

DIHLABENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



BUDGET POLICY

2018/2019



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1. PREAMBLE

In the spirit of the Municipal Finance Management Act, (No.56 of 2003) “ to modernize budget and financial management practices by placing local government finances on a sustainable footing in order to maximize the capacity of municipalities to deliver services to all residents customers, users and investors” and,

Whereas chapter 4 of the Municipal Finance Management Act, (No 56 of 2003) determines that a municipality may, except where otherwise provided in the Act, incur expenditure only in terms of an approved budget; and within the limits of the amounts appropriated for the different votes in an approved budget,

In terms of the Budget and Reporting Regulations the municipality has to adopt a policy which includes the following:

1. a policy dealing with the shifting of funds within votes
2. a policy dealing with the introduction of adjustment budgets
3. policies dealing with unforeseen and unavoidable expenditure
4. policies dealing with management and oversight

Therefore the Dihlabeng Local Municipality revised its Budget Policy to give effect to the Budget and Reporting Regulations as set out in this policy.

2. DEFINITIONS

"Accounting officer" means a person appointed in terms of section 82(l) (a) or (b) of the Municipal Structures Act;

"Allocation", means-

- (a) a municipality's share of the local government's equitable share referred to in section 214(l) (a) of the Constitution;
- (b) an allocation of money to a municipality in terms of section 214(1) (c) of the Constitution;
- (c) an allocation of money to a municipality in terms of a provincial budget; or
- (d) any other allocation of money to a municipality by an organ of state, including by another municipality, otherwise than in compliance with a commercial or other business transaction;

"Annual Division of Revenue Act" means the Act of Parliament, which must be enacted annually in terms of section 214 (1) of the Constitution;

"Approved budget," means an annual budget-

- (a) approved by a municipal council, or
- (b) includes such an annual budget as revised by an adjustments budget in terms of section 28 of the MFMA;

"Basic Municipal Service" means a municipal service that is necessary to ensure an acceptable and reasonable quality of life and which, if not provided, would endanger public health or safety or the environment;

"Budget-related Policy" means a policy of a municipality affecting or affected by the annual budget of the municipality, including-

- (a) the tariff policy, which the municipality must adopt in terms of section 74 of the Municipal Systems Act;
- (b) the rates policy which the municipality must adopt in terms of legislation regulating municipal property rates; or
- (c) the credit control and debt collection policy, which the municipality must adopt in terms of section 96 of the Municipal Systems Act;

"Budget transfer" means transfer of funding within a function / vote subject to limitations.

"Budget Year" means the financial year of the municipality for which an annual budget is to be approved in terms of section 16(1) of the MFMA;

"Chief Financial Officer" means a person designated in terms of section 80(2) (a) of the MFMA;

"councillor" means a member of a municipal council;

"current year" means the financial year, which has already commenced, but not yet ended;

"delegation", in relation to a duty, includes an instruction or request to perform or to assist in performing the duty;

"executive mayor" means the councillor elected as the executive mayor of the municipality in terms of section 55 of the Municipal Structures Act;

"financial recovery plan" means a plan prepared in terms of section 141 of the MFMA

"financial year" means a twelve months period commencing on 1 July and ending on 30 June each year

"financing agreement" includes any loan agreement, lease, and instalment purchase contract or hire purchase arrangement under which a municipality undertakes to repay a long-term debt over a period of time;

"fruitless and wasteful expenditure" means expenditure that was made in vain and would have been avoided had reasonable care been exercised;

"irregular expenditure", means-

- (a) expenditure incurred by a municipality or municipal entity in contravention of, or that is not in accordance with, a requirement of the MFMA , and which has not been condoned by Council (b)
- expenditure incurred by a municipality or municipal entity in contravention of, or that is not in accordance with, a requirement of the Municipal Systems Act, and which has not been condoned in terms of that Act;

- (b) expenditure incurred by a municipality in contravention of, or that is not in accordance with, a requirement of the Public Office-Bearers Act, 1998 (Act No. 20 of 1998); or
- (c) expenditure incurred by a municipality or municipal entity in contravention of, or that is not in accordance with, a requirement of the supply chain management policy of the municipality or entity or any of the municipality's by-laws giving effect to such policy, and which has not been condoned in terms of such policy or by-law, but excludes expenditure by a municipality which falls within the definition of "unauthorised expenditure";

"investment/s", in relation to funds of a municipality, means-

- (a) the placing on deposit of funds of a municipality with a financial institution; or
- (b) the acquisition of assets with funds of a municipality not immediately required, with the primary aim of preserving those funds;

"local community" has the meaning assigned to it in section 1 of the Municipal Systems Act;

"Municipal Structures Act" means the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, 1998 (Act No. 117 of 1998);

"Municipal Systems Act" means the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act No. 32 of 2000);

"long-term debt" means debt repayable over a period exceeding one year;

"municipal council" or "council" means the council of a municipality referred to in section 18 of the Municipal Structures Act;

"municipality"-

- (a) when referred to as a corporate body, means a municipality as described in section 2 of the Municipal Systems Act; or
- (b) when referred to as a geographic area, means a municipal area determined in terms of the Local Government: Municipal Demarcation Act, 1998 (Act No. 27 of 1998);

"municipal service" has the meaning assigned to it in section 1 of the Municipal Systems Act (refer to the MSA for definition);

"municipal tariff" means a tariff for services which a municipality may set for the provision of a service to the local community, and includes a surcharge on such tariff;

"National Treasury" means the National Treasury established by section 5 of the Public Finance Management Act;

"official", means-

- (a) an employee of a municipality or municipal entity;
- (b) a person seconded to a municipality or municipal entity to work as a member of the staff of the municipality or municipal entity; or
- (c) a person contracted by a municipality or municipal entity to work as a member of the staff of the municipality or municipal entity otherwise than as an employee;

"overspending"-

- (a) means causing the operational or capital expenditure incurred by the municipality during a financial year to exceed the total amount appropriated in that year's budget for its operational or capital expenditure, as the case may be;
- (b) in relation to a vote, means causing expenditure under the vote to exceed the amount appropriated for that vote; or
- (c) in relation to expenditure under section 26 of the MFMA, means causing expenditure under that section to exceed the limits allowed in subsection (5) of this section;

"quarter" means any of the following periods in a financial year:

- (a) 1 July to 30 September;
- (b) 1 October to 31 December;
- (c) 1 January to 31 March; or
- (d) 1 April to 30 June;

"service delivery and budget implementation plan" means a detailed plan approved by the executive mayor of a municipality in terms of section 53(l)(c)(ii) of the MFMA for implementing the municipality's delivery of municipal services and its annual budget, and which must indicate-

- (a) projections for each month of-
 - (i) revenue to be collected, by source; and
 - (ii) operational and capital expenditure, by vote;
- (b) service delivery targets and performance indicators for each quarter; and

- (c) any other matters that may be prescribed, and includes any revisions of such plan by the executive mayor in terms of section 54(l) (c) of the MFMA;

"unauthorised expenditure", means any expenditure incurred by a municipality otherwise than in accordance with section 15 or 11(3) of the MFMA, and includes-

- (a) overspending of the total amount appropriated in the municipality's approved budget;
- (b) overspending of the total amount appropriated for a vote in the approved budget;
- (c) expenditure from a vote unrelated to the department or functional area covered by the vote;
- (d) expenditure of money appropriated for a specific purpose, otherwise than for that specific purpose;
- (e) spending of an allocation referred to in paragraph (b), (c) or (d) of the definition of "allocation" otherwise than in accordance with any conditions of the allocation; or
- (f) a grant by the municipality otherwise than in accordance with the MFMA;

"virement" refer to the definition of budget transfer between functions/ votes

"vote" means-

- (a) 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
- (b) municipality; and
- (c) which specifies the total amount that is appropriated for the purposes of the department or functional area concerned.

3. OBJECTIVES OF POLICY

The objective of the budget policy is to:

- a) Set out the principles which the municipality will follow in preparing each medium term revenue and expenditure framework budget
- b) Outline the responsibilities of the Executive Mayor, the Accounting Officer, the Chief Financial Officer and other senior managers in compiling the budget
- c) Establish and maintain procedures to ensure adherence to Dhlabeng Local Municipality's Integrated Development Plan (IDP) review and budget processes
- d) Give effect to the requirements and stipulations of the Municipal Finance Management Act and Municipal Budget and Reporting Framework in terms of the planning, preparation and approval of the annual and adjustments budgets

The policy shall apply to all staff and councillors of the Dhlabeng Local Municipality that are involved in budget implementation.

4. BUDGET PREPARATION PROCESS

4.1 Budget Steering Committee

a) The mayor of a municipality must establish a budget steering committee to provide technical assistance to the mayor in discharging the responsibilities set out in section 53 of the Act.

b) The steering committee must consist of at least the following persons:

- I. the councilor responsible for financial matters;
- II. the municipal manager;
- III. the chief financial officer;
- IV. the senior managers responsible for at least the three largest votes in the municipality;
- V. the manager responsible for budgeting;
- VI. the manager responsible for planning; and
- VII. any technical experts on infrastructure.

4.2 Roles and responsibilities

4.2.1 Executive Mayor

a) As provided in Section 21(1) of the MFMA, the Mayor is responsible for:

- I. Co-ordinating the process for preparing the annual budget and for reviewing the Integrated Development Plan (“IDP”) and budget related-policies;
- II. Tabling in the council a time schedule outlining key deadlines.

b) In addition, as provided in Section 21(2) of the MFMA, for purposes of preparing the budget, the Mayor is required to:

- I. Take into account the Municipality's IDP;
- II. Take all reasonable steps to ensure that the Municipality revises the IDP;
- III. Take into account the national budget, the provincial budget, the national government's fiscal and macro-economic policy, the Annual Division of Revenue Act and any agreements reached in the budget forum;

- IV. Consult the relevant district municipality, if applicable, and local municipalities within the district, the provincial treasury, and when requested, the national treasury, and any national organs of state as may be prescribed;
- V. Provide on request information to the National Treasury and other organs of state and other municipalities affected by the budget.

c) Pursuant to Section 52 of the MFMA the mayor must:

- I. provide general political guidance over the fiscal and financial affairs of the municipality;
- II. in providing such general political guidance. may monitor and. to the extent provided in
- III. the MFMA, oversee the exercise of responsibilities assigned in terms of the MFMA to the accounting officer and the chief financial officer, but may not interfere in the exercise of those responsibilities;
- IV. must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the municipality performs its constitutional and statutory functions within the limits of the municipality's approved budget;
- V. must within 30 days of the end of each quarter. submit a report to the council on the implementation of the budget and the financial state of affairs of the municipality; and
- VI. must exercise the other powers and perform the other duties assigned to the mayor in terms of the MFMA or delegated by the council to the mayor.

d) As Required by Section 53 of the MFMA, the mayor must:

- I. provide general political guidance over the budget process and the priorities that must guide the preparation of a budget;
- II. co-ordinate the annual revision of the integrated development plan in terms of section 34 of the Municipal Systems Act and the preparation of the annual budget, and determine how the integrated development plan is to be taken into account or revised for the purposes of the budget; and
- III. take all reasonable steps to ensure that:
 - a. the municipality approves its annual budget before the start of the budget year;
 - b. the municipality's service delivery and budget implementation plan is approved by the mayor within 28 days after the approval of the budget; and

- c. the annual performance agreements as required in terms of section 57(1)(6) of the Municipal Systems Act, for the municipal manager and all senior managers comply with the MFMA and in particular, the provisions of Section 53(1)(c)(iii) of the MFMA;
- iv. promptly report to the municipal council and the MEC for finance in the province any delay in the tabling of an annual budget, the approval of the service delivery and budget implementation plan or the signing of the annual performance agreements referred to above; and
- v. ensure-
 - a. that the revenue and expenditure projections for each month and the service delivery targets and performance indicators for each quarter, as set out in the service delivery and budget implementation plan, are made public no later than 14 days after the approval of the service delivery and budget implementation plan: and
 - b. that the performance agreements of the municipal manager, senior managers and any other categories of officials as may be prescribed are made public no later than 14 days after the approval of the municipality's service delivery and budget implementation plan. Copies of such performance agreements must be submitted to the council and the MEC for local government in the province.

4.2.2 Accounting Officer

- a. The Accounting Officer shall provide technical and administrative support to the Executive Mayor in the preparation and approval of the annual and adjustment budgets, as well as the consultative process and the furnishing of information.
- b. The Accounting Officer shall ensure that all heads of departments provide the inputs required by the Chief Financial Officer for the purpose of preparing the budget.
- c. The Accounting Officer shall delegate to the Chief Financial Officer all such powers as may be necessary for the Chief Financial Officer to prepare the budgets.

4.2.3 Chief Financial Officer

- a. The Chief Financial Officer shall provide technical and administrative support to the Executive

Mayor in the preparation and approval of the annual and adjustment budgets, as well as the consultative process and the furnishing of information.

- b. The Chief Financial Officer shall be responsible for preparing the budgets, as delegated by the Accounting Officer.
- c. The Chief Financial Officer shall ensure that the annual and adjustments budgets comply with the requirements of the National Treasury, reflect the budget priorities determine by the mayor, are aligned with the IDP, and comply with all budget-related policies, and shall make recommendations to the mayor on the revision of the IDP and the budget-related policies where these are indicated.

4.2.4 Managers

- a. Managers shall provide technical and administrative support to the Executive Mayor in the preparation and approval of the annual and adjustment budgets, as well as the consultative process and the furnishing of information.

4.3 Public participation process

- a) Immediately after the draft resolutions of the annual budget is tabled in a municipal council, the Accounting Officer of the municipality must— in accordance with Chapter 4 of the Municipal Systems Act-
 - I. make public the annual budget and the documents referred to in section 17(3); and
 - II. invite the local community to submit representations in connection with the budget; and
 - III. submit the annual budget—(draft budget)
 - IV. in both printed and electronic formats to the National Treasury and the relevant provincial treasury as prescribed by National Treasury ; and
 - V. in either format to any prescribed national or provincial organs of state and to other municipalities affected by the budget.
- b) When the annual budget has been tabled, the municipal council must consider any views of-
 - I. the local community; and
 - II. the National Treasury, the relevant provincial treasury and any provincial or national organs of state or municipalities which made submissions on the budget.

c) The Municipal Manager must also make public any information that the municipal council considers appropriate to facilitate the budget consultation process, including:

- i. Summaries of the annual budget and supporting documents in alternate language predominant in the community; and
- ii. Information relevant to each ward in the municipality
- iii. All the information contemplated in sub-regulation (c) must cover
- iv. The relevant financial and service delivery implications of the annual budget; and
- v. At least the previous year's actual outcome, the current year's forecast outcome, the budget year, and the following two years.

d) When submitting the annual budget to the National Treasury and the relevant provincial treasury, the municipal manager must also submit to National Treasury and the relevant provincial treasury, both in printed and electronic form –

- I. The supporting budget documentation as tabled in the municipal council;
- II. The draft Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP); and
- III. Any other information as may be required by National Treasury.

e) The Municipal Manager must send copies of the annual budget and supporting documentation as tabled in the municipal council, in both printed and electronic form to:

- I. Any other municipality affected by the annual budget within ten working days of the annual budget being tabled in the municipal council; and
- II. Any organ of state on receipt of a request from the organ of state.

a) After considering all budget submissions, the council must give the Executive Mayor an opportunity-

- I. to respond to the submissions; and
- II. if necessary, to revise the budget and table amendments for consideration by the council.

g) Within consideration of the approval of the Annual Budget and thirty (30) days before the start of the budget year the Executive Mayor must table the following documents in the Council in consideration of the annual budget approval

- I. A report summarizing the local community's views on the annual budget;

- II. Any comments on the annual budget received from National Treasury and Provincial Treasury;
 - III. Any comments on the annual budget received from any organ of state, including any affected municipality; and
 - IV. Any comments on the annual budget received from any other stakeholders.
- h) All managers are obliged to attend all public participation meetings. In the event that managers are unable to attend, a representative of the department must be present and be able to answer questions posed by the community.

4.4 Approval of the budget

- (a) Council shall consider the medium term revenue and expenditure framework budget (MTREF) for approval not later than 31 May (30 days before the start of the budget year).
- (b) The council resolution must contain budget policies and the performance measures to be adopted.
- (c) The council must consider the full implications, financial or otherwise, of the annual budget and supporting documentation before approving the annual budget.
- (d) When approving the annual budget, the council must consider and adopt separate resolutions dealing with each of the matters contemplated.
- (e) Should the municipality fail to approve the budget before the start of the budget year, the executive mayor must inform the MEC for Finance that the budget has not been approved.
- (f) The budget tabled to Council for approval shall include the following supporting documents:
 - I. draft resolutions approving the budget and levying property rates, other taxes and
 - II. tariffs for the financial year concerned;
 - III. measurable performance objectives for each budget vote, taking into account the
 - IV. municipality's IDP;
 - V. the projected cash flows for the financial year by revenue sources and expenditure
 - VI. votes;
 - VII. any proposed amendments to the IDP;

- VIII. any proposed amendments to the budget-related policies;
- IX. particulars of any proposed allocations or grants to other municipalities, municipal
- X. entities, external mechanisms assisting the municipality in service delivery, other
- XI. organs of state, and organizations such as non- governmental organizations,
- XII. welfare institutions and so on;
- XIII. particulars of the municipality's investments;
- XIV. particulars of any proposed service delivery agreements, including material
- XV. amendments to existing service delivery agreements;
- XVI. the proposed cost to the municipality for the budget year of the salary, allowances
- XVII. and benefits of-

- (i) each political office-bearer of the municipality;
- (ii) councillors of the municipality; and
- (iii) the municipal manager, the chief financial officer, each senior manager of the municipality and any other official of the municipality having a remuneration package greater than or equal to that of a senior manager;

4.5 Publication of the Budget

- (a) Council shall consider the medium term revenue and expenditure framework budget (MTREF) for approval not later than 31 May (30 days before the start of the budget year).
- (b) The council resolution must contain budget policies and the performance measures to be adopted.
- (c) The council must consider the full implications, financial or otherwise, of the annual budget and supporting documentation before approving the annual budget.

4.6 Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP)

- a) The Executive Mayor must approve the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan not later than 28 days after the approval of the Budget by Council, and within ten days (10) after the Executive Mayor has approved the Plan it has to be made public.
- b) The SDBIP shall include the following components:

- I. Projections for each month of Revenue to be collected, by source, and Operational and capital expenditure, by vote;
- II. Service delivery targets and performance indicators for each quarter;
- III. Monthly projections of revenue to be collected for each source;
- IV. Monthly projections of expenditure (operating and capital) and revenue for each vote;
- V. Quarterly projections of service delivery targets and performance indicators for each vote;
- VI. Information for expenditure and delivery; and
- VII. Detailed capital works plan.

5. BUDGET PRINCIPLES

- a) The municipality shall ensure that revenue projections in the budget are realistic taking into account actual collection levels. The expenses may only be incurred in terms of the approved annual budget (or adjustments budget) and within the limits of the amounts appropriated for each vote in the approved budget.
- b) Dihlabeng Local Municipality shall prepare a three-year budget (medium term revenue and expenditure framework (MTREF)) which will be reviewed annually and will be approved by Council. The MTREF budget will at all times be within the framework of the Municipal Integrated Development Plan (IDP).
- c) The annual budget will consist of a Capital and Operating Budget which will be discussed below:

5.1 Capital Budgets

- a) The capital budget refers to the allocations made to specific infrastructural projects and the purchase of equipment and other forms of assets having a lifespan of more than one year.

5.1.1 Basis of Calculation

- a) The zero based method is used in preparing the annual capital budget, except in cases where a contractual commitment has been made that would span over more than one financial year.
- b) The annual capital budget shall be based on realistically anticipated revenue (capital loans to be taken up will be deemed to be part of this), which should be equal to the anticipated capital expenditure in order to result in a balanced budget.
- c) The impact of the capital budget on the current and future operating budgets in terms of finance charges to be incurred on external loans, depreciation of fixed assets, maintenance of fixed assets and any other operating expenditure to be incurred resulting directly from the capital expenditure, should be carefully analysed when the annual capital budget is being compiled and before approved by Council.

- d) In addition, the council shall consider the likely impact of such operational expenses- net of any revenues expected to be generated by such item- on future property rates and service tariffs.
- e) Before approving a capital project, the Council must consider:
 - (i) the projected cost of the project over all the ensuing financial years until the project becomes operational;
 - (ii) future operational costs and any revenues, which may arise in respect of such project, including the likely future impact on operating budget (i.e. on property rates and service tariffs).

5.1.2 Financing of Capital Projects

- a) Council shall approve the annual or adjustment capital budget only if it has been properly balanced and fully funded.
- b) The capital expenditure shall be funded from the following sources:

1. Own Financing Sources

The Council shall establish a Capital Replacement Reserve (CRR) for the purpose of financing capital projects and the acquisition of capital assets. Such reserve shall be established from the following:

- a) unappropriated cash-backed surpluses to the extent that such surpluses are not required for operational purposes;
- b) further amounts appropriated as contributions in each annual or adjustments budget;
and
- c) net gains on the sale of fixed assets in terms of the asset management and accounting policy.

2. Other Finance Sources

The capital budget shall be financed from external sources such as the following:

- a) Grants and subsidies as allocated in the annual Division of Revenue of Act;
- b) Grants and subsidies as allocated by Provincial Government;

- c) External Loans;
- d) Private Contributions; and
- e) Any other financing source secured by the local authority.

5.1.3 Implementation

- a) After the budget has been approved, the service delivery and budget implementation plan (SDBIP) should be compiled.
- b) The SDBIP must be tabled to the Mayor within 28 days after aforementioned approval.
- c) Each director has to indicate the intended spending patterns of both their capital and operating budgets. (Cash flows)
- d) These listed cash flows are consolidated into the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan of the organisation.
- e) The SDBIP will be monitored on a monthly basis where actual spending will be compared with the planned spending as indicated by the directors at the beginning of the year.
- f) Each directorate can use their respective vote numbers as indicated on the capital budget

5.2 Operational Budget

The operational budget refers to the funds that would be raised in the delivery of basic services, grants & subsidies and any other municipal services rendered. These funds are in turn used to cover the expenses incurred in the day to day running of the organization.

5.2.1 Basis of Calculation

- a) A zero based approach is used in preparing the annual operating budget.
- b) The annual operating budget shall be based on realistically anticipated revenue.
- c) An income based approach shall be used whereby realistically anticipated income is determined first and the level of operating expenditure would be based on the determined income flows.

5.2.2 Financing

The operating budget shall be financed from the following sources:

a) Service Charges

- (i) Electricity Charges
- (ii) Water Sales
- (iii) Refuse Removal Fees
- (iv) Sewerage Fees

Increases in tariffs should be cost reflective.

b) Property rates

Increases in rates will as far as possible be limited to inflation.

c) Grants & Subsidies

Grants and subsidies shall be based on all the gazetted grants and subsidies plus all other subsidies received by the organization.

d) Interest on Investments

The budget for interest and investment shall be in accordance with the Cash Management and Investment policy of the organization.

e) Rental Fees

Income from rental property will be budgeted for based on the percentage growth rate as determined by Financial Services for a particular budget year.

f) Fines

Income from fines will be budgeted for based on the actual income received in the preceding year (calculated on the basis of actual receipts until end of February of each year, extrapolated over 12 months) and the percentage growth rate as determined by Financial Services for a particular budget year.

g) Other Income

All other income items will be budgeted for based on the actual income received in the preceding year (calculated on the basis of actual receipts until end of February of each year, extrapolated over 12 months) and the percentage growth rate as determined by Financial Services for a particular budget year.

5.2.3 Implementation

- a) After the budget has been approved, the service delivery and budget implementation plan (SDBIP) is compiled.
- b) The SDBIP must be tabled to the Mayor within 28 days after aforementioned approval.
- c) Each director has to indicate the intended spending patterns of both their capital and operating budgets. (Cash flows)
- d) These listed cash flows are consolidated into the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan of the organisation.
- e) The SDBIP will be monitored on a monthly basis where actual spending will be compared with the planned spending as indicated by the directors at the beginning of the year.
- f) Each directorate can use their respective vote numbers as indicated on the capital budget.

5.3 Contents of the Budget

- a) The budget must comply with the provisions of Section 17(1) of the MFMA, and in particular:
 - i. The budget must be in the format prescribed by the regulations;
 - ii. The budget must reflect the realistically expected revenues by major source for the budget year concerned;
 - iii. The expenses reflected in the budget must be divided into the votes of the various departments of the municipality;

iv. The budget must also contain:

1. the foregoing information for the two years immediately succeeding the financial year to which the budget relates;
2. the actual revenues and expenses for the previous financial year , and
3. the estimated revenues and expenses for the current year.

- b) The budget must be accompanied by all of the documents referred to in Section 17(3) of the MFMA.
- c) For the purposes of Section 17(3) (k) of the MFMA, the salary, allowances and benefits of each group referred to therein must be stated individually.

5.4 Components of the Budget

- a) The annual budget and adjustments budget shall, as required by Section 17(2) of the MFMA consist of:
- I. the capital component, and
 - II. the operating component.
- b) The operating component shall duly reflect the impact of the capital component on:
- I. Compensation of employees & Remuneration of Councilors
 - II. Bulk Service Expenses
 - III. Depreciation charges;
 - IV. Repairs and maintenance expenses;
 - V. Interest payable on external borrowings; and
 - VI. Other operating expenses.
- c) Before approving the capital budget component of the annual or adjustments budget, the council shall consider the impact of the capital component on the present and future operating budgets of the municipality in relation to the items referred to:
- I. The projected cost covering all financial years until the project is operational;
 - II. The future operational costs and revenue on the project, including municipal tax and tariff implications.

III. All capital projects have an effect on future operating budgets. The following cost factors must therefore be considered before approval:

- 1) Additional personnel cost to staff new facilities once operational;
- 2) Additional contracted services, such as security, cleaning etc.
- 3) Additional general expenditure, such as services cost, stationery, telephones, material etc.
- 4) Additional other capital requirements to operate the facility, such as vehicles, plant and equipment, furniture and office equipment etc.
- 5) Additional costs to maintain the assets;
- 6) Additional interest and redemption in the case of borrowings;
- 7) Additional depreciation charges;
- 8) Additional revenue generation. The impact of expenditure items must be offset by additional revenue generated to determine the real impact on tariffs.

6. ADJUSTMENTS BUDGETS

- (a) Each adjustments budget shall reflect realistic excess, however nominal, of current revenues over expenses.
- (b) The chief financial officer shall ensure that the adjustments budgets comply with the requirements of the National Treasury, reflect the budget priorities determined by the executive mayor, are aligned with the IDP, and comply with all budget-related policies, and shall make recommendations to the executive mayor on the revision of the IDP and the budget-related policies where these are indicated.
- (c) Council may revise its annual budget by means of an adjustments budget as regulated.
- (d) The Accounting Officer must promptly adjust its budgeted revenues and expenses if a material under-collection of revenues arises or is apparent.
- (e) The Accounting Officer shall appropriate additional revenues, which have become available but only to revise or accelerate spending programmes already budgeted for or any areas of critical importance identified by Council in compliance with Item 2 of Section 10.

- (f) The Council shall in such adjustments budget, and within the prescribed framework, confirm unforeseen and unavoidable expenses on the recommendation of the Executive Mayor.
- (g) Only the Executive mayor shall table an adjustment budget. Adjustments budget shall be done once as part of the mid-year budget performance assessment.
- (h) An adjustments budget must contain all of the following:
 - I. an explanation of how the adjustments affect the approved annual budget
 - II. appropriate motivations for material adjustments; and
 - III. an explanation of the impact of any increased spending on the current and future annual budgets.
- (i) Any unappropriated surplus from previous financial years, even if fully cash-backed, may not be used to balance any adjustments budget, but may be appropriated to the municipality's capital replacement reserve.
- (j) Municipal taxes and tariffs may not be increased during a financial year except if required in terms of a financial recovery plan and or per National Treasury Regulations.
- (k) Unauthorised expenses may be authorised in an adjustments budget.

6.1 Formats of adjustments budgets

- (a) An adjustment budget and supporting documentation of a municipality must be in the format specified by National Treasury and include all the required tables, charts and explanatory information, taking into account any guidelines issued by the Minister in terms of section 168(1) of the Act.

6.2 Funding of the adjustments budgets

- (a) An adjustments budget of a municipality must be appropriately funded.
- (b) The supporting documentation to accompany an adjustments budget in terms of section 28(5) of the Act must contain an explanation of how the adjustments budget is funded.

6.3 Timeframes for tabling of adjustments budgets

- (a) An adjustments budget referred to in section 28(2)(b), (d) and (f) of the Act may be tabled in the municipal council at any time during the mid-year budget and performance assessment has been tabled in the council, but not later than 28 February of the current year.
- (b) Only one adjustments budget referred to in subregulation (1) may be tabled in the municipal council during a financial year, except when the additional revenues contemplated in section 28(2)(b) of the Act are allocations to a municipality in a national or provincial adjustments budget, in which case subregulation (3) applies.
- (c) If a national or provincial adjustments budget allocates or transfers additional revenues to a municipality, the mayor of the municipality must, at the next available council meeting, but within 60 days of the approval of the relevant national or provincial adjustments budget, table an adjustments budget referred to in section 28(2)(b) of the Act in the municipal council to appropriate these additional revenues.
- (d) An adjustments budget referred to in section 28(2)(c) of the Act must be tabled in the municipal council at the first available opportunity after the unforeseeable and unavoidable expenditure contemplated in that section was incurred within the period set in section 29(3) of the Act.
- (e) An adjustments budget referred to in section 28(2)(e) of the Act may only be tabled after the end of the financial year to which the roll-overs relate, and must be approved by the municipal council by 25 August of the financial year following the financial year to which the roll-overs relate.
- (f) An adjustments budget contemplated in section 28(2)(G) of the Act may only authorise unauthorised expenditure as anticipated by section 32(2)(a)(i) of the Act, and must be –
- (g) dealt with as part of the adjustments budget contemplated in subregulation (1); and
- (h) a special adjustments budget tabled in the municipal council when the mayor tables the annual report in terms of section 127(2) of the Act, which may only deal with unauthorised expenditure from the previous financial year which the council is being requested to authorise in terms of section 32(2)(a)(i) of the Act.

6.4 Submission of tabled adjustments budgets

- (a) The municipal manager must comply with section 28(7) of the Act, read together with section 22(b)(i) of the Act, within ten working days after the mayor has tabled an adjustments budget in the municipal council.

- (b) When submitting the tabled adjustments budget to the National Treasury and the relevant provincial treasury in terms of section 28(7) of the Act, read together with section 22(b)(i) of the Act, the municipal manager must submit in both printed and electronic form
 - i. the supporting documentation referred to in section 28(5) of the Act within ten working days of the adjustments budget being tabled in the municipal council; and
 - ii. any other information as may be required by National Treasury.

- (b) The municipal manager must send copies of an adjustments budget and supporting documentation, in both printed and electronic form to –
 - I. any other municipality affected by that adjustments budget within ten working days of the adjustments budget being tabled in the municipal council; and
 - II. any other organ of state on receipt of a request from that organ of state.

6.5 Approval of adjustment budget

- (i) A municipal council must consider the full implications, financial or otherwise, of the adjustments budget and supporting documentation referred to in section (1) (a) before approving the adjustments budget.

- (j) When approving the adjustment budget, a municipal council must consider and adopt separate resolutions dealing with each of the matters listed in item 4 of Schedule B.

6.6 Publications of approved adjustment budget

- (a) Within ten 10 working days after the municipal council has approved an adjustment budget, the municipal manager must in accordance with section 21A of the Municipal Systems Act make public the approved adjustments budget and supporting documentation, as well as the resolutions referred to in section 5 (a).

- (b) When making public an adjustment budget and supporting documentation, the municipal Manager must make public awareness of the adjustment budget, including –
- (c) Summaries of the adjustment budget and supporting documentation in alternate languages predominant in the community;
- (d) Information relevant to each ward in the municipality, if that ward is affected by the adjustments budget; and
- (e) Any consequential amendment of the service delivery and budget implementation plan that is necessitated by the adjustments budget.

6.7 Submission of approved adjustments budget and other documents

- (a) The municipal Manger must comply with section 28(7) of the Act read together with section 24(3) of the Act within ten working days after the municipal council has approved and adjustments budget.
- b) When submitting an adjustments budget to National Treasury and other relevant provincial treasury in terms of section 28(7) of the Act read together with section 24(3) of the Act, the municipal manager must also submit to National Treasury and the relevant provincial treasury, I both printed and electronic form –
 - i. The supporting documentation within ten working days after the municipal council has approved the adjustments budget;
 - ii. The amended service delivery and budget implementation plan, within ten working days after the council has approved the amended plan in terms of the section 54(1)(c) of the Act; and
 - iii. Any other information as may be required by the National Treasury.
- (c) The municipal manager must send copies of an adjustments budget and supporting documentation, in both electronic and printed form to –
 - i. Any other municipality affected by that adjustments budget within ten (10) working days of the adjustments budget being tabled in the municipal council; and
 - ii. Any other organ of state on receipt of a request from that organ of state.

7. UNSPENT FUNDS/ ROLL OVER OF BUDGET

- (a) The appropriation of funds in an annual or adjustments budget will lapse to the extent that they are unspent by the end of the relevant budget year, but except for funds relating to capital expenditure.
- (b) Only unspent grant (if the conditions for such grant funding allows that) or loan funded capital budget may be rolled over to the next budget year.
- (c) Conditions of the grant fund shall be taken into account in applying for such roll over of funds.
- (d) Application for roll over of funds shall be forwarded to the budget office by the 15th of April each year to be included in next year's budget for adoption by Council in May.
- (e) Adjustments to the rolled over budget shall be done during the 1st budget adjustment in the new financial year after taking into account expenditure up to the end of the previous financial year.
- (f) No funding for projects funded from the Capital Replacement Reserve shall be rolled over to the next budget year except in cases where a commitment has been made 90 days (30 March each year) prior the end of that particular financial year.
- (g) No unspent operating budget shall be rolled over to the next budget year

8. BUDGET TRANSFERS AND VIREMENTS

- a) Budget transfers within the same vote shall be requested by the Director/ Manager, recommended by the Budget Manager and approved by the Chief Financial Officer.
- b) Budget transfers within different votes shall be requested by the Director, recommended by the Chief Financial Officer and approved by the Municipal Manager.
- c) No budget transfers or virements shall be made to or from salaries except with the prior approval of the Chief Financial Officer in consultation with the Director Corporate Services.
- d) Savings on allocations earmarked for specific operating and capital projects may not be used for other purposes except with the approval of council.
- e) Directors may utilize a saving in the amount appropriated under a main expenditure category (e.g. Operational Costs, Inventories, Contracted Services, etc.) within a vote which is under their control towards the defrayment of excess expenditure under another main expenditure category within the same vote, with the approval of the Chief Financial Officer.
- f) The amount of a saving under a main expenditure category of a vote that may be transferred to another main expenditure category may not exceed ten per cent of the amount appropriated under that main expenditure category.

- g) Savings in an amount appropriated for capital expenditure may not be used to defray operational expenditure.
- h) Virements between votes shall be included in the adjustment budget.
- i) Virements will not result in adding 'new' projects to the Capital Budget.
- j) Virements of conditional grant funds to purposes outside of that specified in the relevant conditional grant framework will not be permitted.

9. BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION

9.1 Monitoring (Section 71 of MFMA)

- (h) The Accounting Officer with the assistance of the Chief Financial Officer and other senior managers is responsible for the implementation of the budget, and must take all reasonable steps to ensure that:
 - I. funds are spent in accordance with the budget;
 - II. expenses are reduced if expected revenues are less than projected; and
 - III. revenues and expenses are properly monitored.

9.2 Reporting

9.2.1 Monthly budget statements (Section 71 of the MFMA)

- (i) Accounting Officer with the assistance of the Chief Financial Officer must, not later than ten working days after the end of each calendar month, submit to the Executive Mayor and Provincial and National Treasury a report in the prescribed format on the state of the municipality's budget for such calendar month, as well as on the state of the budget cumulatively for the financial year to date.
- (j) This report must reflect the following:
 - i. actual revenues per source, compared with budgeted revenues;
 - ii. actual expenses per vote, compared with budgeted expenses;

- iii. actual capital expenditure per vote, compared with budgeted expenses;
- iv. actual borrowings, compared with the borrowings envisaged to fund the capital budget;
- v. the amount of allocations received, compared with the budgeted amount;
- vi. actual expenses against allocations, but excluding expenses in respect of the equitable share;
- vii. explanations of any material variances between the actual revenues and expenses as indicated above and the projected revenues by source and expenses by vote as set out in the service delivery and budget implementation plan;
- viii. the remedial or corrective steps to be taken to ensure that the relevant projections remain within the approved or revised budget; and
- ix. projections of the revenues and expenses for the remainder of the financial year, together with an indication of how and where the original projections have been revised.

9.2.2 Quarterly Reports (Section 52 of MFMA)

- (a) The Executive Mayor must submit to Council within thirty days of the end of each quarter a report on the implementation of the budget and the financial state of affairs of the municipality. The report submitted to National and Provincial Treasury must be both in electronic format and in a signed written document.

9.2.3 Mid-year budget and performance assessment (Section 72 and 88 of MFMA)

- (a) The Accounting Officer must assess the budgetary performance of the municipality for the first half of the financial year, taking into account all the monthly budget reports for the first six months, the service delivery performance of the municipality as against the service delivery targets and performance indicators which were set in the service delivery and budget implementation plan.
- (b) The Accounting officer must then submit a report on such assessment to the Executive Mayor by 25 January each year and to Council, Provincial Treasury and National Treasury by 31 January each year.
- (c) The Accounting Officer may in such report make recommendations after considering the recommendation of the Chief Financial Officer for adjusting the annual budget and for revising the projections of revenues and expenses set out in the service delivery and budget implementation plan.

