Barter Transactions Involving Advertising Services
IGRAP 16	Intangible Assets – Website Costs
IGRAP 17	Service Concession Arrangements Where a Grantor Controls a-Significant Residual Interest

Reference	Topic
IGRAP 18	Recognition and Derecognition of Land
IGRAP 19	Liabilities to Pay Levies
IGRAP 20	Accounting for Adjustments to Revenue
IFRIC 12	Service Concession Arrangements
SIC 25	Income Taxes – Changes in the status of an enterprise or its shareholders
SIC 29	Disclosure Service Concession
Directive 1	Deletion of Transitional Provisions in Standards of GRAP
Directive 3	Amended Transitional Provisions for High-Capacity Municipalities
Directive 5	GRAP Reporting Framework
Directive 7	The Application of Deemed Cost
Directive 11	Changes in Measurement Bases following Initial Adoption of Standards of GRAP
Guideline	Accounting for Arrangements Undertaken into the National Housing Programme
Guideline	Accounting for Landfill Sites
Guideline	The Application of Materiality to Financial Statements

The cash flow statement is prepared using the direct method, whereby major classes of gross cash receipts and gross cash payments are disclosed.

Accounting policies for material transactions, events or conditions not covered by the above GRAP standards have been developed in accordance with GRAP 3. Where required, accounting policies were developed for standards of GRAP that have been issued by the Accounting Standards Board, but for which an effective date have not been determined by the Minister of Finance.

2. NEW STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS

Standards, amendments to standards and interpretations effective and adopted in the current year

No new Standards have been adopted.

Standards, amendments to standards and interpretations issued, but not yet effective

GRAP 25 on Employee Benefits and effective date for the reporting periods has not yet been set. The ASB agreed to align GRAP 25 with IPSAS 39, but that local issues and the local environment need to be considered. As a result of this decision, there are areas where GRAP 25 departs from the requirements of IPSAS 39. The ASB decisions to depart are explained in the basis for conclusions. The amendments to GRAP 25 are extensive and mostly affect the accounting for defined benefit plans. A new renumbered Standard of GRAP (e.g. GRAP 39) will not be issued, but rather a new version of the current GRAP 25.

GRAP 104 on Financial Instruments and effective date for the reporting periods has not yet

been set. Following the global financial crisis, a number of concerns were raised about the accounting for financial instruments. This included that (a) information on credit losses and defaults on financial assets was received too late to enable proper decision-making, (b) using fair value in certain instances was inappropriate, and (c) some of the existing accounting requirements were seen as too rules based. As a result, the IASB amended its existing Standards to deal with these issues. The IASB issued (IFRS®) Standard on Financial Instruments (IFRS 9) in 2009 to address many of the concerns raised. Revisions were also made to IAS® on Financial Instruments: Presentation and the IFRS Standard® on Financial Instruments: Disclosures. The IPSASB issued revised IPSAS in June 2018 so as to align them with the equivalent IFRS Standards.

The revisions better align the Standards of GRAP with recent international developments. The amendments result in better information available to make decisions about financial assets and their recoverability, and more transparent information on financial liabilities.

All other standards as listed above will only be effective on the date it is announced by the Minister of Finance.

The Accounting Standards Board Directive 5 sets out the principles for the application of the GRAP 3 guidelines in the determination of the GRAP Reporting Framework hierarchy, as set out in the standard of GRAP 3 on Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors.

Where a standard of GRAP is approved as effective, it replaces the equivalent statement of International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board or, International Financial Reporting Standards. Where a standard of GRAP has been issued, but is not in effect, an entity may select to apply the principles established in that standard in developing an appropriate accounting policy dealing with a particular section or event before applying the Standards of GRAP on Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors.

Management has considered all of the above-mentioned GRAP standards issued but not effective and anticipates that the adoption of these standards will not have a significant impact on the financial position, financial performance or cash flows of the municipality.

3. PRESENTATION CURRENCY

These audited annual financial statements are presented in South African Rand and are rounded off to the nearest Rand.

4. GOING CONCERN ASSUMPTION

These audited annual financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

5. OFFSETTING

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported on the Statement of Financial Position when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amount, and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

6. COMPARATIVE OF ACTUAL INFORMATION TO BUDGETED INFORMATION

Current year comparatives

The annual budget figures have been prepared in accordance with the Municipal Budget and Reporting Regulations (MBRR). The amounts are scheduled as a separate additional financial statement, called the Statement of comparison of budget and actual amounts, based on the classifications as contained in the A Schedule, specifically Table A1 – Budget Summary. Actual performance is expressed based the budget classifications as contained in Budget Schedule A, table A1. A reconciliation of the base as presented in the Statement of Financial Performance and Cash Flow Statement is presented in the notes.

Explanatory comment is provided in the notes to the unaudited annual financial statements giving motivations for over- or under spending on line items where it is found to be material. In general, a difference of 10% or more is considered material, although the surrounding circumstances are taken into account if it could influence the decisions or assessments of the users of the unaudited annual financial statements in determining whether a difference between the budgeted and actual amount is material.

The annual budget figures included in the unaudited annual financial statements are for the municipality. These figures are those approved by the Council at the beginning and during the year following a period of consultation with the public as part of the Integrated Development Plan. The budget is approved on an accrual basis by nature classification. The approved budget covers the period from 01 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

Prior year comparatives

The comparative figures of one prior period are disclosed, where required. When the presentation or classification of items in the audited annual financial statements is amended, prior period comparative amounts are restated. The nature and reasons for the reclassification are disclosed.

7. HOUSING DEVELOPMENT RESERVE

The Housing development fund was established in terms of the Housing Act (Act No. 107 of 1997).

Housing development fund

Sections 15(5) and 16 of the Housing Act, 1997 (Act 107 of 1997), which came into operation on 1 April 1998, requires that the municipality maintain a separate housing operating account. This legislated separate operating account will be known as the Housing Development Fund.

The Housing Act also requires in terms of section 14(4)(d)(iii) (aa) read with, inter alia, section 16(2) that the net proceeds of any letting, sale of property or alienation, financed previously from government housing funds, be paid into a separate operating account and be utilised by the municipality for housing development, development in accordance with the National Housing Policy.

The following provisions are set for the creation and utilisation of the Housing Development Fund:

- The proceeds in this fund are utilised for housing development in accordance with
- the National Housing Policy, and also for housing development projects approved by the National Minister of Human Settlements.

- Any contributions to or from the fund must be shown as transfers in the Statement of changes in net assets.
- Interest earned on the investments backing up this fund must be recorded as part of interest earned in surplus or deficit for the year in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Un-realized housing proceeds

In order to comply with Section 14(4)(d)(i) and (ii) of the Housing Act, (Act 107 of 1997) where all net proceeds need to be paid into the Housing Development Fund, it was necessary to create a holding account which represents the un-realized funds due by long-term housing selling schemes and sponsored loan debtors. This account is reduced when debtors are billed for their payment.

8. INTERNAL RESERVES AND REVALUATION RESERVE

Revaluation Reserve

The surplus arising from the revaluation of land and buildings is credited to a non- distributable reserve. The revaluation surplus is realised as revalued buildings are depreciated, through a transfer from the revaluation reserve to the accumulated surplus / (deficit). On disposal, the net revaluation surplus is transferred to the accumulated surplus / (deficit) while gains or losses on disposal, based on revalued amounts, are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Performance.

9. PROVISIONS

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

The best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation is the amount that an entity would rationally pay to settle the obligation at the reporting date or to transfer it to a third party at that time and are determined by the judgment of the management of the municipality, supplemented by experience of similar transactions and, in some cases, reports from independent experts. The evidence considered includes any additional evidence provided by events after the reporting date. Uncertainties surrounding the amount to be recognised as a provision are dealt with by various means according to the circumstances, where the provision being measured involves a large population of items; the obligation is estimated by weighting all possible outcomes by their associated probabilities.

Future events that may affect the amount required to settle an obligation are reflected in the amount of a provision where there is sufficient objective evidence that they will occur. Gains from the expected disposal of assets are not taken into account in measuring a provision. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses. The present obligation under an onerous contract is recognised and measured as a provision. An onerous contract is a contract in which the unavoidable costs of meeting the obligations under the contract exceed the economic benefits expected to be received under it. The unavoidable costs under a contract reflect the least net cost of exiting from the contract, which is the lower of the cost of fulfilling it and any compensation or penalties arising from failure to fulfil it - this unavoidable cost resulting

from the contract is the amount of the provision to be recognised.

Provisions are reviewed at reporting date and the amount of a provision is the present value of the expenditure expected to be required to settle the obligation. When the effect of discounting is material, provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flows that reflect current market assessments of the time value of money. The impact of the periodic unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial performance as a finance cost as it occurs.

Environmental rehabilitation provisions

Estimated long-term environmental provisions, comprising rehabilitation and landfill site closure and post monitoring cost, are based on the municipality's policy, taking into account current technological, environmental and regulatory requirements. The provision for rehabilitation is recognised as and when the environmental liability arises. To the extent that the obligations relate to the asset, they are capitalised as part of the cost of those assets. Any subsequent changes to an obligation that did not relate to the initial related asset are charged to the Statement of financial performance.

10. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Initial recognition

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

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset if, and only if it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the municipality, and if the cost or fair value of the item can be measured reliably.

Property, plant and equipment are initially recognised at cost on its acquisition date. The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is the purchase price and other costs attributable to bring the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the municipality. Trade discounts and rebates are deducted in arriving at the cost. The cost also includes the necessary costs of dismantling and removing the asset and restoring the site on which it is located.

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

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

When significant components of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items (major components) of property, plant and equipment.

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

Subsequent measurement – cost model

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

Subsequently all property, plant and equipment, excluding land and buildings, are measured at cost, less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Subsequent measurement – revaluation model

Subsequent to initial recognition, land and buildings are carried at a revalued amount based on municipal valuations, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses. Revaluations are performed by external independent values every four years to coincide with the implementation of the general valuation such that the carrying amount does not differ materially from that which would be determined using fair value at the Statement of Financial Position date. Any accumulated depreciation at the date of revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset, and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

An increase in the carrying amount of land and buildings as a result of a revaluation is credited directly to a revaluation surplus reserve, except to the extent that it reverses a revaluation decrease of the same asset previously recognised in surplus or deficit.

A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation is recognised in surplus or deficit, except to the extent of any credit balance existing in the revaluation surplus in respect of that asset.

Where items of property, plant and equipment have been impaired, the carrying value is adjusted by the impairment loss, which is recognised as an expense in the period that the impairment is identified except where the impairment reverses a previous revaluation.

When revalued assets are sold or retired, the amounts included in the revaluation reserve in respect of that assets, are transferred to accumulated surplus or deficit.

Compensation from third parties for items of property, plant and equipment that were impaired, lost or given up is included in surplus or deficit when the compensation becomes receivable.

Depreciation

Land is not depreciated as it is regarded as having an unlimited life. Depreciation on assets other than land is calculated using the straight- line method, to allocate their cost or revalued amounts less their residual values over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The

depreciation method used reflects the pattern in which the assets' future economic benefits or service potential are expected to be consumed by the municipality. Each part of an item of property, plant and equipment with a cost that is significant in relation to the total cost of the item is depreciated separately. The depreciation rates are based on the following estimated useful lives:

Asset class	Useful lives as applied in the AR (years)
Infrastructure	
Roads and storm water	5-100
Electricity	5-75
Water	5-100
Sewerage	5-100
Solid Waste	5-100
Buildings, structures and facilities	
Buildings	30-50
Recreational and sports facilities	5-100
Parks, gardens and cemeteries	5-100
Housing assets	30-50
Other structures and facilities	
Parks, gardens and facilities	5-100
Parking structures	30-50
Other structures	5-50
Communication assets	30-50
Leasehold improvements	30-50
Containerized structures	5-50
Other assets	
Transport Assets	5-20
Computer and other office equipment	3-10
Furniture & fittings	5-10
Machinery and equipment	5-10

The useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed annually at the end of the financial year where there is any indication that the municipality's expectations about the residual amount and the useful life of an asset have changed since the preceding reporting date. Any adjustments arising from the annual review are applied prospectively.

Historical reviews have impacted the lives of the assets. The following table indicates the impact on the actual lives of the assets as a result of historical reviews and adjustments made:

Asset class	Useful lives as applied in the AR (years)
Infrastructure	
Roads and storm water	5-100
Electricity	5-100
Water	5-140
Sewerage	5-120
Solid Waste	5-100
Buildings	
Buildings	1-60
Recreational and sports facilities	1-100
Resorts	1-100
Housing assets	1-60
Other structures and facilities	
Parks, gardens and facilities	1-100
Parking structures	30-50
Other structures	5-50
Communication assets	30-50
Leasehold improvements	30-50
Containerized structures	5-50
Other assets	
Transport Assets	5-35
Computer and other office equipment	3-45
Furniture & fittings	5-45
Machinery and equipment	5-50

Assets under construction are carried at cost. Depreciation of an asset commences when the asset is ready for its intended use. Assets held under finance leases are depreciated over their expected useful lives on the same basis as owned assets, or, where shorter, the term of the relevant lease.

De-recognition of property, plant and equipment

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

The gain or loss arising from the derecognition of an item of property, plant and equipment is included in surplus or deficit when the item is derecognised. Gains are not classified as revenue.

Gains or losses are calculated as the difference between the carrying values of assets (Cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses) and the disposal proceeds is included in the Statement of financial performance as a gain or loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment.

11. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Intangible assets are identifiable non-monetary assets without physical substance held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes are classified and recognised as intangible assets.

Initial recognition and measurement

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. The cost of an intangible assets is the purchase price and other costs attributable to bring the intangible assets to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the municipality, or where an intangible asset is acquired at no cost, or for a nominal cost, the cost shall be its fair value as at the date of acquisition. Trade discounts and rebates are deducted in arriving at the cost.

Intangible assets acquired separately or internally generated are reported at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Subsequent measurement

Amortisation is calculated on cost, using the straight-line method, over the useful lives of the assets, which is estimated to be between 3 to 10 years upon initial recognition. Where intangible assets are deemed to have an indefinite useful life, such intangible assets are not amortised.

Intangible assets are annually tested for impairment and the estimated useful life, residual values and amortisation method are reviewed annually at the end of the financial year. Any adjustments arising from the annual review are applied prospectively.

Derecognition

Intangible assets are derecognised when the asset is disposed of or when there are no further economic benefits or service potential expected from the use of the asset. The gain or loss arising on the disposal or retirement of an intangible assets is determined as the difference between the net disposals proceeds and the carrying value and is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

12. INVESTMENT PROPERTY

Investment property includes property held to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation, rather than held to meet service delivery objectives, the production or supply of goods or services, or the sale of an asset in the ordinary course of operations. Investment property also includes land held for an undetermined future use.

Initial recognition

At initial recognition, the municipality measures investment property at cost including transaction costs once it meets the definition of investment property. However, where an investment property was acquired through a non-exchange transaction (i.e. where it acquired the investment property for no or a nominal value), its cost is its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Where the classification of an investment property is based on management's judgement, the

following criteria have been applied to distinguish investment properties from owner-occupied property or property held for resale:

- All properties held to earn market-related rentals or for capital appreciation or both and that are not used for administrative purposes and that will not be sold within the next 12 months are classified as investment properties;
- Land held for a currently undetermined future use;
- A building owned (or held by under a finance lease) and leased out under one or more operating leases;
- Leased properties that are held to provide a social (community) service or that are necessary for employees to perform their job functions, but which also generates rental revenue are not seen as investment properties. The rental revenue generated is incidental to the purposes for which the property is held;
- A building that is vacant but is held to be leased out under one or more operating leases;
- Property that is being constructed or developed for future use as investment property.

Subsequent measurement – fair value model

Investment property is subsequently measured using the fair value model. Investment property is carried at fair value, representing open market value determined by external valuer on reporting date. Fair value is based on active market prices, adjusted, if necessary, for any difference in the nature, location or condition of the specific asset. A gain or loss arising from a change in the fair value of investment property is included in surplus or deficit for the period in which it arises.

If the municipality determines that the fair value of an investment property under construction is not reliably measurable but expects the fair value to be reliably measurable when construction is completed, it measures that investment property at cost until the fair value can be reliably determined or construction has been completed.

Where the municipality has determined that the fair value of an investment property (other than investment property under construction) is not determinable on a continuing basis, the municipality measures that investment property using the cost model.

Derecognition/Disposal

Investment properties are derecognised (eliminated from the Statement of Financial Position) on disposal or when the investment property is permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its disposal. The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an investment property is determined as the difference between the sales proceeds and the carrying value and is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

13. HERITAGE ASSETS

A heritage asset is defined as an asset that has a cultural, environmental, historical, natural, scientific, technological or artistic significance, and is held and preserved indefinitely for the benefit of present and future generations.

The municipality classifies assets as heritage assets where the significance as a heritage asset can be determined. In regards to land and buildings all graded sites are classified heritage assets. Furthermore, land with a natural significance is not componentised but seen as a single

heritage asset due to all parts contributing together to make up its significance.

GRAP 103 requires that land and buildings that qualify as heritage asset, but of which a significant portion of that land and buildings is held for use in the production or supply of goods or services or for administrative purposes, should be recognised as property, plant and equipment, rather than heritage asset.

Initial recognition and measurement

The cost of an item of heritage assets is recognised as an asset if, and only if it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the municipality, and if the cost or fair value of the item can be measured reliably.

Heritage assets are initially recognised at cost on its acquisition date or in the case of assets acquired by grant or donation, deemed cost, being the fair value of the asset on initial recognition. The cost of an item of heritage assets is the purchase price and other costs attributable to bring the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the municipality. Trade discounts and rebates are deducted in arriving at the cost. The cost also includes the necessary costs of dismantling and removing the asset and restoring the site on which it is located.

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

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

Subsequent measurement

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

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

Subsequent to initial recognition, land and buildings which qualify as heritage assets are carried at a revalued amount based on municipal valuations less subsequent accumulated impairment losses. Revaluations are performed by external independent valuers every four years to coincide with the implementation of the general valuation such that the carrying amount does not differ materially from that which would be determined using fair value at the Statement of Financial Position date.

De-recognition of heritage assets

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

Gains or losses are calculated as the difference between the carrying value of assets (cost less accumulated impairment losses) and the disposal proceeds is included in the Statement of Financial Performance as a gain or loss on disposal of heritage assets.

14. INVENTORY

Inventory consist of raw materials, work in progress, consumables and finished goods, which are valued at the lower of cost, determined on the first in first out basis, and net realisable value, except for items which are valued at the tariffs charged. Where it is held for distribution or consumption at no charge or for a nominal amount, inventories are valued at the lower of cost and current replacement value.

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

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

The carrying amount of inventories is recognised as an expense in the period that the inventory were sold, distributed, written off or consumed, unless that cost qualifies for capitalisation to the cost of another asset.

Water inventory

Water is regarded as inventory when the municipality purchases water in bulk with the intention to resell it to the consumers or to use it internally, or where the municipality has incurred purification costs on water obtained from natural resources (rain, rivers, springs, boreholes etc.). However, water in dams, that are filled by natural resources and that has not yet been treated, and is under the control of the municipality but cannot be measured reliably as there is no cost attached to the water, and it is therefore not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position. The basis of determining the cost of water purchased and not yet sold at Statement of Financial Position date comprises all costs of purchase, cost of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the inventory to its present location and condition, net of trade discounts and rebates.

Water is valued by using the weighted average method, at the lowest of purified cost and net realisable value, insofar as it is stored and controlled in reservoirs at year-end.

Land inventory for housing projects

The Accounting Standards Board issued the guideline on Accounting for Arrangements Undertaken in terms of the National Housing Programme.

In terms of the guideline, land currently controlled by the municipality and recognised as either property, plant and equipment or investment property, that has been designated for the purposes of a housing development - in terms of Council's approved housing pipeline projects - meets the definition of inventory and requires reclassification to inventory.

The municipality only reclassifies the portion of land that it would not control after entering into an arrangement with the provincial Department of Human Settlements, to inventory.

Once the township development is completed, revisions that may need to be made to the values of the land initially reclassified as inventory is treated as a change in accounting estimate in terms of GRAP 3.

The carrying amount of the land up until the date of reclassification, as determined in accordance with the accounting policy of property, plant and equipment or investment property, is the cost amount on the date of reclassification.

Land inventory is derecognised once an agreement has been entered into with the provincial Department of Human Settlement, that passed control to the department.

15. LIVING AND NON-LIVING RESOURCES

Living resources are those resources that undergo biological transformation, whilst non- living resources are those resources, other than living resources, that occur naturally and have not been extracted.

Non-living resources, other than land, are not be recognised as assets.

A living resource is regarded as an asset when the municipality controls the right or access to future economic benefits or service potential of the resource. This is done by considering whether the following indicators that conclude that control, exists:

- The intervention by a municipality in the management of the physical condition of the living resource.
- The ability to restrict the movement of living resource.
- The ability to direct the use of the living resource.

The municipality is in terms of its mandate responsible for management and/or conservation of the environment as a whole, inclusive of natural resources such as plants and trees within parks and recreational facilities, but it does not manage the physical condition of each individual plant within that environment. As a result, the municipality concludes that it does not control these trees and plants as living resources and does not regard them as separate assets.

Water rights are disclosed as non-living resources.

16. IMPAIRMENT OF PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, INVESTMENT PROPERTY, INTANGIBLE ASSETS AND HERITAGE ASSETS

The municipality classifies all assets held with the primary objective of generating a commercial return as cash-generating assets. A commercial return means that the return charged by the entity is commensurate with the risk associated with holding the asset and the asset is intended to generate positive cash inflows. All other assets are classified as non-cash-generating assets.

Impairment of cash-generating assets

The municipality assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the municipality estimates the recoverable amount of the individual asset.

If there is any indication that an asset may be impaired, the recoverable amount is estimated for the individual asset. If it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of the individual asset, the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs is determined.

The best evidence of fair value less cost to sell is the price in a binding sale agreement in an arm's length transaction, adjusted for the incremental cost that would be directly attributable to the disposal of the asset.

The recoverable amount of an asset or a cash-generating unit is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

Value in use of a cash-generating asset is the present value of the estimated future cash flows expected to be derived from the continuing use of an asset and from its disposal at the end of its useful life.

If the recoverable amount of an asset is less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. That reduction is an impairment loss.

An impairment loss of assets carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation or amortisation is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit.

An impairment of assets carried at revalued amount reduces the revaluation surplus for that asset. The decrease shall be debited directly to a revaluation surplus to the extent of any credit balance existing in the revaluation surplus in respect of that asset.

An impairment loss is recognised for cash-generating units if the recoverable amount of the unit is less than the carrying amount of the unit. The impairment loss is allocated to reduce the carrying amount of the assets of the unit, pro rata on the basis of the carrying amount of each asset in the unit.

A municipality assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that an impairment loss recognised in prior periods for assets may no longer exist or may have decreased. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amounts of those assets are estimated.

The increased carrying amount of an asset attributable to a reversal of an impairment loss does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment

loss been recognised for the asset in prior periods.

A reversal of an impairment loss of assets carried at cost less accumulated depreciation or amortisation is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit.

Impairment of non-cash-generating assets

The municipality assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the municipality estimates the recoverable service amount of the asset.

If there is any indication that an asset may be impaired, the recoverable service amount is estimated for the individual asset. If it is not possible to estimate the recoverable service amount of the individual asset, the recoverable service amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs is determined.

The recoverable service amount is the higher of a non-cash generating asset's fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. The value in use for a non-cash generating asset is the present value of the asset's remaining service potential.

The value in use for a non-cash generating asset is the present value of the asset's remaining service potential.

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

If the recoverable service amount of an asset is less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable service amount. That reduction is an impairment loss.

An impairment loss of assets carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation or amortisation is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit. Any impairment loss of a revalued asset is treated as a revaluation decrease.

A municipality assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that an impairment loss recognised in prior periods for assets may no longer exist or may have decreased. If any such indication exists, the recoverable service amounts of those assets are estimated.

The increased carrying amount of an asset attributable to a reversal of an impairment loss does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior periods.

A reversal of an impairment loss of assets carried at cost less accumulated depreciation or amortisation is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit. Any reversal of an impairment loss of a revalued asset is treated as a revaluation increase.

17. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The municipality provides short term benefits, long term benefits and retirement benefits for its

employees and councillors.

Short-term employee benefits

Remuneration to employees is recognised in the Statement of financial performance as the services are rendered, except for non-accumulating benefits which are only recognised when the specific event occurs.

The costs of all short-term employee benefits such as leave pay, are recognised during the period in which the employee renders the related service.

Post-employment benefits: Defined contribution plans

A defined contribution plan is a plan under which the municipality pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. The municipality has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to service in the current or prior periods.

The municipality's contributions to the defined contribution funds are established in terms of the rules governing those plans. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of financial performance in the period in which the service is rendered by the relevant employees.

Post-employment benefits: Defined benefit plans

A defined benefit plan is a plan that defines an amount of benefit that an employee will receive on retirement.

The defined benefit liability is the aggregate of the present value of the defined benefit obligation and unrecognised actuarial gains and losses, reduced by unrecognised past service costs. The plan is unfunded. The defined benefit obligation is calculated using the projected unit credit method, incorporating actuarial assumptions and a discount rate based on the government bond rate. Valuations of these obligations are carried out by independent qualified actuaries regularly, as may be required for fair presentation.

Actuarial gains or losses recognised immediately in the Statement of financial performance.

Post-retirement health care benefits

The municipality has an obligation to provide post-retirement health care benefits to certain of its retirees. According to the rules of the Medical Aid Funds, with which the municipality is associated, a member (who is on the current Conditions of Service), on retirement, is entitled to remain a continued member of the Medical Aid Fund, in which case the municipality is liable for a certain portion of the medical aid membership fee.

The defined benefit liability is the aggregate of the present value of the defined benefit obligation and unrecognised actuarial gains and losses, reduced by unrecognised past service costs. The plan is unfunded. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is calculated using the projected unit credit method, incorporating actuarial assumptions and a discount rate based on the government bond rate. Valuations of these obligations are carried out annually by independent qualified actuaries.

Past-service costs are recognised immediately, unless the changes to the pension plan are

conditional on the employees remaining in service for a specified period of time (the vesting period). In this case, the past-service costs are amortised on a straight-line basis over the vesting period.

Long-service allowance

The municipality has an obligation to provide Long-service Allowance Benefits to all of its employees. According to the rules of the Long-service Allowance Scheme, which the municipality instituted and operates, an employee (who is on the current Conditions of Service), is entitled to a cash allowance, calculated in terms of the rules of the scheme, after 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years of continued service. The municipality's liability is based on an actuarial valuation. The projected unit credit method has been used to value the liabilities. Actuarial gains and losses on the long-term incentives are accounted for through the Statement of financial performance.

National- and provincially administered defined benefit plans

The municipality contributes to various National- and Provincial-administered Defined Benefit Plans on behalf of its qualifying employees. The contributions to fund obligations for the payment of retirement benefits are charged against revenue in the year they become payable. These defined benefit funds are actuarially valued tri-annually on the projected unit credit method basis.

Deficits are recovered through lump sum payments or increased future contributions on a proportional basis from all participating municipalities.

The municipality does not apply defined benefit accounting to the defined benefit funds to which it is a member where these funds are classified in terms of the Standard of GRAP 25 on Employee Benefits as multiemployer plans, as sufficient information is not available to apply the principals involved. As a result, this standard of GRAP is applied and such funds are accounted for as defined contribution funds.

Leave pay

Liabilities for annual leave are recognised as they accrue to employees. The liability is based on the total accrued leave days at year end and is shown as an accrual in the Statement of Financial Position.

Provision for bonus

The municipality recognises the expected cost of bonuses as a provision only when the municipality has a present legal or constructive obligation to make such payment and a reliable estimate can be made at reporting date.

18. LEASES

Lease classification

Leases are classified as finance leases where substantially all the risks and rewards associated with ownership of an asset are transferred to the municipality. Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases.

Municipality as lessee

Property, plant and equipment subject to finance lease agreements are capitalised at their cash cost equivalent. Corresponding liabilities are included in the Statement of Financial Position as Finance Lease Obligations. The cost of the item of property, plant and equipment is depreciated at appropriate rates on the straight-line basis over its estimated useful life. Lease payments are allocated between the lease finance cost and the capital repayment using the effective interest rate method. Lease finance costs are expensed when incurred.

Operating leases are those leases that do not fall within the scope of the above definition. Operating lease rentals are recognised on the straight-line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis, except where another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased asset are consumed.

Municipality as lessor

Amounts due from lessees under finance leases or instalment sale agreements are recorded as receivables at the amount of the municipality's net investment in the leases. Finance lease or instalment sale income is allocated to accounting periods so as to reflect a constant periodic rate of return on the municipality's net investment outstanding in respect of the leases or instalment sale agreements.

Operating lease rental income is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

19. BORROWING COSTS

Interest-bearing external loans and bank overdrafts are recorded net of direct issue costs. Finance charges, including premiums payable, are accounted for on an accrual basis. Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Borrowing costs are recognised as an expense in the Statement of financial performance in the period in which they are incurred.

20. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The municipality has various types of financial instruments and these can be broadly categorised as either financial assets or financial liabilities.

A financial instrument is recognised if the municipality becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Classification of financial instruments financial assets

A financial asset is any asset that is a cash or contractual right to receive cash. In accordance with GRAP 104 the Financial Assets of the municipality are classified as follows into the three categories allowed by this standard:

Financial asset at amortised cost being a non-derivative financial asset with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They are included in current assets, except for maturities greater than 12 months, which are classified as non- current assets.

Financial assets measured at fair value being financial assets that meet either of the following conditions:

- Derivatives;
- Combined instruments that are designated at fair value;
- Instruments held for trading;
- Non-derivative financial assets or financial liabilities with fixed or determinable payments that are designated at fair value at initial recognition; or
- Financial instruments that do not meet the definition of financial instruments at amortised cost or financial instruments at cost.

Financial assets measured at cost being investments in residual interests that do not have a quoted market price in an active market, and whose fair value cannot be reliably measured.

The municipality has the following types of financial assets as reflected on the face of the Statement of Financial Position or in the notes thereto:

Type of financial asset	Classification in terms of GRAP 104
Finance lease receivables	Financial assets at amortised cost
Long-term receivables	Financial assets at amortised cost
Current portion of long-term receivables	Financial assets at amortised cost
Consumer debtors	Financial assets at amortised cost
Other debtors	Financial assets at amortised cost
Short-term investment deposit - Call	Financial assets at amortised cost
Bank balances and cash	Financial assets at amortised cost

Cash includes cash on hand (including petty cash) and cash with banks (including call deposits). Cash equivalents are short-term highly liquid investments, readily convertible into known amounts of cash that are held with registered banking institutions with maturities of three months or less and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value. For the purposes of the Cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, deposits held on call with banks, net of bank overdrafts. The municipality categorises cash and cash equivalents as financial assets at amortised cost.

Financial liabilities

A financial liability is a contractual obligation to deliver cash or another financial asset to another entity.

The following main categories of financial liabilities and the classification determining how they

are measured exist:

- Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost; or
- Financial liabilities measured at fair value.

The municipality has the following types of financial liabilities as reflected on the face of the Statement of Financial Position or in the notes thereto:

Type of financial liability	Classification in terms of GRAP 104
Long-term liabilities	Financial liability at amortised cost
Current portion of long-term liabilities	Financial liability at amortised cost
Other creditors	Financial liability at amortised cost
Short-term loans	Financial liability at amortised cost

Financial liabilities that are measured at fair value that are essentially held for trading (i.e. purchased with the intention to sell or repurchase in the short term; derivatives other than hedging instruments or are part of a portfolio of financial liabilities where there is recent actual evidence of short-term profiteering or are derivatives).

Any other financial liabilities should be classified as financial liabilities at amortised cost.

Bank overdrafts are recorded based on the facility utilised. Finance charges on bank overdrafts are expensed as incurred.

Initial recognition and measurement financial assets:

Financial assets at amortised cost are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of the financial assets. Subsequently, these assets are measured at amortised cost using the Effective Interest Method less any impairment, with interest recognised on an effective yield basis.

Trade and other receivables (excluding Value Added Taxation, prepayments and operating lease receivables), loans to municipal entities and loans that have fixed and determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market are classified as financial assets at amortised cost.

Financial assets measured at fair value are initially measured at fair value plus directly attributable transaction costs. They are subsequently measured at fair value with unrealised gains or losses recognised directly in equity until the investment is derecognised, at which time the cumulative gain or loss recorded in equity is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance, or determined to be impaired, at which time the cumulative loss recorded in equity is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Financial liabilities:

Financial liabilities measured at fair value are stated at fair value, with any resulted gain or loss recognised in the Statement of financial performance.

Any other financial liabilities classified at amortised cost (All payables, loans and borrowings

are classified as other liabilities) and are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs. Trade and other payables, interest-bearing debt including finance lease liabilities, non-interest-bearing debt and bank borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. Interest expense is recognised in the Statement of financial performance by applying the effective interest rate.

Bank borrowings, consisting of interest-bearing short-term bank loans, repayable on demand and overdrafts are recorded at the proceeds received. Finance costs are accounted for using the accrual basis and are added to the carrying amount of the bank borrowing to the extent that they are not settled in the period that they arise.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets, other than those measured at fair value, are assessed for indicators of impairment at the end of each reporting period. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence of impairment of Financial Assets (such as the probability of insolvency or significant financial difficulties of the debtor). If there is such evidence the recoverable amount is estimated and an impairment loss is recognised in accordance with GRAP 104.

Trade receivables encompass long term debtors, consumer debtors and other debtors. A provision for impairment of trade receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the municipality will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the effective interest rate.

According to GRAP 104, the assessment for impairment needs to be made for each individual financial asset separately or for groups of financial assets with similar credit risks. The following methodology was followed to make a provision for bad debts for the year under review:

Consumer debtors

Consumer debtors are assessed individually thereafter collectively, considering factors such as payment histories and ratios, qualitative factors e.g. correspondence from attorneys, disputes about certain accounts, etc.

Other debtors

Other debtors are reviewed individually considering payment histories and disputes about certain amounts. Provision for impairment is made accordingly

Long-term debtors

Other long-term loans

No provision for impairment is made for Other long-term loans, because it is envisaged that these debts will be fully recovered.

Other financial assets at amortised cost are assessed individually for impairment. The carrying amount of the financial assets is reduced by the impairment loss directly for all financial assets with the exception of trade receivables, where the carrying amount is reduced through the use

of an allowance account. When a trade receivable is considered uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against the allowance account. Changes in the carrying amount of the allowance account are recognised in the Statement of financial performance.

If in a subsequent period, the amount of the impairment loss decreases and the decrease can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the previously recognised impairment loss is reversed through the Statement of financial performance to the extent that the carrying amount of the investment at the date the impairment is reversed does not exceed what the amortised cost would have been had the impairment not been recognised.

Derecognition

Financial assets

The municipality derecognises financial assets only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expires or it transfers the financial assets and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset to another entity, except when Council approves the write-off of financial assets due to non-recoverability.

If the municipality neither transfers nor retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership and continues to control the transferred asset, the municipality recognises its retained interest in the asset and an associated liability for amounts it may have to pay. If the municipality retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of a transferred financial asset, the municipality continues to recognise the financial assets and also recognises a collateralised borrowing for the proceeds received.

Financial liabilities

The municipality derecognises financial liabilities when, and only when, the municipality's obligations are discharged, cancelled or they expire.

21. STATUTORY RECEIVABLES

Identification

Statutory receivables are receivables that arise from legislation, supporting regulations, or similar means, and require settlement by another entity in cash or another financial asset.

The municipality has the following major categories under the ambit of statutory receivables:

- VAT receivables;
- Rates debtors;
- Traffic fine debtors;
- Availability charges debtors;
 - Electricity;
 - Water;
 - Waste; and
 - Waste water.

Recognition

The municipality recognises statutory receivables as follows:

- if the transaction is an exchange transaction, using the policy on Revenue from exchange transactions;
- if the transaction is a non-exchange transaction, using the policy on Revenue from non-exchange transactions (Taxes and transfers); or
- if the transaction is not within the scope of the policies listed in the above or another Standard of GRAP, the receivable is recognised when the definition of an asset is met and, when it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the asset will flow to the entity and the transaction amount can be measured reliably.

Measurement

The municipality initially measures statutory receivables at their transaction amount. The municipality measures statutory receivables after initial recognition using the cost method. Under the cost method, the initial measurement of the receivable is changed subsequent to initial recognition to reflect any:

- interest or other charges that may have accrued on the receivable (where applicable);
- impairment losses; and
- amounts derecognized

Impairment of statutory receivables

Statutory receivables, other than those measured at fair value, are assessed for indicators of impairment at the end of each reporting period. Statutory receivables are impaired where there is objective evidence of impairment of Statutory receivables (such as the probability of insolvency or significant financial difficulties of the debtor). If there is such evidence the recoverable amount is estimated and an impairment loss is recognised in accordance with GRAP 108.

A provision for impairment of receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the municipality will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the effective interest rate.

According to GRAP 108, the assessment for impairment needs to be made for each individual financial asset separately or for groups of statutory receivables with similar credit risks. The following methodology was followed to make a provision for bad debts for the year under review:

Rate debtors and availability charge debtors

Rates debtors are assessed individually thereafter collectively, considering factors such as payment histories and ratios, qualitative factors e.g. correspondence from attorneys, disputes about certain accounts, etc.

Traffic fine debtors

Traffic fine debtors are reviewed collectively considering payment histories and disputes about certain amounts. Provision for impairment is made accordingly.

The carrying amount of the financial asset is reduced by the impairment loss directly for all financial assets with the exception of trade receivables, where the carrying amount is reduced through the use of an allowance account. When a trade receivable is considered uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against the allowance account. Changes in the carrying amount of the allowance account are recognised in the Statement of financial performance.

If in a subsequent period, the amount of the impairment loss decreases and the decrease can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the previously recognised impairment loss is reversed through the Statement of financial performance to the extent that the carrying amount of the investment at the date the impairment is reversed does not exceed what the amortised cost would have been had the impairment not been recognised.

De-recognition of statutory receivables

The municipality derecognises a statutory receivable, or a part thereof, when:

- the rights to the cash flows from the receivable are settled, expire or are waived;
- the municipality transfers control of the statutory receivable and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset to another entity; or
- the municipality, despite having retained some significant risks and rewards of ownership of the receivable, has transferred control of the receivable to another party and the other party has the practical ability to sell the receivable in its entirety to an unrelated third party, and is able to exercise that ability unilaterally and without needing to impose additional restrictions on the transfer. In this case, the entity:
 - derecognise the receivable; and
 - recognise separately any rights and obligations created or retained in the transfer.

The carrying amounts of any statutory receivables transferred are allocated between the rights or obligations retained and those transferred on the basis of their relative fair values at the transfer date. The entity considers whether any newly created rights and obligations are within the scope of the Standard of GRAP on Financial Instruments or another Standard of GRAP. Any difference between the consideration received and the amounts derecognised and, those amounts recognised, are recognised in surplus or deficit in the period of the transfer.

22. REVENUE

Revenue, excluding value-added taxation where applicable, is derived from a variety of sources which include rates levied, grants from other tiers of government and revenue from trading activities and other services provided.

Recognition and measurement

The municipality recognises revenue when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the municipality and when specific criteria have been met for each of the municipalities' activities as described below. The amount of revenue is not considered to be reliably measurable until all contingencies relating to the sale have been resolved. The municipality bases its estimates on historical results, taking into consideration the type of customer, the type of transaction and the specifics of each arrangement. Furthermore, services rendered are recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction at the reporting date.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Revenue is reduced for estimated customer returns, stock rotation, price protection, rebates and other similar allowances.

Revenue from exchange transactions refers to revenue that accrued to the municipality directly in return for services rendered / goods sold, the value of which approximates the consideration received or receivable.

Revenue from non-exchange transactions refers to transactions where the municipality received revenue from another entity without directly giving approximately equal value in exchange. Revenue from non-exchange transactions is generally recognised to the extent that the related receipt or receivable qualifies for recognition as an asset and there is no liability to repay the amount.

Revenue from exchange transactions Service charges

Service charges relating to electricity and water are based on consumption. Meters are read on a monthly basis and are recognised as revenue when invoiced. Provisional estimates of consumption, based on the consumption history, are made monthly when meter readings have not been performed. The provisional estimates of consumption are recognised as revenue when invoiced, except at year- end when estimates of consumption up to year-end are recorded as revenue without it being invoiced. Adjustments to provisional estimates of consumption are made in the invoicing period in which meters have been read. These adjustments are recognised as revenue in the invoicing period. In respect of estimates of consumption between the last reading date and the reporting date, an accrual is made based on the average monthly consumption of consumers. Basic fees are calculated per the size of connection.

Service charges relating to refuse removal are recognised on a monthly basis in arrears by applying the approved tariff to each property that has improvements. Tariffs are determined per category of property usage, and are levied monthly based on the number of refuse containers on each property, regardless of whether or not all containers are emptied during the month.

Service charges from sewerage and sanitation are based on the type of service and the number of sewer connections on all developed property, using the tariffs approved by Council and are levied monthly.

In circumstances where services cannot readily be measured and quantified, a flat rate service charge is levied monthly on such properties.

Pre-paid electricity

Revenue from the sale of pre-paid electricity is recognised at the point of sale. Revenue from the sale of prepaid electricity is recognised based on an estimate of the pre-paid electricity consumed as at the reporting date.

Interest earned and rentals received

Interest and rentals are recognised on a time proportion basis that takes into account the effective yield on the investment.

Dividends

Dividends are recognised on the date that the municipality becomes entitled to receive the dividend in accordance with the substance of the relevant agreement, where applicable.

Traffic charges

Revenue arising from the application of the approved tariff of charges is recognised when the relevant service is rendered by applying the relevant authorised tariff. This includes the issuing of licences and permits.

Income from agency services

Income for agency services is recognised on a monthly basis once the income collected on behalf of agents has been quantified. The income recognised is in terms of the agency agreement.

Housing rental and instalments

Finance income from the sale of housing by way of instalment sale agreements or finance leases is recognised on a time proportion basis.

Sale of goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when all the following conditions have been satisfied:

- the municipality has transferred to the buyer the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods;
- the municipality retains neither continuing managerial involvement to the degree usually associated with ownership nor effective control over the goods sold;
- the amount of revenue can be measured reliably;
- it is probable that the economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the municipality; and
- the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably.

Revenue from non-exchange transactions Rates and taxes

Revenue from property rates is recognised when the legal entitlement to this revenue arises. Collection charges are recognised when such amounts are legally enforceable. Penalty interest on unpaid rates is recognised on a time proportion basis with reference to the principal amount receivable and effective interest rate applicable. A composite rating system charging different rate tariffs is employed. Rebates are granted to certain categories of ratepayers and are deducted from revenue.

Fines

Fines constitute both spot fines and camera fines. Fines are recognised when the receivable

meets the definition of an asset and satisfies the criteria for recognition as an asset. It is measured at the best estimate, based on past experience, of the amount of revenue the municipality is entitled to collect.

Subsequent to initial recognition and measurement, the municipality assess the collectability of the revenue and recognises a separate impairment loss where appropriate.

Donations and contributions

Donations and funding are recognised as revenue to the extent that the municipality has complied with any of the criteria, conditions or obligations embodied in the agreement. Where the agreement contains a stipulation to return the asset, other future economic benefits or service potential, in the event of non-compliance to these stipulations and would be enforced by the transferor, a liability is recognised to the extent that the criteria, conditions or obligations have not been met.

Where such requirements are not enforceable, or where past experience has indicated that the transferor has never enforced the requirement to return the transferred asset, other future economic benefits or service potential when breaches have occurred, the stipulation will be considered a restriction and is recognised as revenue.

Revenue from public contributions is recognised when all conditions associated with the contribution have been met or where the contribution is to finance property, plant and equipment, when such items of property, plant and equipment are brought into use.

Assets acquired in non-exchange transactions are measured at fair value in accordance with the Standards of GRAP.

Government grants and receipts

Unconditional grants

Equitable share allocations are recognised in revenue at the start of the financial year.

Conditional grants and receipts

Conditional grants recognised as revenue to the extent that the municipality has complied with any of the criteria, conditions or obligations embodied in the agreement. Where the agreement contains a stipulation to return the asset, other future economic benefits or service potential, in the event of non-compliance to these stipulations and would be enforced by the transferor, a liability is recognised to the extent that the criteria, conditions or obligations have not been met. Where such requirements are not enforceable, or where past experience has indicated that the transferor has never enforced the requirement to return the transferred asset, other future economic benefits or service potential when breaches have occurred, the stipulation will be considered a restriction and is recognised as revenue.

Government grants that are receivable as compensation for expenses or losses already incurred or for the purpose of giving immediate financial support to the municipality with no future related costs are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance in the period in which they become receivable.

Revenue is recognised when all conditions associated with the contribution have been met or where the contribution is to finance property, plant and equipment, when such items of property, plant and equipment are brought into use.

Interest earned on unspent grants and receipts

Interest earned on unspent grants and receipts is treated in accordance with grant conditions. If it is payable to the funder it is recorded as part of the creditor and if it is the municipality's interest it is recognised as interest earned in the Statement of financial performance in accordance with GRAP 9.

Services received in-kind

Services in kind are recognised at its fair value when it is significant to the operations and/or service delivery objectives and when it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential will flow to the municipality and the fair value of the assets can be measured reliably. If the services in-kind are not significant to the operations and/or service delivery objectives and/or do not satisfy the criteria for recognition, only the nature and type of services in-kind received during the reporting period is disclosed.

Revenue from recovery of unauthorised, irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure

Revenue from the recovery of unauthorised, irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure is based on legislated procedures, including those set out in the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act 56 of 2003) and is recognised when the recovery thereof from the responsible councillors or officials is virtually certain. Such revenue is based on legislated procedures.

Revenue recognition of unclaimed deposits

Unclaimed deposits older than three (3) years are recognised as revenue.

23. ACCOUNTING BY PRINCIPLE AND AGENTS

Identification

An agent is an entity that has been directed by another entity (a principal), through a binding arrangement, to undertake transactions with third parties on behalf of the principal and for the benefit of the principal.

A principal is an entity that directs another entity (an agent), through a binding arrangement, to undertake transactions with third parties on its behalf and for its own benefit.

A principal-agent arrangement results from a binding arrangement in which one entity (an agent), undertakes transactions with third parties on behalf, and for the benefit of, another entity (the principal).

Identifying whether an entity is a principal or an agent

When the municipality is party to a principal-agent arrangement, it assesses whether it is the principal or the agent in accounting for revenue, expenses, assets and/or liabilities that result from transactions with third parties undertaken in terms of the arrangement.

The assessment of whether a municipality is a principal or an agent requires the municipality to assess whether the transactions it undertakes with third parties are for the benefit of another entity or for its own benefit.

Binding arrangement

The municipality assesses whether it is an agent or a principal by assessing the rights and obligations of the various parties established in the binding arrangement.

Where the terms of a binding arrangement are modified, the parties to the arrangement re-assess whether they act as a principal or an agent.

Assessing which entity benefits from the transactions with third parties

When the municipality in a principal-agent arrangement concludes that it undertakes transactions with third parties for the benefit of another entity, then it is the agent. If the municipality concludes that it is not the agent, then it is the principal in the transactions.

The municipality is an agent when, in relation to transactions with third parties, all three of the following criteria are present:

- It does not have the power to determine the significant terms and conditions of the transaction.
- It does not have the ability to use all, or substantially all, of the resources that result from the transaction for its own benefit.
- It is not exposed to variability in the results of the transaction.

Where the municipality has been granted specific powers in terms of legislation to direct the terms and conditions of particular transactions, it is not required to consider the criteria of whether it does not have the power to determine the significant terms and conditions of the transaction, to conclude that it is an agent. The municipality applies judgement in determining whether such powers exist and whether they are relevant in assessing whether the municipality is an agent.

Recognition

The municipality, as a principal, recognises revenue and expenses that arise from transactions with third parties in a principal-agent arrangement in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Standards of GRAP.

The municipality, as an agent, recognises only that portion of the revenue and expenses it receives or incurs in executing the transactions on behalf of the principal in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Standards of GRAP.

The municipality recognises assets and liabilities arising from principal-agent arrangements in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Standards of GRAP.

24. HOUSING ARRANGEMENTS

The ASB issued the guideline on Accounting for Arrangements Undertaken in terms of the National Housing Programme.

Top structures

Where the municipality acts as a project manager in a housing arrangement, it is regarded as an agent in terms of the principles of GRAP 109 - Accounting by Principals and Agents.

Where the municipality is regarded as an agent, costs related to the construction of top structures and the related recovery thereof (revenue) is not be recognised in the Statement of financial performance of the municipality.

Where the municipality is identified as a project developer, the construction of the houses is performed by the municipality or by the appointment of a sub-contractor to undertake the construction on the municipality's behalf. The municipality applies the GRAP 11, Construction Contracts to account for these construction activities.

Where the municipality is regarded as the project developer and if the outcome of the construction contract can be estimated reliably, then contract revenue is recognised in profit or loss in proportion to the stage of completion of the contract. The stage of completion is assessed with reference to surveys of work performed. Otherwise, contract revenue is recognised only to the extent of contract costs incurred that are likely to be recoverable. Contract revenue will be in the form of a grant from the Department of Human settlements and presented and disclosed under transfers and subsidies in the Statement of financial performance.

Contract costs are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred. When it is probable that total contract costs will exceed total contract revenue, the expected loss is recognised as an expense immediately.

Other transactions related to housing arrangements:

Other transactions may also arise from the Housing Arrangements and fall within the ambit of GRAP 11: Construction Contracts, others with GRAP 9: Revenue from Exchange Transactions, GRAP 23: Revenue from Non-exchange Transactions and GRAP 109: Principal Agent Arrangements.

- Income from grants pertaining to the planning and construction of civil services of a project is considered to be grants and subsidies in terms of GRAP 23: Revenue from Non-exchange transactions.
- Receipts directly attributable to the administration of beneficiaries are accounted for under Operational Revenue as Housing services rendered in terms of GRAP 9: Revenue from Exchange Transactions.
- Receipts that are received to register the title deed in the name of the beneficiary are regarded as receipts and payments on behalf of the beneficiaries in terms of GRAP 109: Principal Agent Arrangements, and as such the municipality is regarded as an agent.

25. VALUE ADDED TAX

The municipality is registered with the South African Revenue Service (SARS) for Value Added Tax (VAT) on the payments basis, in accordance with Section 15(2)(a) of the Value-Added Tax Act No 89 of 1991.

26. GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES PAID

The municipality transfers money to individuals, organizations and other sectors of government from time to time. When making these transfers, the municipality does not:

- Receive any goods or services directly in return, as would be expected in a purchase or sale transaction;
- Expect to be repaid in future; or
- Expect a financial return, as would be expected from an investment.

These transfers are recognised in the audited annual financial statements as expenses in the period that the events giving rise to the transfer occurred.

27. UNAUTHORISED EXPENDITURE

Section 1 of the MFMA, defines Unauthorised expenditure as follows:

- Overspending of the total amount appropriated in the municipality's approved budget;
 - Overspending of the total amount appropriated for a vote in the approved budget;
 - Expenditure from a vote unrelated to the department or functional area covered by the vote;
 - Expenditure of money appropriated for a specific purpose, otherwise than for that specific purpose;
 - Spending of an allocation referred to in the above paragraphs of the definition of "allocation" otherwise than in accordance with any conditions of the allocation; or
 - A grant by the municipality otherwise than in accordance with this Act.
-
- Section 1 of the MFMA also defines a Vote as:
 - One of the main segments into which a budget of a municipality is divided for the appropriation of money for the different departments or functional areas of the municipality; and
 - Which specifies the total amount that is appropriated for the purposes of the department or functional area concerned.

The municipality uses the Municipal Standard Chart of Accounts (mSCOA) Functions and Sub-functions, previously the Government Finance Statistics (GFS) functions, as well as departments as the main groupings of segments of the municipality's budget segments within the municipality are grouped per department to facilitate greater accountability and budget implementation by the respective management as well as per mSCOA classification to facilitate comparisons on a higher level.

28. IRREGULAR EXPENDITURE

Irregular expenditure is expenditure that is contrary to the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act 56 of 2003), the Municipal Systems Act (Act No.32 of 2000), and the Public Office Bearers Act (Act No. 20 of 1998) or is in contravention of the municipality's supply chain management policy.

29. FRUITLESS AND WASTEFUL EXPENDITURE

Fruitless and wasteful expenditure is expenditure that was made in vain and would have been avoided had reasonable care been exercised. All expenditure relating to fruitless and wasteful

expenditure is recognised as an expense in the Statement of financial performance in the year that the expenditure was incurred. The expenditure is classified in accordance with the nature of the expense, and where recovered, it is subsequently accounted for as revenue in the Statement of financial performance. If the expenditure is not condoned by the Council it is treated as an asset until it is recovered or written off as irrecoverable.

30. FOREIGN CURRENCIES

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated to the functional currency of the municipality at exchange rates at the dates of the transactions.

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the reporting date are retranslated to the functional currency at the exchange rate at that date. The foreign currency gains or loss on monetary items is the difference between amortised cost or fair value in the functional currency at the beginning of the year, adjusted for effective interest and payments during the year, and the amortised cost in foreign currency translated at the exchange rate at the end of the reporting period.

Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies that are measured at fair value are retranslated to the functional currency at the exchange rate at the date that the fair value was determined. Foreign currency differences arising on retranslation are recognised in surplus or deficit.

Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Cash flows arising from transactions in a foreign currency are recorded in Rand's by applying, to the foreign currency amount, the exchange rate between the Rand and the foreign currency at the date of the cash flow.

31. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES, ESTIMATES AND ERRORS

Changes in accounting policies that are affected by management have been applied retrospectively in accordance with GRAP 3 requirements, except to the extent that it is impracticable to determine the period-specific effects or the cumulative effect of the change in policy. In such cases the municipality shall restate the opening balances of assets, liabilities and net assets for the earliest period for which retrospective restatement is practicable.

Changes in accounting estimates are applied prospectively in accordance with GRAP 3 requirements.

Correction of errors is applied retrospectively in the period in which the error has occurred in accordance with GRAP 3 requirements, except to the extent that it is impracticable to determine the period-specific effects or the cumulative effect of the error. In such cases the municipality shall restate the opening balances of assets, liabilities and net assets for the earliest period for which retrospective restatement is practicable.

Details of changes in accounting policies, changes in estimates and correction of errors are disclosed in the notes to the audited annual financial statements where applicable.

32. RELATED PARTIES AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Individuals as well as their close family members, and/or entities are related parties if one party has the ability, directly or indirectly, to control or jointly control the other party or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial and/or operating decisions. Management is regarded as a related party and comprises the councillors, Mayor, Mayoral Committee members, Municipal Manager, Senior Managers and all other managers reporting directly to the Municipal Manager or as designated by the Municipal Manager.

Close members of the family of an individual are those family members who may be expected to influence or be influenced by that individual in their dealings with the municipality. An individual is considered to be a close member of the family of another individual if they are married or live together in a relationship similar to a marriage; or if they are separated by no more than two degrees of natural or legal consanguinity or affinity. Remuneration of management includes remuneration derived for services provided to the municipality in their capacity as members of the management team or employees. Benefits derived directly or indirectly from the municipality for services in any capacity other than as an employee or a member of management do not meet the definition of remuneration.

In the case of permanent employees acting in management positions, only the remuneration received additionally for acting in that position is disclosed.

Remuneration of management excludes any consideration provided solely as a reimbursement for expenditure incurred by those persons for the benefit of the municipality.

The municipality operates in an economic environment currently dominated by entities directly or indirectly owned by the South African government. As a result of the Constitutional independence of all three spheres of government in South Africa, only parties within the same sphere of government will be considered to be related parties. Only transactions with such parties which are not at arm's length and not on normal commercial terms are disclosed.

33. EVENTS AFTER REPORTING DATE

Events after the reporting date that are classified as adjusting events have been accounted for in the audited annual financial statements. The events after the reporting date that are classified as non-adjusting events after the reporting date have been disclosed in the notes to the audited annual financial statements.

34. CONTINGENT ASSETS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Contingent liabilities represent a possible obligation that arises from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only by an occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the municipality.

A contingent liability can also arise as a result of a present obligation that arises from past events but which is not recognised as a liability either because it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

Contingent assets represent possible assets that arise from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only by an occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the municipality.

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised. Contingencies are disclosed in the notes to the municipality.

35. SEGMENTAL REPORTING

A segment is an activity of an entity:

- that generates economic benefits or service potential (including economic benefits or service potential relating to transactions between activities of the same entity);
- whose results are regularly reviewed by management to make decisions about resources to be allocated to that activity and in assessing its performance; and
- for which separate financial information is available.

The reportable segments identified are those functional segments reported in the mSCOA format and the Municipal Vote (Departmental) format per the Monthly Section 71 Management Reports. The information that will be reported is aligned to the monthly section 71 reports which are reviewed by the executive management. The mSCOA format allows for universal comparability of segments. The main factors considered in selecting the segments were the level of comparability with other preparers and a level of aggregation that does not detract from presenting the separate revenue or service delivery components.

The municipality manages its assets and liability as a whole. Only capital expenditure is reviewed based on the location. All other asset and liability management techniques are focused on the asset base as a whole rather than the asset and liability management for a specific area. Service delivery staff are organised in such a manner that service delivery takes place timeously in each town, but it's not a strategic principle to organise assets and liabilities in such a manner that each town is its own small economic/service delivery unit that can operate separately from the rest of the organisation. Segment reporting per geographic area is therefore not deemed relevant.

The assets and liabilities are not reviewed at all on a segregated basis.

The reporting measurement basis for the management reports is the same as that of the annual financial statements.

Key judgements and sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the municipality's accounting policies, which are described above, management is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities, and the disclosure of contingent liabilities, at the end of the reporting period. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

These estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Judgements

The following are the critical judgements, apart from those involving estimations, that the management have made in the process of applying the municipality's Accounting Policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the audited annual financial statements:

Materiality

Materiality is judged by reference to the size and nature of the item. The deciding factor is whether the omission or misstatement could, individually or collectively, influence the decisions that users make on the basis of these audited annual financial statements.

In preparation of the audited annual financial statements materiality has been considered in:

- Deciding what to report in the audited annual financial statements and how to present it.
- Assessing the effect of omissions, misstatements and errors on the audited annual financial statements

In assessing whether an item, transaction or event is material, specific thresholds for specific items, transactions and events, or aggregations thereof has been developed. These thresholds are used to make decisions about the reporting of information (i.e. how to recognise, measure, present and disclose items, transactions and events), and used as a margin of error or framework within which to assess misstatements and errors.

The municipality has also considered whether certain transactions or balances may be qualitatively material based on the inherent characteristics thereof, even though the transaction or balance is quantitatively immaterial, if:

- The item, transaction or event relates to legal or regulatory requirements.
- Related party transactions.
- The regularity or frequency with which an item, transaction or event occurs.
- The item, transaction or event results in the reversal of a trend.
- The item, transaction or event is likely to result in a change in accounting policy.
- The commencement of a new function, or the reduction or cessation of an existing function.
- The degree of estimation or judgement that is needed to determine the value of an item, transaction or event.
- An item, transaction or event that affects the going concern assumption of the municipality.

Lease classification – Municipality as lessor

The municipality has entered into commercial property leases on its investment property portfolio. The municipality has determined that it retains all the significant risks and rewards of ownership of these properties, and so accounts for them as operating leases.

Lease classification – Municipality as lessee

The municipality has entered into a number of leases for office equipment. In determining

whether a lease agreement is a finance lease or an operating lease requires judgement as to whether the agreement transfers substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the municipality.

Judgement is required on various aspects that include, but are not limited to, the fair value of the leased asset, the economic life of the leased asset, whether or not to include renewal options in the lease term, and determining an appropriate discount rate to calculate the present value of the minimum lease payments. The municipality has exercised its judgement on the appropriate classification of equipment leases, and has determined a number of lease arrangements are finance leases.

Classification of property as held for strategic purposes

The municipality classifies vacant land that is earmarked for future development in terms of the municipality's Spatial Development Framework, as property, plant and equipment, rather than investment property.

Criteria for the classification of properties as investment property rather than property, plant and equipment, when classification is difficult are as follow:

All properties held to earn market-related rentals or for capital appreciation or both and that are not for administrative purposes and that will not be sold in the ordinary course of operations are classified as investment property.

Land held for currently undetermined future use

Leased properties that are held to provide a social (community) service or that are necessary for employees to perform their job functions, but which also generates rental revenue are not seen as investment property. The rental revenue generated is incidental to the purposes for which the property is held.

Componentisation of infrastructure assets

All infrastructure assets, acquired before the adoption of GRAP where the acquisition cost could not be obtained, with significant components relating to different useful lives are unbundled into their components in order to depreciate all major components over the expected useful lives. The cost of each component is estimated based on the current market replacement cost of each component, depreciated for age and condition and recalculated to deemed cost at the acquisition date if known or to the date of initially adopting the standards of GRAP. All infrastructure assets acquired after the adoption of GRAP with significant components relating to different useful lives are unbundled into their components based on the actual expenditure incurred.

Determination of repairs and maintenance cost

Repairs and maintenance is based on management's own judgement of costs incurred in cost centres responsible for the maintenance and repair of municipality owned assets. This includes internal charges (inter departmental charges) such as internal transport costs, charged out to the different departments.

Estimates and assumptions

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year, are described below:

Pension and other post-employment benefits

The cost of defined benefit pension plans and other employment medical benefits is determined using actuarial valuations. The actuarial valuation involves making assumptions about discount rates, expected rates of return on assets, future salary increases, mortality rates and future pension increases. Due to the long-term nature of these plans, such estimates are subject to significant uncertainty.

Classification of financial assets and liabilities

The classification of financial assets and liabilities, into categories, is based on judgement by management. The Accounting Policy on Financial Instruments describes the factors and criteria considered by the management of the municipality in the classification of financial assets and liabilities.

In making the above-mentioned judgement, management considered the definition and recognition criteria for the classification of financial instruments as set out in GRAP 104: Financial Instruments.

Impairment of receivables

The Accounting Policy on Financial Instruments describes the process followed to determine the value by which financial assets should be impaired. In making the estimation of the impairment, the management of the municipality considers the detailed criteria of impairment of financial assets as set out in GRAP 104: Financial Instruments and used its judgement to select a variety of methods and make assumptions that are mainly based on market conditions existing at the end of the reporting period. The management of the municipality is satisfied that the impairment of financial assets recorded during the year is appropriate.

The calculation in respect of the impairment of service debtors (receivables from exchange and non-exchange transactions) is based on an assessment of the extent to which debtors have defaulted on payments already due, and an assessment of their ability to make payments based on their creditworthiness. This was performed per service-identifiable categories across all classes of debtors.

The calculation in respect of the impairment of fine receivables (receivables from non-exchange transactions) is based on an assessment of the past payment history of fines per category.

Valuation of financial assets at fair value

Where the fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the Statement of Financial Position cannot be derived from active markets, their fair value is determined using valuation techniques including the discounted cash flow model. The inputs to these models are taken from observable markets where possible, but where this is not feasible, judgment is required in establishing fair values. Judgment includes the consideration of inputs such as liquidity risk, credit risk and volatility. Changes in assumptions about these factors could affect

the reported fair value of financial instruments.

Assessment of control over land

Land is regarded under control of the municipality, where it holds legal ownership and/or the right to direct access to land, and to restrict or deny the access of others to land (substantive rights).

Land for which the municipality holds legal title, but is not recognised as under its control, include properties under the house selling schemes, or where a transfer/sales agreement has been entered into with a prospective buyer/transferee, that obtains the right control by means of a binding agreement, if specified that by that agreement that the right transfers before legal title transfers.

Land for which the municipality does not hold legal title or have custodian of land appointed in terms of legislation, but which is recognised as under the control of the municipality, are in instances where the municipality has existing infrastructure such as substations or waste water treatment works or permanent facilities, such as office buildings and community facilities, that it receives the sole economic and service potential from.

Review of useful lives of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets

The useful lives of assets are based on management's estimation. Management considers whether there is any indication that expectations about the residual value and the useful life of an asset have changed since the preceding reporting date. These include changes in the composition, condition and nature of the asset, its susceptibility and adaptability to changes in technology and processes, the nature of the processes and environment in which the asset is deployed availability of funding to replace the asset and changes in the market in relation to the asset, as well as planned repairs and maintenance including refurbishments.

Valuation of land and buildings and fair value estimations of investment property

Land and buildings were valued and the fair value of investment property determined, by reference to market-based evidence, using comparable prices adjusted for specific market factors such as nature, location and condition of the property.

Impairment of property, plant and equipment, intangible assets, heritage assets and inventory

The Accounting Policies on impairment of cash and non-cash generating assets as well as inventory describes the conditions under which non-financial assets are tested for potential impairment losses by the management of the municipality. Significant estimates and judgements are made relating to the impairment of property, plant and equipment, intangible assets and heritage assets and the write down of Inventories to the lowest of Cost and Net Realisable Values (NRV).

In making the above-mentioned estimates and judgement, management considers the subsequent measurement criteria and indicators of potential impairment losses as set out in GRAP 21: Impairment of Cash Generating Assets and GRAP 26: Impairment of non- cash generating assets.

Provisions and contingent liabilities

Management judgement is required when recognising and measuring provisions, and when measuring contingent liabilities. Provisions are measured at the management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the obligation at the reporting date, and are discounted to present value where the effect is material.

Assumptions were used in determining the provision for rehabilitation of landfill sites. Provision is made for the estimated cost to be incurred on the long-term environmental obligations, comprising expenditure on pollution control and closure over the estimated life of the landfill. The provision is based on the advice and judgment of qualified engineers. The estimates are discounted at a pre-tax discount rate that reflect current market assessments of the time value of money. The increase in the rehabilitation provision due to passage of time is recognised as finance cost in the Statement of financial performance.

Revenue recognition

The Accounting Policies on Revenue from Exchange Transactions and Revenue from Non-exchange Transactions describes the conditions under which revenue will be recorded by the management of the municipality. In making their judgement, the management considered the detailed criteria for the recognition of revenue as set out in GRAP 9: Revenue from Exchange Transactions and GRAP 23: Revenue from Non- exchange Transactions.

In particular, in regard to revenue from exchange revenue - when goods are sold, whether the management had transferred to the buyer the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods; and, when services are rendered, whether the service has been rendered.

Also of importance is the estimation process involved in initially measuring revenue at the fair value thereof. In regard to revenue from non-exchange transactions - significant estimations were made to the initial recognition and measurement of revenue on fines, on the estimated reductions on initial recognition and measurement.

Budget information

Management assumes variance between budget and actual amounts to be material when a variance of more than 10% exists. All material differences are explained in the notes to the audited annual financial statements.

Management also calculates and supplies some estimates to the calculation of:

- Water inventory;
- Bonus provision accrual;
- Performance bonus accrual;
- Staff leave accrual; and Prepaid electricity accrual.