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LIMPOPO PROVINSIE  
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Gazethe dza Nyingo**

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## LOCAL AUTHORITY NOTICES

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### LOCAL AUTHORITY NOTICE 223

<b>LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION SERVICES BY-LAWS</b>
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The Municipal Manager of Lephalale Local Municipality hereby in terms of section 13(a) of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000) publishes Water Supply and Sanitation Services By-Law for the Municipality as approved by its Council, as set out hereunder

Under the provisions of sections 3(1) and 21 of the Water Services Act, 1997 (Act 108 of 1997), and sections 27(1)(b), 152(1)(b) and 156 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act 108 of 1996), the Lephalale Local Municipality, enacts as follows:-

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#### **1. Definitions**

- (1) In this By-law, unless the context otherwise indicates –



**“accommodation unit”** in relation to any premises, means a building or section of a building occupied or used or intended for occupation or use for any purpose;

**“Act”** means the Water Services Act, 1997 (Act 108 of 1997);

**“approved”** means approved by the Municipality in writing;

**“area of supply”** means any area within or partly within the area of jurisdiction of the Municipality to which water services are provided;

**“authorized agent”** means –

- (a) any person authorized by the Municipality to perform any act, function or duty in terms of, or exercise any power under these By-laws;
- (b) any person to whom the Municipality has transferred the performance of certain rights, duties and obligations in respect of providing water services; or
- (c) any person appointed by the Municipality in terms of a written contract as a service provider to provide water services to consumers on its behalf, to the extent authorized in such contract;

**“authorized officer”** has the meaning assigned to the word “officer” in section 1 of the Customer Care and Revenue Management By-law;

**“average consumption”** means the average water consumption of a consumer of a municipal service during a specific period, which consumption is calculated by dividing the total measured consumption of that municipal service during the specific period by the specific period of consumption;

**“best practicable environmental option”** means the option that provides the most benefit or causes the least damage to the environment as a whole, at a cost acceptable to society, in the long term as well as in the short term;

**“borehole”** means a hole sunk into the earth for the purpose of locating, abstracting or using subterranean water and includes a spring;

**“Building Regulations”** means the National Building Regulations made under the National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act, 1977 (Act 103 of 1977);

**“charges”** means the rate, charge, tariff, flat rate or subsidy determined by the Municipality;

“**cleaning eye**” means any access opening to the interior of a discharge pipe or trap provided for the purposes of internal cleaning;

“**combined installation**” means a water installation used for fire-fighting and domestic, commercial or industrial purposes;

“**commercial consumer**” means any consumer other than a domestic consumer and indigent consumer, including, without limitation, business, industrial, governmental and institutional consumers;

“**communal water services work**” means a consumer connection through which services are supplied to more than one person;

“**connecting point**” means the point at which the drainage installation joins the connecting sewer;

“**connecting sewer**” means a pipe owned by the Municipality and installed by it for the purpose of conveying sewage from a drainage installation on a premises to a sewer beyond the boundary of those premises or within a servitude area or within an area covered by a way-leave or by agreement;

“**connection**” means the point at which a consumer gains access to water services;

“**connection pipe**” means a pipe, the ownership of which is vested in the Municipality and installed by it for the purpose of conveying water from a main to a water I installation, and includes a “communication pipe” referred to in SABS 0252 Part I;

“**conservancy tank**” means a covered tank used for the reception and temporary retention of sewage and which requires emptying at intervals;

“**consumer**” means a person with whom the Municipality has concluded a services agreement for the provision of a municipal service as provided for in the Customer Care and Revenue Management By-laws;

“**Council**” means the council of the Lephalale Local Municipality;

“**delivery system**” means a water delivery mechanism, which delivers a predetermined quantity of water to a consumer on agreed terms;

“**determined**” means determined by the Municipality by resolution and published in the Provincial Gazette;

“**domestic consumer**” means a consumer using water for domestic purposes and producing domestic sewage;

“**domestic purposes**” in relation to the supply of water means water supplied for drinking, ablution and culinary purposes to premises used predominantly for residential purposes;

"**drain**" means that portion of the drainage installation that conveys sewage within any premises;

"**drainage installation**" means a system situated on any premises and vested in the owner thereof and which is used for or intended to be used for or in connection with the reception, storage, treatment or conveyance of sewage on that premises to the connecting point and includes drains, fittings, appliances, septic tanks, conservancy tanks, pit latrines and private pumping installations forming part of or ancillary to such systems;

"**drainage work**" includes any drain, sanitary fitting, water supplying apparatus, waste or other pipe or any work connected with the discharge of liquid or solid matter into any drain or sewer or otherwise connected with the drainage of any premises;

"**duly qualified sampler**" means a person who is authorized to take samples for analysis from the sewage disposal system, and stormwater disposal system, from public waters, bulk water supply sources, water treatment works, water reticulation systems and natural water sources and who has been certified to do so by an authorized agent;

“**DWAF**” means the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry;

“**dwelling unit**” means an interconnected suite of rooms, including a kitchen or scullery, designed for occupation by a single family, irrespective of whether the dwelling unit is a single building or forms part of a building containing two or more dwelling units;

“**effluent**” means any liquid whether or not containing matter in solution or suspension;

“**emergency**” means any situation that poses a risk or potential risk to life, health, the environment or property;

"**environmental cost**" means the cost of all measures necessary to restore the environment to its condition prior to the damaging incident;

“**estimated consumption**” means the deemed consumption by a consumer whose consumption is not measured during a specific period, which estimated consumption is rationally determined taking into account at least the consumption of water supply services for a specific level of service during a specific period in the area of supply of the Municipality;

**"fire installation"** means a potable water installation that conveys water for fire-fighting purposes only, and "fire hydrant" has a similar meaning;

**"fixed charge"** means the average fixed cost per consumer associated with providing water services in a continuous, effective and efficient manner;

**"fixed quantity water delivery system"** means a water installation, which delivers a fixed quantity of water to a consumer in any single day;

**"french drain"** means a soil soak pit for the disposal of sewage and effluent from a septic tank;

**"high strength sewage"** means industrial sewage with a strength or quality greater than standard domestic effluent in respect of which a specific charge 14 may be charged;

**"household"** means a traditional family unit, as determined by the Municipality from time to time taking into account the number of persons comprising a household, the relationship between the members of a household, the age of the persons who are members of the household and any other relevant factor;

**"illegal connection"** means a connection to any system through which water services are provided that is not authorized or approved by the Municipality;

**"industrial effluent"** means effluent emanating from the use of water for industrial purposes and includes for purposes of these By-laws any effluent other than standard domestic effluent or stormwater;

**"industrial purposes"** in relation to the supply of water means water supplied to any premises which constitutes a factory as defined in the General Administrative Regulations, published in terms of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993);

**"installation work"** means any work done in respect of a water services installation, including the construction, rehabilitation, improvement and maintenance thereof;

**"JASWIC"** means the Joint Acceptance Scheme for Water Installation Components;

**"manhole"** means any access chamber to the interior of the sewer provided for the purpose of maintenance and internal cleaning;

**"main "** means a pipe, other than a connection pipe, of which the ownership vests in the Municipality and which is used by it for the purpose of conveying water to consumers;

**“measuring device”** means any method, procedure, process, device, apparatus or installation that enables the quantity of water services provided to be quantified and includes any method, procedure or process whereby the quantity is estimated or assumed;

**“meter”** means a water meter as defined by the Regulations published in terms of the Trade Metrology Act, 1973 (Act 77 of 1973) or, in the case of water meters of sizes greater than 100 mm, a device which measures the quantity of water passing through it, including a pre-paid water meter;

**“municipal account”** has the meaning assigned to it in section 1 of the Customer Care and Revenue Management By-law;

**“municipality”** means the Municipality of Lephalale Local Municipality, and includes any political structure, political office bearer, municipality or, duly authorised agent thereof or any employee thereof acting in connection with this by-law by virtue of a power vested in the municipality and delegated or sub-delegated to such political structure, political office bearer, municipality or, agent or employee;

**“municipal manager”** means the person appointed as the municipal manager of the Municipality by the Municipality in terms of section 82 of the Local Government Municipal Structures Act, 1998 (Act 117 of 1998), and includes any person –

- (a) acting in such position; and
- (b) to whom the municipal manager has transferred a power, function or duty in respect of such a power, function or duty;

**“municipal services”** has the meaning assigned to it in section 1 of the Customer Care and Revenue Management By-law;

**“occupier”** has the meaning assigned to it in section 1 of the Customer Care and Revenue Management By-law;

**“on-site sanitation services”** means any sanitation services other than water borne sewerage disposal through a sewerage disposal system;

**“owner”** has the meaning assigned to it in the Customer Care and Revenue Management By-law;

**“person”** means any person, whether natural or juristic and includes, but is not limited to a local government body, a company or close corporation incorporated under any law, a body of persons whether incorporated or not, a statutory body, public utility body, voluntary association or trust;

**"plumber"** means a person who has passed a qualifying trade test in plumbing or has been issued with a certificate of proficiency in terms of the Manpower Training Act, 1981 (Act 56 of 1981), or such other qualification as may be required under national legislation;

**"pollution"** means the introduction of any substance into the water supply system, a water installation or a water resource that may make the water harmful to health or the environment or impair its quality for the use for which it is normally intended;

**"premises"** has the meaning assigned to it in section 1 of the Customer Care and Revenue Management By-law and includes a register held by a tribal authority or in accordance with a sworn affidavit made by a tribal authority;

**"prescribed charge"** means a charge prescribed by the Municipality;

**"professional Engineer"** means a person registered in terms of the Engineering Profession Act, 2000 (Act 46 of 2000), as a professional engineer;

**"public notice"** means publication in appropriate media that may include one or more of the following:

- (a) publication of a notice, in the official languages determined by the Municipality –
  - (i) in any local newspaper or newspapers circulating in the area of supply of the Municipality;
  - (ii) in the newspaper or newspapers circulating in the area of supply of the Municipality determined by the Municipality as a newspaper of record;
  - (iii) by means of radio broadcasts covering the area of supply of the Municipality; or
- (b) displaying a notice at appropriate offices and pay-points of the Municipality; or
- (c) communication with consumers at public meetings and ward committee meetings;

**"public water"** means any river, watercourse, bay, estuary, the sea and any other water to which the public has the right of use or access;

**"sanitation services"** has the meaning assigned to it in section 1 of the Act and includes for purposes of this By-law the disposal of industrial effluent;

**"sanitation system"** means the structures, pipes, valves, pumps, meters or other appurtenances used in the conveyance through the sewer reticulation system and treatment at the sewage treatment plant under the control of the Municipality and which may be used by it in connection with the disposal of sewage, and "sewage disposal system" has the same meaning;

**"septic tank"** means a water tight tank designed to receive sewage and to effect the decomposition of organic matter in sewage by bacterial action;

**"service agreement"** means the contractual relationship between the Municipality and a consumer, whether written or deemed as provided for in section 5(3) of the Customer Care and Revenue Management By-law;

**"service pipe"** means a pipe which is part of a water installation provided and installed on any premises by the owner or occupier and which is connected or to be connected to a connection pipe to serve the water installation on the premises;

**"sewage"** means waste water, industrial effluent, standard domestic effluent and other liquid waste, either separately or in combination, but does not include stormwater;

**"sewer"** means any pipe or conduit which is the property of or is vested in the Municipality and which may be used for the conveyance of sewage from the connecting sewer, and does not include a drain as defined;

**"shared consumption"** means the consumption of a consumer of a municipal service during a specific period, which consumption is calculated by dividing the total metered consumption of that municipal service within the supply zone within which a consumer's premises are situated for the same period by the number of consumers within that supply zone, during the same period;

**"standpipe"** means a connection through which water is supplied in a public space or a yard, and which is supported by various means, in a vertical or near vertical position, with a stopcock at its end;

**"standard domestic effluent"** means domestic effluent with prescribed strength characteristics as determined by the Municipality in respect of chemical oxygen demand and settleable solids as being appropriate to sewage discharges from domestic premises within the jurisdiction of the Municipality, but shall not include industrial effluent;

**"stormwater"** means water resulting from natural precipitation or accumulation and includes rainwater, subsoil water or spring water;

**"terminal water fitting"** means a water fitting at an outlet of a water installation that controls the discharge of water from a water installation;

**"trade premises"** means premises upon which industrial effluent is produced;

**"trap"** means a pipe fitting or portion of a sanitary appliance designed to retain in position a water seal which serves as a barrier against the flow of foul air or gas;

**"unauthorized services"** means receipt, use or consumption of any water services which is not in terms of a services agreement, or authorized or approved by the Municipality;

**"waste water"** means waste water resulting from the supply of water to a household, offices, shops or any other premises other than industrial premises;

**"water fitting"** means a component of a water installation, other than a pipe, through which water passes or in which it is stored;

**"water installation"** means the pipes and water fittings which are situated on any premises and ownership of which vests in the owner thereof and used or intended to be used in connection with the use of water on such premises, and includes a pipe and water fitting situated outside the boundary of the premises, which either connects to the connection pipe relating to such premises or is otherwise laid with the permission of the Municipality;

**"water services provider"** has the meaning assigned to it in section 1 of the Act, and includes –

- (a) an entity established or appointed by the Municipality as its authorized agent to operate and maintain a water supply scheme in accordance with this By-law and in accordance with the Act; and
- (b) the Municipality where it has not appointed an agent to act as water services provider on its behalf and fulfills this duty itself;

**"water services"** means water supply services and sanitation services;

**"water supply services"** has the same meaning assigned to it in section 1 of the Act and includes, for purposes of this By-law, water for industrial purposes and fire extinguishing services;

**"water supply system"** means the structures, aqueducts, pipes, valves, pumps, meters or other apparatus relating thereto of which the ownership vests in the Municipality and which are used or intended to be used by it in connection with the supply of water, and includes any part of the system;

**"working day"** means a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday.



- (2) Unless the context indicates otherwise and subject to subsection (1), any word or expression used in this By-law to which a meaning has been assigned in –
- (a) the Act and Regulation 22355 promulgated in terms of the Act on 8 June 2003, has that meaning; and
  - (b) the National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act, 1977, has that meaning.

## **2. Principles and objectives**

- (1) The Municipality adopts the following principles:
- (a) The Municipality recognises that all consumers have the right of access to basic water supply and basic sanitation in the area of jurisdiction of the Municipality within an environment not harmful to human health or well being;
  - (b) the Municipality acknowledges that it has the authority to administer water supply services and sanitation services and arising therefrom a concomitant duty to ensure the supply of water services of an acceptable quality within its area of jurisdiction in an efficient, affordable, economical and sustainable manner for subsistence and sustainable economic activity;
  - (c) the Municipality recognizes that, in striving to provide water services it, together with all role-players in the sector and all spheres of government, must observe and adhere to the principle of co-operative governance;
  - (d) the Municipality acknowledges the requirement to draft and promulgate by-laws to govern the provision of water services to its consumers and to govern the relationship between it and its consumers within its area of jurisdiction;
  - (e) the Municipality recognizes that, in the supply of water services, the interests of the consumers and the broader goals of public policy must be promoted;
  - (f) the Municipality acknowledges that there is a duty upon it to prepare and adopt a water services development plan for its area of jurisdiction after thorough consultation with all stakeholders and thereafter to update, manage and report thereon on an annual basis;
  - (g) the Municipality recognises that the provision of water supply services and sanitation services, although an activity distinct from the overall management of water resources, must be undertaken in a manner consistent with the broader goals of water resource management;

- (h) the Municipality through its Customer Care and Revenue Management By-laws recognises its duty in terms of regulation 16 of Regulation 22355 promulgated in terms of the Act on 8 June 2001, to have a consumer service to which non-compliance with the provisions of above Regulation, as contained in this By-law, can be reported;
  - (i) the Municipality confirms its duty to provide access to water services in an orderly manner within the nation's available water resources.
- (2) The Municipality, in this By-law strives to –
- (a) provide for the rights of access to basic water supply and basic sanitation within its area of jurisdiction, as contemplated in section 27(1)(b) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act 108 of 1996), and regulations 2 and 3 of Regulation 22355 promulgated in terms of the Act on 8 June 2001;
  - (b) provide for the establishment of a regulatory framework within which to deliver water services;
  - (c) provide for the setting of terms and conditions to ensure compliance with the legislation relating to the water sector;
  - (d) provide for the monitoring of water services within its area of jurisdiction, and being the Water Services Authority and Provider as provided for in terms of the Act, within its area of jurisdiction, where necessary, to provide for –
    - (i) the gathering of information within its area of jurisdiction;
    - (ii) the collation thereof to a central data base; and
    - (iii) the distribution of information to all stakeholders and role- players; and
  - (e) provide for matters related to the supply of water services within its area of jurisdiction.

## **CHAPTER 1**

### **APPLICATION, PAYMENT AND TERMINATION**

#### **3. Customer Care and Revenue Management By-laws apply**

The provisions of the Municipality's Customer Care and Revenue Management By-law, apply to all matters relating to and incidental to –

- (a) the application for and supply of municipal services;

- (b) municipal service agreements;
- (c) the payment and non-payment of a municipal accounts; and
- (d) the limitation and termination of water services.

## CHAPTER 2 SERVICE LEVELS

### 4. Service levels

- (1) The Municipality may in accordance with national policy, but subject to principles of sustainability and affordability determine the service levels it is able to provide to consumers and must make these known by public notice.
- (2) The Municipality may, in determining service levels, differentiate between types of consumers, geographical areas and socio-economic areas.
- (3) The following levels of service may, subject to subsection (1), be provided by the Municipality:
  - (a) Communal water supply services and on-site sanitation services –
    - (i) constituting the minimum level of service provided by the Municipality;
    - (ii) consisting of reticulated standpipes or a stationery water tank serviced either through a network pipe or a water tanker located within a reasonable walking distance of less than 200m from any household with a Ventilated Improved Pit latrine located on each premises, with premises meaning the lowest order of visibly demarcated area on which some sort of informal dwelling has been erected;
    - (iii) installed free of charge;
    - (iv) provided free of any charge to consumers; and
    - (v) maintained by the Municipality;
  - (b) a yard connection not connected to any water installation and an individual connection to the Municipality's sanitation system –
    - (i) consisting of an un-metered standpipe on a premises not connected to any water installation and a pour-flush toilet pan, wash-trough and suitable toilet top structure connected to the Municipality's sanitation system;

- (ii) installed free of charge;
  - (iii) provided free of any charge to consumers; and
  - (iv) maintained by the Municipality; and
- (c) a metered pressured water connection with an individual connection to the Municipality's sanitation system –
  - (i) installed against payment of the relevant connection charges;
  - (ii) provided against payment of the prescribed tariff; and
  - (iii) with the water and drainage installations maintained by the consumer.
- (d) Water tankering

### **CHAPTER 3**

#### **CONDITIONS FOR WATER SUPPLY SERVICES**

##### *Part 1*

##### *Connection to water supply systems*

#### **5. Application for water service**

- (1) Application for water services is to be made in terms of the Customer Care and Revenue Management By-law.
- (2) Where premises or a consumer are provided with a water service, it is deemed that a services agreement exists.
- (3) The Municipality must, on application as contemplated in subsection (1), inform the applicant of the different levels of services contemplated in section 4(3) and the tariffs or charges associated with each level of services, and the applicant must elect the level of services to be provided to him or her or it.
- (4) A consumer may at any time apply that the level of services elected in terms of the agreement entered into be altered, provided that –
  - (a) there is network/reticulation within the specific area
  - (b) such services are available; and
  - (c) any costs and expenditure associated with altering the level of services are payable by the consumer.

(5) When a person applies in terms of the Customer Care and Revenue Management By-laws, the Municipality must ensure, through a process of interaction with the applicant, that the applicant understands the contents of the application form.

(6) In the instance where an illiterate or similarly disadvantaged person applies, the Municipality must take additional steps to ensure that the applicant understands such contents.

#### **6. Special agreements for water services**

The Municipality may enter into a special agreement with an applicant for the provision of water services to –

(a) an applicant inside its area of jurisdiction, if the services applied for necessitates the imposition of conditions not contained in Customer Care and Revenue Management By-laws.

#### **7. Change in purpose for which water services are used**

Where the purpose for or extent to which water services used is changed from that provided for in the agreement, the responsibility is on the consumer to advise the Municipality of such change, and the consumer must then enter into a new agreement with the Municipality.

#### **8. Provision of connection pipe**

- (1) If a services agreement for water supply services in respect of premises has been concluded and no connection pipe exists in respect of the premises, the owner must apply on the prescribed form, and pay the prescribed tariff for the installation of such a pipe.
- (2) If an application is made for a water supply service which is of such an extent or so situated that it is necessary to extend, modify or upgrade the water supply system in order to supply water to the premises, the Municipality may agree to the extension subject to such conditions as it may impose.
- (3) Only the Municipality may install a connection pipe to the measuring system, but the owner or consumer is responsible for any installation or connection within his or her premises.
- (4) A person may not commence any development on any premises unless the Municipality has installed a connection pipe and meter.

## 9. Location of connection pipe

- (1) A connection pipe provided and installed by the Municipality must –
  - (a) be located in a position agreed to between the owner and the Municipality and be of the size determined by the Municipality;
  - (b) terminate at –
    - (i) the boundary of the land owned by or vested in the Municipality, or over which the Municipality has a servitude or other right;
    - (ii) the outlet of the water meter if it is situated on the premises; or
    - (iii) the isolating valve if it is situated on the premises.
- (2) In reaching agreement with an owner concerning the location of a connection pipe, the Municipality must ensure that the owner is aware of –
  - (a) practical restrictions that may exist regarding the location of a connection pipe;
  - (b) the cost implications of the various possible locations of the connection pipe; and
  - (c) whether or not the Municipality requires the owner to indicate the location of the connection pipe by providing a portion of his or her water installation at or outside the boundary of his or her premises, or such agreed position inside or outside his or her premises where the connection is required, for the Municipality to connect to such installation.
- (3) The Municipality may on application by any person agree, subject to such conditions as it may impose, to a connection to a main other than that which is most readily available for the provision of water supply to the premises, but the applicant is responsible for any extension of the water installation to the connection point designated by the Municipality and for obtaining at his or her cost, such servitudes over other premises as may be necessary.
- (4) An owner must pay the prescribed connection charge in advance before a water connection can be effected.

**10. Provision of single water connection for supply to several consumers on same premises**

- (1) Despite section 8, only one connection pipe to the water supply system may be provided for the supply of water to any premises, irrespective of the number of accommodation units, business units or consumers located on such premises.
- (2) Where the owner, or the person having the charge or management of any premises on which several accommodation units are situated, requires the supply of water to such premises for the purpose of supply to the different accommodation units, the Municipality may provide and install either –
  - (a) a single measuring device in respect of the premises as a whole or any number of such accommodation units; or
  - (b) a separate measuring device for each accommodation unit or any number thereof.
- (3) Where the Municipality has installed a single measuring device as contemplated in subsection (2)(a), the owner or the person having the charge or management of the premises, as the case may be –
  - (a) must, if the Municipality so requires, install and maintain on each branch pipe extending from the connection pipe to the different accommodation units –
    - (i) a separate measuring device; and
    - (ii) an isolating valve; and
  - (b) is liable to the Municipality for the tariffs and charge for all water supplied to the premises through such a single measuring device, irrespective of the different quantities consumed by the different consumers served by such measuring device.
- (4) Despite subsection (1), the Municipality may authorise that more than one connection pipe be provided on the water supply system for the supply of water to any premises –
  - (a) comprising sectional title units; or
  - (b) if undue hardship or inconvenience would be caused to any consumer on such premises by the provision of only one connection pipe.
- (5) Where the provision of more than one connection pipe is authorized by the Municipality under subsection (4), the tariffs and charges for the provision of a connection pipe is payable in respect of each water connection so provided.

- (6) Where premises is supplied by a number of connection pipes, the Municipality may require the owner to reduce the number of connection points and alter his or her water installation accordingly.

**11. Interconnection between premises or water installations**

- (1) An owner of premises must ensure, subject to subsection (2), that no interconnection exists between –
- (a) the water installation on his or her premises and the water installation on other premises; or
  - (b) where several accommodation units are situated on the same premises, between the water installations of the accommodation units,
- (2) Interconnection may exist only if he or she –
- (a) has obtained the prior written consent of the Municipality; and
  - (b) complies with any conditions that it may have imposed.

**12. Disconnection of water installation from connection pipe**

The Municipality may disconnect a water installation from the connection pipe and remove the connection pipe if –

- (a) the agreement for supply has been terminated and it has not received an application for a subsequent supply of water to the premises served by the pipe within a period of 90 days of such termination; or
- (b) the building on the premises concerned has been demolished.

**13. Communal water services works and provision of water service work for water supply to several consumers**

- (1) The Municipality may install a communal water services work for the provision of water services to several consumers at a location that the Municipality deems appropriate, provided that the consumers to whom water services will be provided by that water services work have been consulted in respect of –
- (a) the level of service;
  - (b) the tariff that will be payable; and



- (c) the location of the work.

#### **14. Temporary supply from water supply system**

- (1) The Municipality may authorise a temporary supply of water to be taken from one or more water supply systems specified by it, subject to such conditions and period as it may prescribe.
- (2) A person who desires a temporary supply of water referred to in subsection (1) or the use of a portable water meter in terms of subsection (4) or both a supply and a meter, must apply to the Municipality for such service.
- (3) Supply of water in terms of subsection (1) must be measured.
- (4) The Municipality may for purposes of measuring provide a portable water meter to be returned to the Municipality on termination of the temporary supply, and the portable meter and all other fittings and apparatus used for the connection of the portable water meter to the system –
  - (a) remain the property of the Municipality; and
  - (b) may be provided subject to any conditions imposed by the Municipality.

### ***Part 2*** ***Standards and conditions of supply***

#### **15. Quantity, quality and pressure**

- (1) Water supply services provided by the Municipality must comply with the minimum standards set for the provision of water supply services as required in terms of regulations 3, 5 and 15 of Regulation 22355 promulgated in terms of the Act on 8 June 2001 provided there is capacity.

#### **16. General conditions of supply**

- (1) The Municipality may specify the maximum pressure to which water will be supplied from the water supply system but where a consumer requires water to be supplied at a greater pressure and this is technically feasible the consumer will be responsible for the costs.
- (2) The Municipality may, in an emergency, interrupt the supply of water to any premises without prior notice.
- (3) If the consumption of water by a consumer adversely affects the supply of water to another consumer, the Municipality –

- (a) may apply restrictions to the supply of water to the first mentioned consumer in order to ensure a reasonable supply of water to the other consumer; and
- (b) must in writing inform the first mentioned consumer of the restrictions.

**17. Testing of pressure in water supply system**

The Municipality may, on application by an owner and on payment of the determined charge, determine and furnish the owner with the value of the pressure in the water supply system relating to his or her premises over such period as he or she may request.

**18. Pollution of Municipality's water supply**

- (1) A person may not, unless the person is specifically authorized to do so in writing by the Municipality on application and if the water is used by it in connection with the water supply, in any manner pollute –
  - (a) water in a reservoir or other place –
    - (i) which is either in whole or in part vested in the Municipality; or
    - (ii) which the Municipality owns or controls, either in whole or in part; and
  - (b) water or the environment in the jurisdiction of the Municipality, including but not restricted to all water sources such as streams, rivers, and dams.
- (2)
  - (a) A person may not deposit or discharge rubbish, night-soil, industrial waste or other matter which may cause pollution of any nature on a portion of a catchment area, which has been designated by notice boards as an area where such acts are prohibited, relating to the Municipality's water supply.
  - (b) A person may deposit or discharge rubbish, night-soil, industrial waste or other matter only at places designated by notice boards or in receptacles as are provided by the Municipality.
- (3) If a person contravenes subsection (1) or (2)(a), the Municipality may –
  - (a) by written notice require the person immediately to stop the prohibited act and to take specified action within the specified period; or
  - (b) if the situation is a matter of urgency, without prior notice take such action as may be necessary and recover the cost from the person.

**19. Owner to prevent pollution of water**

- (1) An owner must provide and maintain approved measures to prevent the entry of a substance which may be a danger to health or adversely affect the possibility of water or affect its fitness for use into –
  - (a) the water supply system; and
  - (b) any part of the water installation on his or her premises,
- (2) If an owner fails to comply with subsection (1) and pollution occurs, the Municipality may serve a notice contemplated in section 121 on the owner.

**20. Water restrictions**

- (1) The Municipality may –
  - (a) for the purposes of water conservation;
  - (b) where drought conditions prevail or are imminent;
  - (c) to prevent the wasteful use of water, or;
  - (d) in the event of a water shortage, drought or flood,by public notice –
  - (i) prohibit or restrict the consumption of water in the whole or part of its area of jurisdiction in general or for –
    - (aa) specified purposes;
    - (bb) during specified hours of the day or on specified days; or
    - (cc) in a specified manner;
  - (ii) determine and impose –
    - (aa) a limit on the quantity of water that may be consumed over a specified period;
    - (bb) charges additional to those the prescribed tariff in respect of the supply of water in excess of a limit contemplated in item (aa); or

- (cc) a general surcharge on the prescribed tariff in respect of the supply of water; or
  - (iii) impose restrictions or prohibitions on –
    - (aa) the use or manner of use or disposition of an appliance by means of which water is used or consumed; or
    - (bb) the connection of such appliances to the water installation.
- (2) A public notice contemplated in subsection (1) must, except in the event of a flood or other disaster necessitating the immediate restriction or prohibition of the consumption of water, set out the date and time when such restrictions become effective, being not less than three days after the date of publication of the public notice.
- (3) The Municipality may –
  - (a) limit the application of the provisions of a public notice contemplated by subsection (1) to specified areas and categories of consumers, premises and activities; or
  - (b) permit deviations and exemptions from, and the relaxation of, any of the provisions on reasonable grounds.
- (4) The Municipality may –
  - (a) take measures, or by written notice require a consumer at his or her own expense to take measures, including the installation of measurement devices and devices for restricting the flow of water, as may be necessary to ensure compliance with a public notice published contemplated in subsection (1); or
  - (b) for such period as it may deem fit, limit the supply of water to any premises in the event of –
    - (i) a contravention of the public notice on such premises; or
    - (ii) failure to comply with the terms of a public notice contemplated in of subsection (1),

and where the supply has been limited, it shall only be restored when the prescribed tariff for reconnecting the supply has been paid.

- (5) The provisions of this section also apply in respect of water supplied directly by the Municipality to consumers outside its area of jurisdiction, despite anything to the contrary in the conditions governing such supply, unless otherwise specified in the public notice contemplated in subsection (1).

## **21. Specific conditions of supply**

- (1) Despite section 15, the granting of a supply of water by the Municipality does not constitute an undertaking by it to maintain at all times or at all points in its water supply system –
- (a) an uninterrupted supply, subject to the provisions of regulations 4 and 14 of Regulation 22355 promulgated in terms of the Act on 8 June 2003; or
  - (b) a specific pressure or rate of flow in such supply other than required in terms of regulation 15(2) of Regulation 22355 promulgated in terms of the Act on 8 June 2001.
- (2) The Municipality may, subject to the provisions of subsection (1)(b), specify the maximum pressure to which water will be supplied from the water supply system.
- (3) If an owner requires –
- (a) that any of the standards referred to in subsection (1); or
  - (b) a higher standard of service than specified in section 15,
- be maintained on his or her premises, he or she must take the necessary steps to ensure that his or her water installation is able to meet such standards.
- (4) The Municipality may, in an emergency, interrupt the supply of water to any premises without prior notice.
- (5) The Municipality is not liable for any damage to property caused by water flowing from any water installation left open when the water supply is re-instated, following an interruption in supply.
- (6) Every steam boiler, hospital, industry and any premises which requires, for the purpose of the work undertaken on the premises, a continuous supply of water must have a storage tank where water can be stored when the continuous supply is disrupted, and the storage tank –
- (a) must comply with the specification for water storage tanks as stipulated in SABS 0252 Part 1; and

- (b) must have a capacity of not less than 24 hours water supply calculated as the quantity required to provide the average daily consumption.

***Part 3***  
***Measurement***

**22. Measuring of quantity of water supplied**

- (1) The Municipality may install at any point on the service pipe on the premises a measuring device, and its associated apparatus.
- (2) If the Municipality installs a measuring device on a service pipe in terms of subsection (4), it may install a section of pipe and associated fittings between the end of its connection pipe and the meter, and such section is deemed to form part of the water supply system.
- (3) If the Municipality installs a measuring device together with its associated apparatus on a service pipe in terms of subsection (4), the owner –
  - (a) must provide a suitable place in which to install it;
  - (b) must ensure that unrestricted access is available at all times;
  - (c) is responsible for its protection and is liable for the costs arising from damage thereto, excluding damage arising from normal wear and tear;
  - (d) must ensure that no connection is made to the pipe in which the measuring device is installed, between the measuring device and the connection pipe serving the installation;
  - (e) must provide for the drainage of water which may be discharged, from the pipe in which the measuring device is installed, in the course of work done by the Municipality on the measuring device; and
  - (f) may not use or permit to be used on any water installation, any fitting, machine or appliance which causes damage or is likely to cause damage to any meter.
- (4) A person other than the Municipality may not –
  - (a) disconnect a measuring device and its associated apparatus from the pipe in which they are installed;
  - (b) break a seal which the Municipality has placed on a meter; or
  - (c) in any other way interfere with a measuring device and its associated apparatus.

- (5) If the measuring device is a meter and its size is unsuitable by reason of the quantity of water supplied to premises, the Municipality may –
  - (a) install a meter of such size as is necessary; and
  - (b) recover from the owner of the premises concerned the prescribed tariff for the installation of the meter.
- (6) The Municipality may require that the owner, at his or her expense, install a measuring device to each dwelling unit on any premises, to determine the quantity of water supplied to each unit, but where fixed quantity water delivery systems are used, a single measuring device may be used to supply more than one unit.

### **23. Quantity of water supplied to consumer**

- (1) Where water supplied by the Municipality to any premises is in any way taken by the consumer without such water passing through any measuring device provided by the Municipality, the Municipality, for the purpose of rendering an account, may estimate, in accordance with subsection (3), the quantity of water supplied to the consumer during the period that water is so taken by the consumer.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (2), an estimate of the quantity of water supplied to a consumer is based on, as the Municipality may decide –
  - (a) the average monthly consumption of water on the premises registered over three succeeding measuring periods after the date on which the irregularity referred to in subsection (2) was discovered and rectified; or
  - (b) the average monthly consumption of water on the premises during any three consecutive measuring periods during the 12 months' period before the date on which it was discovered that the water was taken in the manner mentioned in subsection (2).
- (3) Nothing in the By-law may be construed as imposing on the Municipality an obligation to cause any measuring device installed by the Municipality on any premises to be read at the end of every month or any other fixed period, and the Municipality may charge the consumer an average consumption during the interval between successive readings of the measuring device.
- (4) Until such time as a measuring device has been installed in respect of water supplied to a consumer, the estimated or shared consumption of that consumer must be based on the average consumption, during a specific period, of water supplied to the specific supply zone within which the consumer's premises is situated.

- (5) Where it is not reasonably possible or cost effective to measure water supplied to each consumer within a determined supply zone, the Municipality may determine a tariff or charge based on the estimated or shared consumption of water supplied to that supply zone.
- (6) The Municipality must, within seven days measure the quantity of water supplied to the consumer at a time or on a day other than that upon which it would normally be measured –
  - (a) on receipt of a written notice from the consumer; and
  - (b) subject to payment of the determined charge.

#### **24. Special measurement**

- (1) If the Municipality requires, for purposes other than charging for water consumed, to ascertain the quantity of water which is used in a part of a water installation, it may by written notice advise the owner concerned of its intention to install a measuring device at such point in the water installation as it may specify.
- (2) The installation of a measuring device, its removal, and the restoration of the water installation after such removal must be carried out at the expense of the Municipality.
- (3) Section 22(2) and (3) apply insofar as they may be applicable in respect of a measuring device installed in terms of subsection (1).

#### **25. Sampling of water**

- (1) The Municipality must determine times and must, at those times, at its cost, take samples of water in the water supply systems for domestic purposes and cause the samples to be tested for compliance with any national standards prescribed in terms of section 9 of the Act.
- (2) The Municipality may take samples of water obtained from a source, authorized in terms of section 6 or 7 of the Act, other than the water supply system for domestic purposes, and cause the samples to be tested for compliance with any national standards prescribed in terms of section 9 of the Act.
- (3) The person to whom approval was granted in terms of section 6(1) or 7(1) of the Act to use the water for potable water, must pay the relevant charge in the prescribed tariff for the taking and testing of the samples referred to in subsection (1).

#### **26. Supply of non-potable water by Municipality**



- (1) The Municipality may on application, and subject to such terms and conditions as it may impose, agree to supply non-potable water to a consumer.
- (2) Any supply of water agreed to in terms of subsection (1) may not be used for domestic or any other purposes if it may give rise to a health risk.
- (3) No warranty, expressed or implied, applies to the purity of any non-potable water supplied by the Municipality or its suitability for the purpose for which the supply was granted.
- (4) The supply of non-potable water, both as to condition and use, is entirely at the risk of the consumer, who is liable for any consequential damage or loss arising to himself, herself or others, including the consequences of any bona fide fault without negligence of the Municipality or the malfunction of a treatment plant.

#### **27. Pipes in streets or public places**

No person may, for the purpose of conveying water derived from whatever source, lay or construct a pipe or associated component on, in or under a street, public place or other land owned by, vested in, or under the control of any the Municipality, except with the prior written permission of the Municipality and subject to such conditions as it may impose.

### ***Part 4*** ***Audit***

#### **28. Water audit**

- (1) The Municipality may, in order to assist it in its duty under regulations 10, 11 and 13 of Regulation 22355 promulgated in terms of the Act on 8 June 2001, require a consumer, within one month after the end of a financial year of the Municipality, to undertake an annual water audit at his or her or its own cost.
- (2) A copy of the audit must be available for inspection by officials from –
  - (a) the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry; and
  - (b) the Municipality.
- (3) The audit must contain details in respect of –
  - (a) the amount of water used during the financial year;
  - (b) the amount paid for water for the financial year;

- (c) the number of people living on the stand or premises;
- (d) the number of people permanently working on the stand or premises;
- (e) the seasonal variation in demand according to monthly consumption figures;
- (f) the water pollution monitoring methods;
- (g) the plans to manage demand for water;
- (h) estimates of consumption by various components or uses, and a comparison of the above factors with those reported in each of the previous three years, where available;
- (i) the current initiatives to manage demand for water; and
- (j) a comparison of the above factors with those reported in each of the previous 3 years (where available).

***Part 5***  
***Installation work***

**29. Approval of installation work**

- (1) If an owner wishes to have installation work done, he or she must first obtain the Municipality's written approval, but the approval is not required –
  - (a) in the case of water installations in dwelling units or installations where no fire installation is required in terms of SABS Code 0400; or
  - (b) for the repair or replacement of an existing pipe or water fitting other than a fixed water heater and its associated protective devices.
- (2) Application for the approval referred to in subsection (1) must be made on the prescribed form, and must be accompanied by –
  - (a) the prescribed tariff, if applicable;
  - (b) copies of the drawings as prescribed by the Municipality, giving information in the form required by Clause 4.1.1 of SABS Code 0252: Part I; and
  - (c) a certificate certifying that the installation has been designed in accordance with SABS Code 0252: Part 1 or has been designed on a rational basis.

- (3) The provisions of subsections (1) and (2) do not apply to a plumber who replaces a fixed water heater or its associated protective devices.
- (4) Approval given in terms of subsection (1) lapses at the expiry of a period of 24 months after the first day of the month succeeding the month in which the approval is given.
- (5) Where approval was required in terms of subsection (1), a complete set of approved drawings of installation work must be available at the site of the work at all times until such work has been completed.
- (6) If installation work has been done in contravention of subsection (1) and (2), the Municipality may by written notice require the owner of the premises concerned to –
  - (a) rectify the contravention within a specified period;
  - (b) if work is in progress, to cease the work; or
  - (c) remove all such work which does not comply with this section.

**30. Persons permitted to do installation and other work**

- (1) A person, except a plumber or a person working under a plumber may not –
  - (a) do installation work other than the replacement or repair of an existing pipe or water fitting;
  - (b) replace a fixed water heater or its associated protective devices;
  - (c) inspect, disinfect and test a water installation, fire installation or storage tank;
  - (d) service, repair or replace a back flow preventer; or
  - (e) install, maintain or replace a meter provided by an owner in a water installation.
- (2) A person may not require or engage a person who is not a plumber to do the work referred to in subsection (1).
- (3) Despite subsection (1), the Municipality may on application in writing permit a person who is not a plumber to do installation work on his or her own behalf on premises owned and occupied solely by himself or herself and his or her immediate household, but such work must be inspected and approved by a plumber at the direction of the Municipality.

**31. Technical requirements for water installation**

Subject to regulation 14 of Regulation 22355 promulgated in terms of the Act on 8 June 2001, application for approval must be accompanied by a certificate and drawings in terms of SABS 0252, and all water installations must comply with SABS 0252 Part 1, and all fixed electrical storage water heaters must comply with SABS 0254.

**32. Provision and maintenance of water installations**

- (1) An owner must provide and maintain his or her water installation situated within the boundary of his or her premises at his or her own cost.
- (2) Before doing work in connection with the maintenance of a portion of his or her water installation which is situated outside the boundary of his premises, an owner must obtain the written permission of the Municipality or the owner of the land on which such portion is situated, as the case may be.
- (3) An owner must install an isolating valve –
  - (a) in the case of a meter installed outside the boundary, at a suitable point on a service pipe immediately inside the boundary of the property; and
  - (b) in the case of a meter installed on the premises, at a suitable point on his or her service pipe.
- (4) In accordance with regulation 12 of Regulation 22355 promulgated in terms of the Act on 8 June 2001, the Municipality must repair any major, visible or reported leak in its water services system within 48 hours of becoming aware thereof.

**33. Use of pipes and water fittings to be authorized**

- (1) A person may not, without the prior written authority of the Municipality, install or use a pipe or water fitting in a water installation within the Municipality's area of jurisdiction, unless it is included in the schedule of approved pipes and fittings contemplated in subsection (6) as compiled by the Municipality.
- (2) Application for the inclusion of a pipe or water fitting in the schedule referred to in subsection (1) must be made on the prescribed form, and be accompanied by the relevant charge set out in the prescribed tariff.
- (3) A pipe or water fitting may be included in the schedule referred to in subsection (1) if –
  - (a) it bears the standardisation mark of the South African Bureau of Standards in respect of the relevant SABS specification issued by the Bureau;

- (b) it bears a certification mark issued by the SABS to certify that the pipe or water fitting complies with an SABS mark specification or a provisional specification issued by the SABS, provided that no certification marks shall be issued for a period exceeding two years; or
  - (c) it is deemed acceptable by the Municipality.
- (4) The Municipality may, in respect of any pipe or water fitting included in the schedule, impose such additional conditions as it may deem necessary in respect of the use or method of installation thereof.
- (5) A pipe or water fitting must be removed from the schedule if it –
  - (a) no longer complies with the criteria upon which its inclusion was based; or
  - (b) is no longer suitable for the purpose for which its use was accepted.
- (6) The schedule of approved pipes and fittings must be available for inspection at the office of the Municipality at any time during working hours.
- (7) The Municipality may sell copies of the current schedule at the relevant charge set out in the prescribed tariff.

#### **34. Labelling of terminal water fittings and appliances**

- (1) All terminal water fittings and appliances using or discharging water must be marked, or must have included within the packaging of each item –
  - (a) the range of pressure in kPa over which the water fitting or appliance is designed to operate; and
  - (b) the flow rates, in litres per minute, related to the design pressure range, and this information must be given for at least the water pressures of 20 kPa, 100 kPa, and 400 kPa.

#### **35. Water demand management**

- (1) A shower head with a maximum flow rate of greater than 10 litres per minute may not be installed in any water installation where –
  - (a) the dynamic water pressure is more than 200 kPa at a shower control valve; and
  - (b) the plumbing has been designed to balance the water pressures on the hot and cold water supplies to the shower control valve.

- (2) The maximum flow rate from any tap installed on a wash hand basin may not exceed six litres per minute.

***Part 6***  
***Communal water supply services***

**36. Provision of water supply to several consumers**

- (1) The Municipality may install a communal standpipe for the provision of water supply services to several consumers at a location it deems appropriate, provided that the consumers to whom water supply services will be provided by that communal standpipe have been consulted.
- (2) The Municipality may provide communal water supply services by a communal installation designed to provide a controlled volume of water to several consumers.

***Part 7***  
***Temporary water supply services from fire hydrant***

**37. Water supplied from fire hydrant**

- (1) The Municipality may in writing authorise a temporary supply of water to be taken from one or more fire hydrants specified by it, subject to such conditions and period as may be stated by it in the authority, and payment of such applicable charges, including a deposit, as may be determined by it.
- (2) A person who desires a temporary supply of water referred to in subsection (1) must apply for such water supply services in terms of provisions of the Customer Care and Revenue Management By-law of the Municipality.
- (3) The Municipality must provide a portable water meter and all other fittings and apparatus necessary for the temporary supply of water from a hydrant.
- (4) The portable meter and all other fittings and apparatus provided for the temporary supply of water from a hydrant remains the property of the Municipality on termination of the temporary supply, and failure to return the portable meter and all other fittings and apparatus is an offence.

**Part 8**  
**Boreholes**

**38. Notification of boreholes**

- (1) A person may not sink a borehole on premises situated in a dolomite area, and a person must, before he or she sinks a borehole, determine if the premises on which the borehole is to be sunk is situated within a dolomite area.
- (2) The Municipality may require the owner or occupier of any premises who intends to sink a borehole as contemplated in subsection (4)(b) to undertake an environmental impact assessment for such intended borehole before sinking the borehole.
- (3) Boreholes are subject to the requirements of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998).
- (4) The Municipality may, by public notice, require –
  - (a) the owner of any premises within the area of jurisdiction of the Municipality upon which a borehole exists or, if the owner is not in occupation of such premises, the occupier thereof, to notify it on the a form similar to the DWAF form DW805 of the existence of a borehole on such premises, and provide it with such information in respect thereof as it may require; and
  - (b) the owner or occupier of any premises who intends to sink a borehole on premises to notify it on a form similar to the DWAF form DW805 of such intention before work in connection therewith is commenced.
- (5) The Municipality may –
  - (a) by notice require an owner or occupier who has an existing borehole used for water services; or
  - (b) or by public notice require owners or occupiers who have existing boreholes used for water services,  
  
to obtain approval from it for the use of a borehole for potable water supply services in accordance with sections 6, 7 and 22 of the Act.
- (6) The Municipality may, in the notices contemplated in subsection (5)(a) and (b) –
  - (a) impose conditions in respect of the use of a borehole for potable water services; and
  - (b) impose a fixed charge in respect of the use of a borehole.

**Part 9**  
***Fire services connections***

**39. Connection to be approved by Municipality**

- (1) The Municipality may grant or refuse an application for the connection of a fire extinguishing installation to the Municipality's main.
- (2) No water may be supplied to any fire extinguishing installation until a certificate in terms of section 29(2)(c) has been submitted to the Municipality and until the installation complies with the requirements of these By-laws and any other relevant by-laws of the Municipality.
- (3) The Municipality is entitled, if it has allowed a fire extinguishing installation to be connected to its main, either to require the installation to be disconnected from the main or itself to carry out the work of disconnecting it at the consumer's expense, if the fire extinguishing installation is –
  - (a) not being kept in proper working order;
  - (b) otherwise not being properly maintained; or
  - (c) is being used for a purpose other than fire fighting.

**40. Special provisions**

The provisions of SABS 0252-1:1994 apply to the supply of water for fire fighting purposes.

**41. Dual and combined installations**

All new buildings erected after this By-law commence, must comply with the following requirements in relation to the provision of fire extinguishing services:

- (a) If boosting of the system is required, a dual pipe system must be used, one for fire extinguishing purposes and the other for general domestic purposes;
- (b) combined installations are only permitted subject to paragraph (c) where no booster pumping connection is provided on the water installation, and in such case the Municipality must provide a fire hydrant, at the consumer's expenses within 90 m of the property to provide a source of water for the fire tender to extinguish the fire;



- (c) combined installations where a booster pumping connection is provided are only permitted when designs have been approved and certified by the Municipality; and
- (d) all pipes and fittings –
  - (i) must be capable of handling pressures in excess of 1 800 kPa, which could be expected when boosting takes place; and
  - (ii) must maintain their integrity when exposed to fire conditions.

#### **42. Connection pipes for fire extinguishing services**

- (1) The Municipality must provide at all premises where provision has been made for fire extinguishing services, a single connection pipe for both fire extinguishing services (excluding sprinkler systems) and potable water supply services.
- (2) At all premises where provision has been made for fire extinguishing services, the Municipality must provide and install at the cost of the owner a combination meter on the connection pipe.
- (3) A separate connection pipe must be laid and used for every fire sprinkler extinguishing system unless otherwise approved.
- (4) A connection pipe must be equipped with a measuring device that will not obstruct the flow of water while operating under fire fighting conditions.

#### **43. Valves and meters in connection pipes**

- (1) Every connection pipe to a fire extinguishing installation must be fitted with valves and a measuring device which is –
  - (a) supplied by the Municipality at the expense of the consumer;
  - (b) installed between the consumer's property and the main; and
  - (c) installed in such position as may be determined by the Municipality.

#### **44. Meters in fire extinguishing connection pipes**

If it appears to the Municipality that water has been drawn for purposes other than for the purpose of extinguishing a fire from a connection pipe which is used solely for fire extinguishing purposes, the Municipality is entitled to install a water meter in the pipe, and the owner of the premises is liable for all costs in so doing.

**45. Sprinkler extinguishing installations**

A consumer may install a sprinkler installation in direct communication with the main, but the Municipality is not regarded to guarantee any specified pressure at any time.

**46. Header tank or double supply from main**

- (1) The consumer must, unless the installation is provided with a duplicate supply from a separate main, install a header tank for its sprinkler installation at such elevation as will compensate for any failure or reduction of pressure in the Municipality's main.
- (2) The main pipe leading from such header tank to the sprinkler installation may be in direct communication with the main, provided that such main pipe must be equipped with a reflux valve which, if for any reason the pressure in the main fails or is reduced, will shut off the supply from the main.
- (3) Where a sprinkler installation is provided with a duplicate supply from a separate main, each supply pipe must be equipped with a reflux valve situated within the premises.

**47. Sealing of private fire hydrants**

- (1) Except in the case of a combined system with a combination meter, all private hydrants and hose-reels must be sealed by the Municipality and the seals may not be broken by any person other than the Municipality, except
  - (a) for the purposes of opening the hydrant in the case of fire; or
  - (b) in the course of servicing and testing.
- (2) The consumer must give the Municipality at least 48 hours written notice prior to a fire extinguishing installation being serviced and tested.
- (3) The consumer must bear the cost of resealing such a hydrant and hose-reel except when such seals are broken by the Municipality's officers for testing purposes.
- (4) The consumer must pay for any water consumed by a fire installation or sprinkler system at the relevant charges in the prescribed tariff.

## CHAPTER 4 CONDITIONS FOR SANITATION SERVICES

### *Part 1* *Connection to sanitation system*

#### **48. Obligation to connect to sanitation system**

- (1) Unless consent for the use of on-site sanitation services was obtained in accordance with section 54, a premises on which sewage is produced must be connected to the Municipality's sanitation system if –
  - (a) a connecting sewer is available; or
  - (b) it is reasonably possible or cost effective for the Municipality to install a connecting sewer.
- (2) The Municipality may, by serving a written notice, require the owner of premises which is not connected to the Municipality's sanitation system to connect to the sanitation system.
- (3) The owner of premises required to connect to the Municipality's sanitation system in accordance with subsection (2), must inform the Municipality in writing of the on-site sanitation services provided by the Municipality that will no longer be required as a result of the connection to the sanitation system, and the owner remains liable for any charges payable in respect of on-site sanitation services until the agreement for such services has been terminated in accordance with the Customer Care and Revenue Management By-law.
- (4) If the owner fails to connect to the sanitation system in accordance with the notice contemplated in subsection (2) the Municipality may, despite any other actions it may take in terms of this By-law, impose penalties as determined by it.

#### **49. Standards for sanitation services**

Sanitation services provided by the Municipality must comply with the minimum standards for basic sanitation services as required in terms of regulation 2 of Regulation 22355 promulgated in terms of the Act on 8 June 2001.

**50. Objectionable discharge to sewage disposal system**

- (1) Subject to regulations 7 and 8 of Regulation 22355 promulgated in terms of the Act on 8 June 2001, a person may not discharge, or permit the discharge or entry into the sewage disposal system or sea outfalls discharge point or in any public water of any sewage or other substance which does not comply with the standards and criteria set out in section 49, and which –
- (a) contains any substance in such concentration as will produce or be likely to produce in the effluent for discharge at any sewage treatment plant or sea outfalls discharge point or in any public water, any offensive or otherwise undesirable taste, colour, odour, temperature or any foam;
  - (b) may prejudice the re-use of treated sewage;
  - (c) may adversely affect any of the processes whereby sewage is treated for re-use;
  - (d) may adversely affect any of the processes whereby sewage is treated to produce sludge for disposal;
  - (e) contains any substance or thing of whatever nature which is not amenable to treatment to a satisfactory degree at a sewage treatment plant;
  - (f) contains any substance or thing of whatever nature which causes or is likely to cause a breakdown or inhibition of the processes in use at a sewage treatment plant;
  - (g) contains any substance or thing of whatever nature which is of such strength, or which is amendable to treatment only to a degree as will result in effluent from the sewage treatment plant or discharge from any sea outfalls not complying with standards prescribed under the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998);
  - (h) may cause danger to the health or safety of any person;
  - (i) may be injurious to the structure or materials of the sewage disposal system;
  - (j) may prejudice the use of any ground used by the Municipality; or
  - (k) may inhibit the unrestricted conveyance of sewage through the sewage disposal system.

- (2) A person may not cause or permit any storm water to enter the sewage disposal system.
- (3) Subject to regulation 6 of Regulation 22355 promulgated in terms of the Act on 8 June 2001, the Municipality may, by written notice, order the owner or occupier to conduct, at his or her cost, periodic expert inspections of the premises in order to identify precautionary measures which would ensure compliance with this By-law and to report such findings to an authorized agent.
- (4) If any person becomes aware of a contravention of any provision of subsection (1) or (2) he or she must within 12 hours, or earlier if possible, advise the Municipality of the details of the contravention and the reasons for it.

## ***Part 2***

### ***On-site sanitation services and associated services***

#### **51. Application for infrastructure**

- (1) If a services agreement for on-site sanitation and associated services has been concluded or if it is not reasonably possible or cost effective for the Municipality to install a connecting sewer or no infrastructure in connection therewith exists on the premises, the owner must immediately make application for on-site sanitation services on the prescribed form and –
  - (a) pay the prescribed charge for the installation of necessary infrastructure; or
  - (b) with the approval by the Municipality, install the connection sewer or on-site sanitation services in accordance with the specifications of the Municipality.
- (2) The Municipality may specify in the approval the type of on-site sanitation services to be installed.

#### **52. Use of on-site sanitation services not connected to sanitation system**

- (1) A person may not use or permit the use, for domestic, commercial or industrial purposes, of on-site sanitation services which are not connected to the Municipality's sanitation system, except with the consent of the Municipality first having been obtained, and in accordance with such conditions as it may impose.
- (2) A person desiring the consent referred to in subsection (1) must provide the Municipality with evidence that the sanitation facility is not likely to have a detrimental effect on health or the environment.

- (3) The Municipality may withdraw consent given in terms of subsection (1) if –
  - (a) a condition imposed in terms of subsection (1) is breached; or
  - (b) the sanitation facility has a detrimental impact on health or the environment.
- (4) The Municipality may undertake investigations to determine if a sanitation facility has a detrimental impact on health or the environment.
- (5) The person to whom consent was granted in terms of subsection (1) is liable for the costs associated with an investigation undertaken in terms of subsection (4) if the result of the investigation indicates that the sanitation facility has a detrimental impact on health or the environment.

### **53. Septic tanks and on-site sewage treatment plants**

- (1) The Municipality may, on such conditions as it may specify, approve the disposal of sewage or other effluent by means of septic tanks or other on-site sewage treatment plants.
- (2) A septic tank or other on-site sewage treatment plant may not be situated nearer than three metres to any dwelling unit or to any boundary of the premises on which it is situated.
- (3) Effluent from a septic tank or other on-site sewage treatment plant must be disposed of by french drains approved under section 54.
- (4) A septic tank must be watertight, securely covered and provided with gas-tight means of access to its interior adequate to permit the inspection of the inlet and outlet pipes and adequate for the purpose of removing sludge.
- (5) A septic tank serving a dwelling unit must –
  - (a) have a capacity below the level of the invert of the outlet pipe of not less than 500 litres per bedroom, subject to a minimum capacity below such invert level of 2 500 litres;
  - (b) have an internal width of not less than one metre measured at right angles to the direction of the flow;
  - (c) have an internal depth between the cover and the bottom of the tank of not less than 1,7 m; and
  - (d) retain liquid to a depth of not less than 1,4 m.

- (6) The design of septic tanks serving premises other than a dwelling unit must, prior to construction, be approved and certified by the Municipality.

#### **54. French drains**

- (1) The Municipality may approve the disposal of waste water or other effluent by means of french drains, soakage pits or other approved works on such conditions as it may specify having regard to the quantity and the nature of the effluent and the nature of the soil as determined by the permeability test prescribed by the South African Bureau of Standards.
- (2) A french drain, soakage pit or other similar work may not –
- (a) be situated closer than five metres to any dwelling unit or to any boundary of any premises on which it is situated;
  - (b) be in any position as will cause contamination of any borehole or other source of water which is or may be used for drinking purposes; or
  - (c) cause dampness in any building.
- (3) The dimensions of any french drain, soakage pit or other similar work must be determined in relation to the absorbent qualities of the soil and the nature and quantity of the effluent.
- (4) The design of french drains serving premises other than a dwelling house must be approved and certified by the Municipality.

#### **55. Conservancy tanks**

- (1) The Municipality may, on such conditions as it may specify, approve the construction of a conservancy tank and ancillary appliances for the retention sewage or effluent.
- (2) No rain water, storm-water or effluent other than that approved by the Municipality may be discharged into a conservancy tank.
- (3) No conservancy tank may be used as such, unless –
- (a) the invert of the tank slopes towards the outlet at a gradient of not less than 1 in 10;
  - (b) the tank is gas and water tight;

- (c) the tank has an outlet pipe, 100 mm in internal diameter, made of wrought iron, cast iron or other approved material and, except if otherwise approved by the Municipality, an approved valve and fittings for connection to removal vehicles;
  - (d) the valve and fittings referred to in paragraph (c) or the outlet end of the pipe, as the case may be, are located in a chamber having an approved hinged cover and situated in such position as required by the Municipality;
  - (e) access to the conservancy tank is provided by means of an approved manhole fitted with a removable cast iron cover placed immediately above the visible spigot of the inlet pipe.
- (4) The Municipality may, having regard to the position of a conservancy tank or the point of connection for a removal vehicle, make it a condition of its emptying the tank that the owner or consumer indemnify the Municipality, in writing, against any liability for any damages that may result from rendering that service.
- (5) Where the removal vehicle has to traverse private premises for the emptying of a conservancy tank, the owner must –
- (a) provide a roadway at least 3,5 m wide, so hardened as to be capable of withstanding a wheel load of four metric tons in all weather; and
  - (b) ensure that no gateway through which the vehicle is required to pass to reach the tank, is less than 3,5 m wide.
- (6) The owner or occupier of premises on which a conservancy tank is installed must at all times maintain the tank in good order and condition.

#### **56. Operation and maintenance of on-site sanitation services**

The operation and maintenance of on-site sanitation services and all costs pertaining thereto remain the responsibility of the owner of the premises, unless the on-site sanitation services are subsidised services determined in accordance with the Customer Care and Revenue Management By-law.

#### **57. Disused conservancy and septic tanks**

- (1) If an existing conservancy tank or septic tank is no longer required for the storage or treatment of sewage, or if permission for such use is withdrawn, the owner must –
- (a) cause it to be completely removed; or
  - (b) cause it to be completely filled with earth or other suitable material.



- (2) The Municipality may –
  - (a) require the tank to be reasonably dealt with in another way; or
  - (b) approve the use of the tank for other purpose subject to such conditions as it may specify.

**58. Services associated with on-site sanitation services**

- (1) The Municipality may undertake in specified areas to –
  - (a) remove or collect conservancy tank contents; or
  - (b) remove or collect night soil.
- (2) Copies of the schedule are available at the municipal offices on request.

**59. Charges in respect of services associated with on-site sanitation services**

- (1) Charges in respect of the removal or collection of conservancy or septic tank contents or night soil are based on –
  - (a) the volume removed or collected; and
  - (b) the distance traveled to effect such removal.
- (2) If the volume of the contents of a conservancy or septic tank removed or collected or of night soil removed or collected cannot be quantified, the Municipality may charge a prescribed fixed charge, as determined from time to time.

***Part 3***  
***Sewage disposal***

**60. Provision of connecting sewer**

- (1) If a services agreement for the use of the sewage disposal system exists and no connecting sewer exists in respect of the premises, the owner must immediately apply on the prescribed form for a connecting sewer to be installed and –
  - (a) must pay the prescribed tariff for the installation of such a connecting sewer; or
  - (b) with the approval by the Municipality, install the connecting sewer in accordance with any specifications of the Municipality.

- (2) If the owner applies for use of the sewage disposal system on premises which is so situated that it is necessary to extend the sewer in order to connect the sewage disposal system to the premises, the Municipality may agree to the extension subject to such conditions as it may impose.
- (3) Only the Municipality may install or approve an installed connecting sewer.
- (4) The owner or consumer may connect the sanitation installation to the connecting sewer.
- (5) A person may not commence with any development on any premises unless the Municipality has installed a connecting sewer.

**61. Location of connecting sewer**

- (1) A connecting sewer provided and installed by the Municipality or owner in terms of section 60 must –
  - (a) be located in a position agreed to between the owner and the Municipality and be of a size determined by the Municipality; and
  - (b) terminate at a connection point approximately one metre inside the premises from the boundary of the land owned by or vested in the Municipality or over which the Municipality has a servitude or other right or when subsection (3) applies, at the connecting point designated in terms of that subsection.
- (2) In reaching agreement with an owner concerning the location of a connecting sewer, the Municipality must determine –
  - (a) practical restrictions that may exist regarding the location of a connecting sewer pipe;
  - (b) the cost implications of the various possible locations of the connecting sewer; and
  - (c) whether or not the Municipality requires the owner to fix the location of the connecting sewer by providing a portion of his or her water installation at or outside the boundary of his or her premises for the Municipality to connect to such installation.
- (3) (a) The Municipality may at the request of a person and subject to such conditions as it may impose, agree to a connection to a sewer other than that which is most readily available for the drainage of the premises.

- (b) The person concerned is then responsible for –
  - (i) any extension of the drainage installation to the connecting point designated by an authorized officer; and
  - (ii) obtaining at his or her cost, such servitudes over other premises as may be necessary.
- (4) An owner must pay the relevant charge set out in the prescribed tariff before a connection to the connecting sewer can be effected.
- (5) Where an owner is required to provide a sewage lift as provided for in terms of the Building Regulations, the Municipality must approve the rate and time of discharge into the sewer.

**62. Provision of one connecting sewer for several consumers on same premises**

- (1) Despite section 60, but subject to subsection (2)(b), only one connecting sewer to the sewage disposal system may be provided for the disposal of sewage from any premises, irrespective of the number of accommodation units of consumers located on such premises.
- (2) Where the owner, or the person having the charge or management of any premises on which several accommodation units are situated, requires the disposal of sewage from several accommodation units, the Municipality may provide and install either –
  - (a) a single connecting sewer in respect of the premises as a whole or any number of such accommodation units; or
  - (b) a separate connecting sewer for each accommodation unit or any number thereof.
- (3) Where the Municipality has installed a single connecting sewer as contemplated in subsection (2)(a), the owner or the person having the charge or management of the premises, as the case may be –
  - (a) must, if the Municipality so requires, install and maintain on each branch pipe extending from the connecting sewer to the different accommodation units –
    - (i) a separate connecting sewer; and
    - (ii) an isolating valve; and

- (b) is liable to the Municipality for the tariffs and charges for all sewage disposed from the premises through such a single connecting sewer, irrespective of the fact that by such connecting sewer, different quantities of sewage are disposed by the different consumers served.
- (4) Despite subsection (1), the Municipality may authorise that more than one connecting sewer be provided on the sewage disposal system for the disposal of sewage from any premises comprising sectional title units or, if undue hardship or inconvenience would be caused to any consumer on such premises by the provision of only one connecting sewer.
- (5) Where the provision of more than one connecting sewer is authorized by the Municipality, the tariffs and charges for the provision of a connecting sewer must be paid in respect of each sewage connection so provided.

**63. Interconnection between premises**

- (1) An owner of one or more premises must, subject to subsection (2), ensure that no interconnection exists between the drainage installation on his or her premises and the drainage installation on other premises.
- (2) Interconnection may exist only if he or she –
  - (a) has obtained the prior written consent of the Municipality; and
  - (b) complies with any conditions that it may have imposed.

**64. Disconnection of draining installation from connecting sewer**

- (1) The Municipality may disconnect a drainage installation from the connecting sewer and remove the connecting sewer if –
  - (a) the agreement for provision has been terminated and it has not received an application for subsequent provision to the premises served by the sewer within a period of 90 days of such termination; or
  - (b) the building on the premises concerned has been demolished.

**Part 4**  
***Standards and Conditions of Supply***

**65. Standard for sanitation services**

- (1) Sanitation services provided by the water service provider must comply with the minimum standards set for the provision of sanitation services in terms of section 9 of the Act.

**Part 5**  
***Methods for determining discharges***

**66. Measurement of quantity of standard domestic effluent discharged**

- (1) The quantity of standard domestic effluent discharged will be regarded to be a percentage of water supplied by the Municipality, but where such a percentage in respect of specific premises is excessive, having regard to the purposes for which water is consumed on those premises, the Municipality may reduce the percentage applicable to those premises to a figure which, in the light of the available information, reflects the proportion between the likely quantity of sewage discharged from the premises and the quantity of water supplied thereto.
- (2) Where premises are supplied with water from a source other than or in addition to the Municipality's water supply system, including abstraction from a river or borehole, the quantity will be regarded to be a percentage of the total water used on those premises as may be reasonably estimated by the Municipality.

**67. Measurement of quantity and determination of quality of industrial effluent discharged**

- (1) The quantity of industrial effluent discharged into the sanitation system must be determined –
  - (a) where a measuring device is installed, by the quantity of industrial effluent discharged from a premises as measured by that measuring device; or
  - (b) until such time as a measuring device is installed, by a percentage of the water supplied by the Municipality to those premises as may be reasonably estimated by the Municipality.
- (2) Subject to regulation 9 of Regulation 22355 promulgated in terms of the Act on 8 June 2001, the Municipality may require the owner of any premises to incorporate in any drainage installation which convey industrial effluent to a sewer, a control meter or gauge or other device of an approved type and in the control of the Municipality for the purpose of ascertaining the tempo, volume or composition of the effluent.

- (3) The Municipality may install and maintain any such meter, gauge or device at the expense of the owner of the premises on which it is installed.
- (4) Where premises are supplied with water from a source other than or in addition to the Municipality's water supply system, including abstraction from a river or borehole, the quantity of industrial effluent will be regarded to be a percentage of the total water used on that premises as may be reasonably estimated by the Municipality.
- (5) The Municipality may on application reduce the assessed quantity of industrial effluent where a portion of the water supplied to the premises –
  - (a) forms part of the end product of any manufacturing process; or
  - (b) is lost by reaction or evaporation during the manufacturing process or for any other reason.
- (6) The Municipality may enter into a services agreement with any person who discharges industrial effluent into the sanitation system, to establish an alternative method of assessing the quantity and rate of effluent so discharged.
- (7) Charges relating to the quality of industrial effluent are based on the formula for industrial effluent discharged as set out in Schedule 4.
- (8) The following conditions apply in respect of the assessment of the quality of industrial effluent discharged:
  - (a) Each consumer must conduct the prescribed tests, on a regular schedule as provided for in the approval to discharge industrial effluent under section 90, and report the results to the Municipality;
  - (b) the Municipality may conduct random compliance tests to correlate those of the industry, and –
    - (i) if discrepancies are found, the values of the Municipality are to be taken as correct; and
    - (ii) further tests may be requested by the Municipality to determine the values for the formula, at the cost of the consumer;
  - (c) the average of the values of the different analyses results of 24 hourly composite or snap samples of the effluent, taken during the period of charge, must be used to determine the quality charges payable;

- (d) in the absence of a complete daily set of 24 hourly composite or snap samples, the average of not less than two values of the sampled effluent, taken during the period of charge, must be used to determine the charges payable;
- (e) in order to determine –
  - (i) the strength (chemical oxygen demand, suspended solids concentration, Ammonia concentration, ortho-phosphate concentration) in the effluent;
  - (ii) the concentration of Groups 1 and 2 metals;
  - (iii) the pH value; and
  - (iv) conductivity,

the Municipality must use the tests normally used by municipalities for these respective purposes,<sup>1</sup> and test results from an accredited laboratory will have precedence over those of the Municipality;

- (f) the strength must be calculated on the basis of the different analyses results of individual snap or composite samples, and the period applicable to the calculation may not be less than one full 24-hour period, unless strong evidence is submitted to the Municipality that a lesser period is actually applicable;
- (g) the terms of the industrial effluent formula may not assume a negative value;
- (h) the total system values for quality charges must remain constant, initially for a period of one month, but in any case not longer than 12 months from the date of commencement of these charges, after expiry of which they may be amended or revised from time to time depending on such changes in the analyses results or further samples as may be determined from time to time, but the Municipality, in any particular case, may levy the minimum charges contemplated in subsection (7) without taking any samples;
- (i) whenever the Municipality takes a sample, one half thereof must be made available to the consumer;
- (j) for the purpose of calculating the quantity of effluent discharged from each point of discharge of effluent, the total quantity of water consumed on the premises must be allocated among the several points of discharge as accurately as is reasonably practicable;
- (k) the costs of conveying and treating industrial effluent must be determined and apply with effect from such date as may be determined; and

- (l) the Municipality may change the charges for industrial effluent to a fixed monthly charge, and the minimum charge is to be determined taking into consideration the effluent strengths, the volume and the economic viability of micro and small industries.

**68. Reduction in measured quantity of effluent discharged**

- (1) A person is entitled to a reduction in the quantity of effluent discharged into the sanitation system as determined in terms of sections 66 and 67 if he or she can demonstrate that the quantity of water on which the percentage is calculated was measured during a period when water was wasted or a leakage went undetected.
- (2) The reduction in the quantity is based on the quantity of water loss through leakage or wastage during the leak period.
- (3) The leak period is, whichever results in the greater reduction in the quantity, either –
  - (a) the measuring period immediately before the date of repair of the leak; or
  - (b) the measurement period during which the leak is repaired.
- (4) The quantity of water loss must be calculated as the consumption for the leak period less an average consumption, based on the preceding three months, for the same length of time, and if no previous consumption history is available, the average water consumption must be determined by the Municipality after due consideration of all information.
- (5) There may be no reduction in the quantity if the loss of water, directly or indirectly, resulted from the consumer's failure to comply with, or is in contravention of these or other by-laws of the Municipality.

***Part 6***  
***Drainage installations***

**69. Installation of drainage installations**

- (1) The owner must provide and maintain his or her drainage installation at his or her own cost and must ensure that the installation is situated within the boundary of his or her premises, except where otherwise approved.



- (2) The Municipality may –
  - (a) specify in an approval –
    - (i) to what point in the sewer a drainage installation is to be connected;
    - (ii) at what depth below the ground a drainage installation is to be connected; and
    - (iii) the route to be followed by the drain to the connecting point; and
  - (b) require the owner not to commence with the construction or connection of the drainage installation until the Municipality's connecting sewer has been laid.
- (3) A drainage installation constructed or installed must comply with –
  - (a) any applicable specifications in terms of the Building Regulations; and
  - (b) any standards prescribed in terms of the Act.
- (4) A person may not permit the entry of any liquid or solid substance whatsoever, other than clean water for testing purposes, to any drainage installation before the drainage installation has been connected to the sewer.
- (5) The plumber responsible for executing the work must after the completion of any drainage installation or after any alteration to any drainage installation is completed, submit to the building inspection section of the Municipality a certificate certifying that the work was completed to the standards as set out in the Building Regulations, this By-law and any other relevant law or by-laws.

#### **70. Construction or installation of drainage installations**

- (1) Where the draining installation is a pit latrine, it must be of the ventilated improved pit latrine type or equivalent having –
  - (a) a pit latrine of at least 2m<sup>3</sup> capacity;
  - (b) lining as required;
  - (c) a slab designed to support the superimposed loading; and
  - (d) protection preventing children from falling into the pit.
- (2) A pit latrine must conform with the following specifications:

- (a) The pit must be ventilated by means of a pipe, sealed at the upper end with insect proof screening fixed in place;
  - (b) the ventilation pipe –
    - (i) may not project less than 0.5 m above the nearest roof;
    - (ii) must be of at least 150 mm in diameter; and
    - (iii) must be installed vertically with no bend;
  - (c) the interior of the closet must be finished smooth so that it can be kept in a clean and hygienic condition;
  - (d) the superstructure must be ventilated in order to allow the free flow of air into the pit to be vented through the pipe;
  - (e) the opening through the slab must be of such size as to prevent fouling, and the rim must be raised so that liquids used for washing the floor do not flow into the pit; and
  - (f) the pedestal must be equipped with a lid to prevent the egress of flies and other insects when the toilet is not in use.
- (3) A pit latrine must be sited in a position that is independent of the residential structure and is accessible to a road vehicle having a width of 3.0 m in order to facilitate the emptying of the pit.
- (4) In situations where –
- (a) there is the danger of polluting an aquifer due to the permeability of the soil, the pit of a pit latrine must be lined with an impermeable material that will not crack under stress; and
  - (b) the ground in which the pit of the pit latrine is to be excavated is unstable, support is to be given to prevent the collapse of the soil into the pit.
- (5) A pit latrine should not be used by more than one household.
- (6) A pit latrine must have access to water for hand washing within 10 metres of the pit latrine.

- (7) The Municipality may levy a charge in the form of a monthly contribution, or levied as a single payment when the service is rendered, that covers all the operating and maintenance costs in the –
- (a) removal of the pit contents;
  - (b) transportation to a disposal site;
  - (c) treatment of the contents to achieve a sanitary condition; and
  - (d) final disposal of any solid residues.

**71. Disconnection of drainage installations**

- (1) Except for the purpose of carrying out maintenance or repair work, no drainage installation may be disconnected from the connection point.
- (2) Where any part of a drainage installation is disconnected from the remainder thereof because it will no longer be used, the disconnected part must, unless the Municipality approves otherwise –
  - (a) be destroyed; or
  - (b) entirely removed from the premises on which it was used.
- (3) The Municipality must issue a certificate to certify that the disconnection has been completed in terms of the Building Regulations –
  - (a) after all the requirements of the Building Regulations in regard to disconnection have been complied with; and
  - (b) on request of the owner.
- (4) Any charges raised in respect of the disconnected portion of the drainage installation must cease to be levied with effect from the first day of the month following the issue of such certificate.
- (5) When a drainage installation is disconnected from a sewer, the Municipality –
  - (a) must seal the opening so caused; and
  - (b) may recover the cost of such work from the owner of the premises on which the installation is disconnected.

- (6) Where a drainage system is connected to or disconnected from the sewer system during a month, charges must be calculated as if such connection was made on the first day of the month following the month in which such connection or disconnection was effected.

**72. Drains in streets or public places**

- (1) A person may not, except with the prior written permission of the Municipality and subject to such conditions as it may impose, for the purpose of conveying sewage derived from whatever source, lay or construct a drain on, in or under a street, public place or other land owned by, vested in, or under the control of, the Municipality.

**73. Construction by Municipality**

- (1) The Municipality may agree with the owner of any premises that any drainage work which the owner desires, or is required to construct in terms of Part P of SABS 0400-1990, will be constructed by the Municipality against payment, in advance or on demand, of all costs associated with the construction.

**74. Maintenance of drainage installation**

- (1) An owner must provide and maintain his or her drainage installation at his or her own cost.
- (2) Where any part of a drainage installation is used by two or more owners or occupiers, they are jointly and severally liable for the maintenance of the installation.
- (3) The owner of any premises –
- (a) must ensure that each sewage manhole on the premises is permanently visible and accessible; and
  - (b) is responsible for ensuring the visibility of each cleaning eye and manhole on the premises at all times.
- (4) Any person who requests the Municipality to clear a drainage installation is liable to pay the appropriate charge set out in the prescribed tariff.
- (5) The Municipality may, on the written application of the owner or occupier of any premises, inspect and test the drainage installation of the premises or a section thereof and may recover from the owner or occupier the cost of the inspection and test, calculated at the rate specified in the prescribed tariff.

**75. Technical requirements for drainage installations**

- (1) All drainage installations must comply with SABS 0252 and the Building Regulations.

**76. Drains**

- (1) Drains passing through ground which are liable to movement, must be laid on a continuous bed of river sand or similar granular material not less than 100 mm thick under the barrel of the pipe with a surround of similar material and thickness, and the joints of such drains must be approved flexible joints.
- (2) A drain or part thereof may only be laid within, pass under or through a building with the approval of the Municipality.
- (3) A drain or part thereof which is laid in an inaccessible position under a building may not bend or be laid at a gradient less than 1:50.
- (4) If a drain passes through or under a wall, foundation or other structure, precautions must be taken to prevent the discharge of any substance into such a drain.

**77. Sewer blockages**

- (1) A person may not cause or permit such an accumulation of grease, oil, fat, solid matter or any other substance in any trap, tank, or fitting as will cause its blockage or ineffective operation.
- (2) When the owner or occupier of premises has reason to believe that a blockage has occurred in any drainage installation on the premises, he or she must immediately take steps to have it cleared.
- (3) When the owner or occupier of premises has reason to believe that a blockage has occurred in the sewer system, he or she must immediately inform the Municipality in writing of it.
- (4) Where a blockage occurs in a drainage installation, any work necessary for its removal must be done by or under the supervision of a plumber.
- (5) Should a drainage installation on premises overflow as a result of an obstruction in the sewer, and the obstruction was caused by objects emanating from the drainage installation, the owner of the premises served by the drainage installation is liable for the cost of clearing the blockage.

- (6) Where a blockage has been removed from a drain or portion of a drain which serves two or more premises the owners are jointly and severally liable for the cost of clearing the blockage.
- (7) Where a blockage in the sanitation system has been removed by the Municipality and such removal necessitated the disturbance of an owner's paving, lawn or other artificial surface, the Municipality is not responsible for reinstating it.

**78. Grease traps**

- (1) A grease trap of approved type, size and capacity must be provided –
  - (a) in respect of each premises that discharges sewage into on-site sanitation systems; or
  - (b) where the discharge of grease, oil and fat is likely to –
    - (i) cause an obstruction to the flow in sewers or drains; or
    - (ii) interfere with the proper operation of any waste water treatment plant.

**79. Industrial grease traps**

- (1) Industrial effluent which contains, or is likely to contain grease, oil, fat or inorganic solid matter in suspension must, before it is allowed to enter any sewer, be passed through one or more tanks or chambers of approved type, size and capacity designed to intercept and retain such grease, oil, fat or solid matter.
- (2) Oil, grease or any other substance which is contained in any industrial effluent or other liquid and which gives off an inflammable or noxious vapour at a temperature of or exceeding 20° C, must be intercepted and retained in a tank or chamber so as to prevent entry thereof into the sewer.
- (3) A tank or chamber which is referred to in subsection (2) must comply with the following requirements:
  - (a) It must be of adequate capacity, constructed of hard durable materials, and water-tight when completed;
  - (b) the water-seal of its discharge pipe may be not less than 300 mm in depth; and
  - (c) it must be provided with such number of manhole covers as may be adequate for the effective removal of grease, oil fat and solid matter.

- (4) Any person who discharges effluent to a tank or chamber must –
- (a) regularly remove grease, oil, fat or solid matter from the tank or chamber; and
  - (b) maintain a register in which the following is contained:
    - (i) The dates on which the tank or chamber was cleaned;
    - (ii) the name of the company which was employed to clean the tank or chamber; and
    - (iii) a certificate from the cleaning company –
      - (aa) certifying that the tank or chamber was cleaned; and
      - (bb) stating the manner in which the contents of the tank or chamber were disposed of.

**80. Mechanical appliances for lifting sewage**

- (1) The owner of any premise must in accordance with subsection (2) apply for the approval and obtain the approval of the Municipality before he or she installs any mechanical appliance for the raising or transfer of sewage in terms of the Building Regulations.
- (2) A Professional Engineer must apply for approval and the application must –
  - (a) be accompanied by drawings prepared in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Building Regulations; and
  - (b) show details of –
    - (i) the compartment containing the appliance;
    - (ii) the sewage storage tank;
    - (iii) the stilling chamber and its position; and
    - (iv) the position of the drains, ventilation pipes, rising main and the sewer connection.

- (3) Despite any approval given in terms of subsection (1), the Municipality is not liable without fault for any injury or damage to life or property caused by the use, malfunctioning or any other condition arising from the installation or operation of a mechanical appliance for the raising or transfer of sewage.
- (4) Every mechanical appliance installed for the raising or transfer of sewage must be –
  - (a) specifically designed for the purpose; and
  - (b) fitted with a discharge pipe, sluice valves and non-return valves located in approved positions.
- (5) Unless otherwise permitted by the Municipality, such mechanical appliances must be installed in duplicate and each appliance must be so controlled that either will immediately begin to function automatically in the event of failure of the other.
- (6) Every mechanical appliance forming part of a drainage installation must be so located and operated as to not cause any nuisance through noise or smell or otherwise, and every compartment containing any such appliance must be effectively ventilated.
- (7) The maximum discharge rate from any mechanical appliance and the times between which the discharge may take place must be as determined by the Municipality which may, at any time, require the owner to install such fittings and regulating devices as may be necessary to ensure that the determined maximum discharge rate is not exceeded.
- (8) A sewage storage tank must be provided in conjunction with a mechanical appliance, except where sewage storage space is incorporated as an integral part of the appliance.
- (9) Every sewage storage tank required in terms of subsection (8) must –
  - (a) be constructed of hard, durable materials and must be watertight and the internal surfaces of the walls and floor must be rendered smooth and impermeable;
  - (b) have a storage capacity below the level of the inlet equal to the quantity of sewage discharged there into in 24 hours, or 900 litres, whichever is the greater quantity; and
  - (c) be so designed that the maximum proportion of its sewage content is emptied at each discharge cycle of the mechanical appliance.
- (10) Every storage tank and stilling chamber must be provided with a ventilation pipe in accordance with the Municipality's specifications.



**81. Installation of pre-treatment facility**

- (1) The Municipality may require that any new premises must be provided with a minimum pre-treatment facility of a type specified by it prior to that premises being connected to the sewage disposal system.

***Part 7***  
***Protection of infrastructure***

**82. Protection from ingress of flood waters**

- (1) Where premises is situated in the 1 in 50 years flood plain, the top level of service access holes, inspection chambers and gullies must be above the 1 in 50 years flood level, except if, in the case of service access holes and inspection chambers, the cover is secured in place by approved means.

**83. Trespassing on sewage disposal system**

- (1) A person may not, without the prior written permission of an authorized officer enter –

“(a) upon an area used for the purpose of the sewage disposal system –

- (i) if the area is enclosed by a fence; or
- (ii) if entry is prohibited by notice boards; or

- (b) a structure used by the Municipality in connection with its sewage disposal system.

**84. Interference with sewage disposal system**

- (1) Except with the prior authority of an authorized officer, no person may –

- (a) interfere or tamper with the sewage disposal system;
- (b) make a connection to the sewage disposal system save as contemplated in section 48;
- (c) within an area that is subject to a sewer servitude –
  - (i) construct a building; or
  - (ii) raise or lower the ground level.

**85. Damage to sewage disposal system**

- (1) A person may not damage or endanger the sewage disposal system, or cause or permit it to be damaged or endangered.
- (2) A person who intends performing work which may cause damage to the sewage disposal system on land owned by or vested in the Municipality or over which it has a servitude or other right, must, before he or she commences the work, ascertain from an authorized officer if any part of the sewage disposal system is situated on the land.
- (3) If work which could damage or endanger the sewage disposal system is to be performed or is being performed on land referred to in subsection (2), or on land adjacent thereto, the authorized officer may by notice in writing require the person concerned not to commence, or to cease performing the work until such time as he or she has complied with the conditions specified in the notice

**86. Consequential maintenance of sewers**

- (1) Whenever a sewer is damaged or becomes obstructed or in need of repair as a result of the act or omission of any person, whether by reason of the failure of such person to comply with the requirements of this By-law or otherwise, the Municipality may carry out such work of maintenance or repair as is necessary or remove the obstruction and recover from him or her the full cost of doing so.

**87. Obstruction to access to sewage disposal system**

- (1) A person may not prevent or restrict access to a sewage disposal system.
- (2) If a person contravenes subsection (1), the authorized officer may –
  - (a) by written notice require the person to restore access at his or her own costs within a specified period; or
  - (b) if the situation is a matter of urgency, without prior notice, restore access and recover the full costs of doing so from such person.

**88. Work by private person**

- (1) The Municipality must lay all sewers and connecting sewers, unless it elects not to do so in which case the work must be executed in accordance with the Municipality's conditions of contract applicable to the work and the following provisions apply:

- (a) Any person carrying out such work must, before he or she commences the work
    - 
    - (i) lodge with an authorized officer a written indemnity in which he or she indemnifies the Municipality against all liability in respect of any accident or injury to a person or loss or damage to property which may occur as the direct result of the execution of such works; and
    - (ii) obtain from an authorized officer the written requirements to be complied with; and
  - (b) where the surface of any street or road has been disturbed in the course of such work, only the Municipality may, at the expense of the person carrying out such work, restore the surface.
- (2) Before the surface of a street or road is disturbed, the person must deposit with the Municipality a sum of money which is sufficient to cover the estimated cost of such restoration.
  - (3) When the actual cost is greater than the deposit, the excess is recoverable from the person; and when the actual cost is less, any balance must be refunded to the person.
  - (4) All work contemplated in subsection (1)(a) must be carried out in accordance with the written requirements by an authorized officer.

### ***Part 8***

#### ***Industrial effluent***

#### **89. Application for disposal of industrial effluent**

- (1) A person may not, except with the approval of the Municipality as contemplated in section 7(2) of the Act, discharge or cause or permit industrial effluent to be discharged into the sanitation system.
- (2) A person or institution must apply for approval, including a renewal of an approval, to the Municipality.
- (3) A person or institution applying as contemplated in subsection (2), must do so in accordance with the provisions of this section, and at his, her or its own expense.
- (4) If an applicant intends applying simultaneously for approval in terms of this section and any other provision of the Act, he, she or it must deal with each application separately, however, information may be incorporated by reference in one of the applications.

- (5) An application for approval contemplated in subsection (2), must be made to the Municipality in writing on a form similar to the form in Schedule 3.
- (6) The Municipality may call for any additional information or documents reasonably required to enable it to determine whether the proposer or applicant, including a public sector provider, or the water scheme or schemes will comply with the Act, this By-law and the water services development plan of the Municipality, and whether the obligations of the Municipality, imposed on it by the Act, will be met.
- (7) The Municipality may, and it must, if it initially decides to refuse an application made in terms of subsection (1), including an application made by a public sector water provider, prior to making a final decision, meet with the applicant and any organisation reasonably representative of the consumers or potential consumers of the water scheme or schemes, in order to hear representations made by the applicant and such representative organisations in support of, or against, the applications, and it must take such representations into account in arriving at its final decision.

**90. Approval to discharge industrial effluent**

- (1) The Municipality must, if its records indicate that the capacity of the sanitation system is sufficient to permit the conveyance and effective treatment and lawful disposal of the industrial effluent, for such period and subject to such conditions it may impose, approve the discharge of industrial effluent to the sanitation system.
- (2) A person who wishes to construct or cause to be constructed, a building which is to be used as trade premises, must at the time of lodging a building plan in terms of section 4 of the National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act, 1977 (Act 103 of 1977), also lodge applications for the provision of sanitation services and for approval to discharge industrial effluent.

**91. Letter of approval**

- (1) In the event of the Municipality granting approval to discharge effluent waste, it must issue to the applicant a letter of approval which contains such conditions as the Municipality may deem appropriate, which conditions are binding on the applicant.

**92. Unauthorized discharge of industrial effluent**

- (1) A person may not, except with and in terms of the written approval of the Municipality and in accordance the provisions of this part, discharge or cause or permit to be discharged into the sanitation system any industrial effluent.
- (2) A person to whom such permission is granted must pay to the Municipality the appropriate charge set out in the prescribed tariff.

**93. Quality standards for disposal of industrial effluent**

- (1) A person to whom permission has been granted for disposal of industrial effluent under section 92 must ensure that no industrial effluent is discharged into the sewage disposal system of the Municipality unless the industrial effluent complies with the standards and criteria set out in Schedule 1, Part A and Part B, which Schedule refers.
- (2) The Municipality may, by writing in the permission concerned, relax or vary the standards in Schedule 1, provided that any such relaxation represents the best practicable environmental option.
- (3) In determining whether relaxing or varying the standards in Schedule 1 represents the best practicable environmental option, the Municipality must consider –
  - (a) whether the applicant's undertaking is operated and maintained at optimal levels;
  - (b) whether technology used by the applicant represents the best available option to the applicant's industry and, if not, whether the installation of such technology would entail unreasonable cost to the applicant;
  - (c) whether the applicant is implementing a program of waste minimisation which complies with national and local waste minimisation standards;
  - (d) the cost to the Municipality of granting the relaxation or variation; and
  - (e) the environmental impact or potential impact of such a relaxation or variation.
- (4) A duly qualified sampler may take test samples at any time to ascertain whether the industrial effluent complies with Schedule 1 or any other standard laid down in the written permission, granted in terms of section 91.

**94. Conditions for disposal of industrial effluent**

- (1) The Municipality may, in the written permission or at any time, by written notice, require a person to –
  - (a) subject the industrial effluent to preliminary treatment to ensure that the industrial effluent conforms to the standards in Schedule 1 before being discharged into the sewage disposal system;
  - (b) install such equalising tanks, valves, pumps, appliances, meters and other equipment as are necessary to control the rate and time of discharge into the sewage disposal system in accordance with the conditions imposed by it;

- (c) install, for the conveyance of his or her industrial effluent into the sewage disposal system at a given point, a drainage installation separate from the drainage installation for waste water and standard domestic effluent, and the Municipality may prohibit the person from disposing of his or her industrial effluent at any other point and from disposing of his or her waste water and standard domestic effluent by means other than into a sewage disposal system;
  - (d) construct a pipe conveying his or her industrial effluent to any sewer, a service access point or stop-valve in such position and of such dimensions and materials as the Municipality may specify in the permission or notice;
  - (e) provide all such information as may be required by the Municipality to enable it to assess the tariffs or charges due to the Municipality;
  - (f) provide adequate facilities such as level or overflow detection devices, standby equipment, overflow catch-pits or other appropriate means to prevent a discharge into the sewage disposal system which contravenes this By-law;
  - (g) cause any meter, gauge or other device installed in terms of this section to be calibrated by an independent authority at the cost of the person at such intervals as required by the Municipality and copies of the calibration to be forwarded to it; and
  - (h) cause his or her industrial effluent to be analysed as often and in such manner as may be specified by the Municipality, and provide the Municipality with the results of these tests when completed.
- (2) The commercial consumer concerned must bear the cost of any treatment, plant, works or analysis which he or she may be required to carry out, construct or install in terms of subsection (1).
- (3) The commercial consumer concerned must obtain the written permission of the Municipality for any proposed changes to the composition of industrial effluent discharged into the sewage disposal system.
- (4) In the event that industrial effluent that does not comply with the standards in Schedule 1 or the written permission issued in respect of that process or premises, is discharged into the sewage disposal system, the commercial consumer must, within 12 hours of such discharge, inform the Municipality of the incident and the reasons therefore.

**95. Withdrawal of approval to discharge industrial effluent**

- (1) The Municipality may withdraw any approval granted under section 91 after giving at least 14 days written notice of its intention, to a commercial consumer authorized to discharge industrial effluent into the sanitation system if the consumer –
  - (a) fails to ensure that the industrial effluent discharged conforms to the industrial effluent standards set out in Schedule 1, Part A or the written approval;
  - (b) fails or refuses to comply with any notice lawfully served on him or her in terms of these By-laws or contravenes any provisions of this By-law or any condition imposed in terms of any approval granted to him or her; or
  - (c) fails to pay the assessed charges in respect of any industrial effluent discharged.
- (2) The Municipality may, on withdrawal of any approval –
  - (a) in addition to any steps prescribed in these By-laws, and on 14 days written notice, authorise the closing or sealing of the connecting sewer of the premises; and
  - (b) refuse to accept any industrial effluent until adequate steps have been taken to ensure that the industrial effluent to be discharged conforms to the standards set out in section 93.

***Part 9******Sewage delivered by road haulage*****96. Acceptance of sewage delivered by road haulage**

The Municipality may subject to such conditions as it may specify, accept sewage for disposal delivered to the Municipality's sewage treatment plants by road haulage.

**97. Approval for delivery of sewage by road haulage**

- (1) A person may not discharge sewage into the Municipality's sewage treatment plants by road haulage, except with the approval of the Municipality and subject to such period and any conditions that the Municipality may impose.
- (2) The charges for any sewage delivered for disposal to the Municipality's sewage treatment plants must be assessed by the Municipality in accordance with the prescribed tariffs.

**98. Conditions for delivery of sewage by road haulage**

- (1) When sewage is delivered by road haulage –
- (a) the time and place of delivery must be arranged with the Municipality; and
  - (b) the nature and composition of the sewage must be established prior to the discharge thereof and no person may deliver sewage that does not comply with the standards laid down in this By-law.

**99. Withdrawal of permission for delivery of sewage by road haulage**

- (1) The Municipality may withdraw any permission, after giving at least 14 days written notice of its intention to a person permitted to discharge sewage by road haulage if the person –
- (a) fails to ensure that the sewage so delivered conforms to the standards prescribed in Schedule 1, Part 1, as applicable, or the conditions in the approval; or
  - (b) fails or refuses to comply with any notice served on him or her in terms of this By-law; or
  - (c) contravenes any provision of this By-law or any condition imposed on him or her in terms of any approval; or
  - (d) fails to pay the relevant charge as assessed in respect of any sewage delivered.

***Part 10***  
***Other sanitation services***

**100. Stables and similar premises**

- (1) The Municipality may approve the connection of stables, cowsheds, dairies, kennels and other premises for the accommodation of animals and tanneries to a drainage installation subject to the payment of relevant charges and such conditions as the Municipality may impose, provided that –
- (a) the floor of the premises must be paved with approved impervious materials and graded to a silt trap, grease trap or gully of adequate capacity; and
  - (b) every part of the floor of the premises must be covered by a roof and otherwise effectively protected to prevent the entry of rain or storm water into the drainage installation.



**101. Mechanical food-waster or other disposal units**

- (1) The Municipality may approve the connection or incorporation of a mechanical food waster, other disposal unit or garbage grinder into a drainage installation which has a capacity in excess of 500W, subject to the payment of relevant charges and such conditions as the Municipality may impose, provided that –
- (a) a water meter is installed by the Municipality;
  - (b) the Municipality is satisfied that the sewerage and sewage treatment system will not negatively be affected; and
  - (c) the installation or incorporation is installed in conformity with the Municipality's By-law relating to electricity.

***Part 11***  
***Installation work of sanitation sewers***

**102. Approval of installation work**

- (1) If an owner wishes to have installation work done, he or she must first apply for and obtain the written approval of the Municipality.
- (2) Application for the approval must be made on the prescribed form and must be accompanied by –
- (a) the determined charge in the prescribed tariff, if applicable;
  - (b) copies of the drawings as may be determined by the Municipality; and
  - (c) a certificate certifying that the installation has been designed in accordance with any applicable SABS Codes.
- (3) Approval given in terms of subsection (1) lapses at the expiry of a period of 24 months.
- (4) A complete set of approved drawings of installation work must be available at the site of the work at all times until such work has been completed.
- (5) If installation work has been done in contravention of subsections (1) or (2), the Municipality may by notice require the owner –
- (a) to rectify the contravention within a specified period; or

- (b) if work is in progress, to cease the work and to remove all such work which does not comply with this section.

### **103. Persons permitted to do installation and other work**

- (1) A person who is not a plumber or not working under the control of a plumber, may not –
  - (a) do installation work other than the replacement or repair of an existing pipe or sanitation fitting;
  - (b) inspect, disinfect and test a drainage installation, fire installation or storage tank;
  - (c) service, repair or replace a back flow preventer; or
  - (d) install, maintain or replace a meter provided by an owner in a drainage installation.
- (2) A person may not require or engage a person who is not a plumber to do the work referred to in subsection (1).
- (3) Despite subsections (1) and (2), the Municipality may permit a person who is not a plumber to do installation work on his or her own behalf on premises owned and occupied solely by himself or herself and his or her immediate household, but such work must be inspected and approved by a plumber at the direction of the Municipality.

### **104. Use of pipes and water fittings to be authorized**

- (1) A person may not, without the prior written authority of the Municipality, install or use a pipe or water fitting in a water installation within the Municipality's area of jurisdiction, unless it is included in the list of approved pipes and water fittings.
- (2) Application for the inclusion of a pipe or water fitting in the list referred to in subsection (1) must be made on the prescribed form.
- (3) A pipe or water fitting may be included in the list referred to in subsection (1) if –
  - (a) it bears the standardisation mark of the South African Bureau of Standards in respect of the relevant SABS specification issued by the Bureau; or

- (b) it bears a certification mark issued by the SABS to certify that the pipe or water fitting complies with –
  - (i) an SABS Mark specification; or
  - (ii) a provisional specification issued by the SABS, provided that no certification marks may be issued for a period exceeding two years; or
- (c) it is included in the list of water and sanitation installations accepted by JASWIC.
- (4) The Municipality may, in respect of any pipe or water fitting included in the list referred to in subsection (1), impose such additional conditions as it may consider necessary in respect of the use or method of installation thereof.
- (5) A pipe or sanitation fitting may be removed from the list if it –
  - (a) no longer complies with the criteria upon which its inclusion was based; or
  - (b) is no longer suitable for the purpose for which its use was accepted.
- (6) The current list is available for inspection at the office of the Municipality at any time during working hours.
- (7) The Municipality may sell copies of the current list at the appropriate charge in the prescribed tariff.

#### **105. Testing of drainage installations**

- (1) The provisions of SABS 1200 apply.
- (2) Where the Municipality has reason to believe that any drainage installation or any part thereof has become defective, it may require the owner thereof to conduct any or all of the tests prescribed in the Code contemplated in subsection (1), and if the installation fails to withstand any such tests, the Municipality may by notice require the owner to take reasonable measures necessary to enable the installation to withstand any or all of the tests.

**106. Cisterns**

- (1) A cistern, and related pan designed to operate with such cistern, may not be installed with a cistern capacity of greater than nine litres, and all cisterns not intended for public use must be fitted with flushing devices allowing interruptible or multiple flushes, but such flushing device is not required in a cistern with a capacity of 4,5 litres or less.

**CHAPTER 5  
WATER SERVICES INTERMEDIARIES**

**107. Application for registration**

- (1) A person or institution seeking registration with the Municipality as a water services intermediary in terms of section 24 of the Act, must do so in accordance with this section and at his, her or its own expense.
- (2) An application for such registration must be made in writing to the Municipality.
- (3) An application for registration must be accompanied by, at least, the following documents or particulars:
- (a) if a natural person, a certified copy of the identity document of the applicant;
  - (b) if a legal person –
    - (i) a certified copy of the founding document or constitution of the applicant;
    - (ii) a certified resolution adopted by the management body of the applicant, resolving to apply for registration as a water services intermediary; and
    - (iii) a certified list of the names and addresses of all persons occupying a leadership position and having decision-making power in the applicant's organisation;
  - (c) a detailed statement supported by proof of authenticity, which sets out –
    - (i) the applicant's qualifications;
    - (ii) the applicant's capacity to undertake the work associated with the provision of water services in the circumstances reflected in the application;

- (iii) the applicant's experience and skills; and
  - (iv) the financial resources available to the applicant to undertake the provision of water services to be provided by the applicant;
- (d) the grounds upon which the applicant contends that he or she or it is a water services intermediary as defined in the Act;
- (e) a full and detailed description of the water scheme or schemes which will be operated by the applicant containing information to enable the Municipality to determine whether the water scheme or schemes comply with the criteria set in section 11 of the Act, this By-law and the water development plan adopted by the Municipality in terms of section 15 of the Act, which description must include, but is not be limited to –
  - (i) the name or names of the water scheme or schemes;
  - (ii) an indication of the nature of the water services to be provided by the applicant;
  - (iii) detailed plans or drawings, with co-ordinates and scales, and specifications depicting the physical installation associated with the water scheme or schemes, including all structures, aqueducts, pipes, valves, pumps, meters or other apparatus relating thereto used or intended to be used by him or her or it in connection with the provision of water services contemplated in the application;
  - (iv) a detailed description, including numbers and locality, of the consumers or potential consumers that will be supplied with water services by the applicant;
  - (v) details of the source, the quality and quantity of water that will be supplied to consumers or potential consumers;
  - (vi) what arrangements are in place to ensure that such quality and quantity is consistently maintained;
  - (vii) a business plan setting out how the water scheme or schemes will be operated and maintained during the period the applicant undertakes the supply of water services as contemplated in the application, and what arrangements have been adopted to deal with any emergency, including natural disasters and drought;

- (viii) a budget describing the financial administration of the water scheme or schemes, the source of any capital or revenue requirements, and an indication of the sustainability of the water scheme or schemes; and
- (ix) details of charges that the applicant will levy on all consumers, the method of calculating such charges, the process whereby increases or decreases in such tariffs and charges will be dealt with and the manner in which such tariffs and charges comply with the national norm set by the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry in terms of section 10 of the Act;
- (f) a certificate indicating who the legal owner or owners of the water scheme or schemes is or are;
- (g) certified copies of all documents and deeds reflecting the legal status of the water scheme or schemes, including deeds of servitude where appropriate;
- (h) full details of the conditions that will be imposed in terms of section 4 of the Act; and
- (i) full details required in terms of section 19(4) of the Act.

**108. Additional information to make decision**

- (1) The Municipality may call for any additional information or documents reasonably required to enable it to determine whether –
  - (a) the proposer or applicant, including a public sector provider, or the water scheme or schemes will comply with the Act, this By-law and the water development plan of the Municipality; and
  - (b) the Municipality will be able to meet the obligations imposed on it by the Act.
- (2) The Municipality, in order to hear representations made by the applicant and such representative organisations in support of, or against, the applications, as the case may be, may and shall, before it makes a final decision, if it initially decides to refuse an application made in terms of subsection (1), including an application made by a public sector water provider, meet with the applicant and any organisation reasonably representative of the consumers or potential consumers of the water scheme or schemes, and it must take such representations into account in arriving at its final decision.

**109. Approval of application**

- (1) The Municipality may approve or refuse the application, provided that –
  - (a) if it approves the application, it may make such approval subject to such reasonable and relevant conditions as it deems necessary; and
  - (b) if it refuses the application, it must advise the applicant in writing of the reasons for such refusal.
- (2) In the event of the Municipality granting such approval it must deliver a written notification thereof to the applicant and in such notice it must –
  - (a) draw the applicants attention to the provisions of sections 25, 26 and 27 of the Act;
  - (b) draw the applicant's attention to the provisions of this Chapter; and
  - (c) set out any conditions imposed under subsection (1)(a).

**110. Provision of water services**

- (1) A water services intermediary must ensure that water services, including such basic services as determined by the Municipality, are provided to such persons it is obliged to provide with water services.
- (2) The quality, quantity and sustainability of water services provided by a water services intermediary must meet any minimum standards prescribed in terms of the Act and must at least be of the same standards as provided by the Municipality to consumers.

**111. Charges for water services provided**

- (1) A water services intermediary may not charge for water services at a price which does not comply with any norms and standards prescribed under the Act and any additional norms and standards as may be determined by the Municipality.
- (2) A Water Services Intermediary must provide subsidised water services, as determined by the Municipality in terms of the Municipality's by-laws relating to credit control and debt collection from time to time to a consumer at a price that is the same or less than the charges at which the Municipality provides such services.

## CHAPTER 6

### UNAUTHORIZED WATER SERVICES AND RELATED MATTERS

#### 112. Unauthorized use of water services

- (1) A person may not gain access to water services from the water supply system, sewage disposal system or any other sanitation services unless a services agreement has been entered into with the Municipality for the rendering of those services.
- (2) The Municipality may, irrespective of any other action it may take against such person in terms of these By-laws, by written notice order a person who has gained access to water services from the water supply system, sewage disposal system or any other sanitation services provided by the Municipality without a services agreement with the Municipality for the rendering of those services –
  - (a) to apply for such services in terms of the Customer Care and Revenue Management By-law of the Municipality; and
  - (b) to undertake such work as may be necessary to ensure that the consumer installation through which access was gained complies with this By-law.
- (3) The provisions of section 121 apply to a notice in terms of subsection (2).

#### 113. Interference with infrastructure for provision of water services

- (1) A person other than the Municipality may not manage, operate or maintain a water supply system or any sanitation system unless authorized in writing by the Municipality.
- (2) A person other than the Municipality may not effect a connection to the water supply system or sewage disposal system or render any other sanitation services.
- (3) The Municipality may recover from the offender any costs associated with repairing damage caused as a result of a contravention of subsection (1) or (2), and the costs recoverable by the Municipality is the full cost associated with repairing the damage and includes, but is not restricted to, any exploratory investigation, surveys, plans, specifications, schedules of quantities, supervision, administration charge, the use of tools, the expenditure of labour involved in disturbing or rehabilitating any part of a street or ground affected by the repairs and the environmental cost.



**114. Obstruction of access to infrastructure for provision of water services**

- (1) A person may not by constructions prevent or restrict physical access to the water supply system or sewage disposal system.
- (2) If a person contravenes subsection (1), the Municipality may –
  - (a) by written notice require the person to restore access at his or her own expense within a specified period; or
  - (b) if the situation is a matter of urgency, without prior notice, restore access and recover the cost from the person.
- (3) The costs recoverable under subsection (2)(b) by the Municipality is the full cost associated with restoring access and includes, but is not restricted to, any exploratory investigation, surveys, plans, specifications, schedules of quantities, supervision, administration charge, the use of tools, the expenditure of labour involved in disturbing or rehabilitating of any part of a street or ground affected by restoring access and the environmental cost.

**115. Waste of water unlawful**

- (1) A consumer may not permit –
  - (a) the purposeless or wasteful discharge of water from terminal water fittings;
  - (b) pipes or water fittings to leak;
  - (c) the use of maladjusted or defective water fittings;
  - (d) an overflow of water to persist; or
  - (e) an inefficient use of water to persist.
- (2) An owner must repair or replace any part of his or her water installation which is in such a state of disrepair that it is either causing or is likely to cause an occurrence listed in subsection (1).
- (3) If an owner fails to take measures as contemplated in subsection (2), the Municipality must, by written notice in terms of section 124 require the owner to comply with the provisions of subsection (2).
- (4) A consumer must ensure that any equipment or plant connected to his or her water installation uses water in an efficient manner.

- (5) The Municipality may, by written notice, prohibit the use by a consumer of any equipment in a water installation if its use of water is inefficient, and the equipment may not be used until its efficiency has been restored and a written application to do so has been approved by the Municipality.

**116. Unauthorized and illegal discharges**

- (1) A person may not discharge or cause or permit any sewage to be discharged directly or indirectly into a storm water drain, river, stream or other watercourse, whether natural or artificial.
- (2) The owner or occupier of any premises on which steam or any liquid, other than potable water, is stored, processed or generated must provide all facilities necessary to prevent any discharge or leakage of such liquid to any street, storm water drain or watercourse, whether natural or artificial, except where, in the case of steam, the Municipality has approved such discharge.
- (3) Where the hosing down or flushing by rainwater of an open area on any premises is likely to cause the discharge of objectionable matter into any street, stormwater drain, river, stream or other watercourse, whether natural or artificial, or to cause or contribute towards the pollution of any such watercourse, the Municipality may, by notice, require the owner of the premises to take reasonable measures to prevent or minimise such discharge or pollution.
- (4) A person may not discharge or cause or permit the discharge of –
- (a) any substance, including storm water, other than sewage to be discharged into a drainage installation;
  - (b) water from any swimming pool directly or indirectly over any road or into a gutter, storm water drain, watercourse, open ground or private premises other than the premises of the owner of such swimming pool;
  - (c) water from artificial fountains, reservoirs or swimming pools situated on the premises into a drainage installation, without the approval of the Municipality and subject to the payment of relevant charges set out in the prescribed tariff and under such conditions as the Municipality may impose;
  - (d) any sewage, industrial effluent or other liquid or substance which –
    - (i) may be offensive to or may cause a nuisance to the public;
    - (ii) is in the form of steam or vapour or has a temperature exceeding 44° C at the point where it enters the sewer;

- (iii) has a pH value less than 6.0;
- (iv) contains any substance of whatever nature likely to produce or release explosive, flammable, poisonous or offensive gases or vapours in any sewer;
- (v) contains any substance having an open flashpoint of less than 93°C or which releases a poisonous vapour at a temperature below 93° C;
- (vi) contains any material of whatever nature, including oil, grease, fat or detergents capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers or drains or interference with the proper operation of sewerage treatment works;
- (vii) shows any visible signs of tar or associated products or distillates, bitumens or asphalts;
- (viii) contains any substance in such concentration to produce an undesirable taste after chlorination or an undesirable odour or colour, or excessive foam;
- (ix) has either a greater PV (Permanganate Value) or COD (Chemical Oxygen Demand) value, a lower pH value, or a higher caustic alkalinity or electrical conductivity than specified in Schedule 2, which Schedule refers, without the prior approval and subject to the payment of relevant charges set out in the prescribed tariff and such conditions as the Municipality may impose;
- (x) contains any substance which –
  - (aa) cannot be treated at the sewage treatment work to which it could be discharged;
  - (bb) will negatively affect the treatment processes at the sewage treatment work to which it could be discharged; or
  - (cc) will negatively impact on the ability of the sewage treatment work to produce discharges that meet the waste water discharge standards set in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998), or
- (xi) either alone or in combination with other substance may –
  - (aa) generate or constitute a toxic substance dangerous to the health of persons employed at the sewage treatment works or entering the Municipality's sewers or manholes in the course of their duties;

- (bb) be harmful to sewers, treatment plant or land used for the disposal of treated waste water; or
  - (cc) adversely affect any of the processes whereby sewage is treated or any re-use of sewage effluent.
- (5) A person may not cause or permit the accumulation of grease, oil, fat or solid matter in any drainage installation that will adversely affect its effective functioning.
- (6) The Municipality may, despite any other actions that may be taken in terms of these By-laws, recover from any person who discharges industrial effluent or any substance which is unauthorized or illegal, all costs incurred by the Municipality as a result of such discharges, including costs that result from –
  - (a) injury to persons,
  - (b) damage to the sanitation system; or
  - (c) a prosecution in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998).

#### **117. Illegal connection**

Where a consumer's access to water supply services has been restricted or disconnected, and he or she –

- (a) intentionally unlawfully reconnects to services; or
- (b) intentionally or negligently interferes with infrastructure through which water supply services are provided,

then his or her water supply shall on written notice be disconnected.

#### **118. Interference with infrastructure**

- (1) A person may not unlawfully and intentionally or negligently interfere with infrastructure by which the Municipality provides municipal services.
- (2) If a person contravenes subsection (1), the Municipality may –
  - (a) by written notice require such person to cease or rectify the interference at his or her own expense within a specified period; or
  - (b) if the situation is a matter of urgency, without prior notice, prevent or rectify the interference and recover the cost from such person.

**119. Use of water from sources other than water supply system provided by Municipality**

- (1) A person may not use or permit the use of water obtained from a source other than the water supply system or rain water tanks which are not connected to the water installation, except with the prior approval of the Municipality, and in accordance with such conditions as it may impose, for domestic, commercial or industrial purposes.
- (2) Any person desiring the approval referred to in subsection (1) must provide the Municipality with evidence to the effect that –
  - (a) the water referred to in subsection (1) complies, whether as a result of treatment or otherwise, with the requirements of SABS 241: Drinking Water; or
  - (b) the use of such water does not or will not constitute a danger to health.
- (3) An approval given in terms of subsection (1) may be withdrawn if –
  - (a) a condition imposed in terms of subsection (1) is breached; or
  - (b) the water quality no longer conforms to the requirements referred to in subsection (2).
- (4) The Municipality may take samples of water obtained from a source, other than the water supply system, and cause the samples to be tested for compliance with the requirements referred to in subsection (2).
- (5) The relevant charge set out in the prescribed tariff for the taking and testing of the samples referred to in subsection (4) must be paid by the person to whom approval was granted in terms of subsection (1).
- (6) If water obtained from a borehole or other source of supply on any premises is used for a purpose which gives rise to the discharge of such water or a portion thereof into the Municipality's sewerage system, the Municipality may install a meter in the pipe leading from such borehole or other source of supply to the point where it is so used, and the provisions of section 22 apply insofar as they may be applicable in respect of the meter.

## CHAPTER 7 COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

### 120. Responsibility for compliance with By-law

- (1) The owner of premises is responsible for ensuring compliance with this By-law in respect of all or any matters relating to any water and sanitation installation, and should an owner contravene a provision with which he or she must comply, he or she commits an offence.
- (2) The consumer is responsible for compliance with this By-law in respect of matters relating to the use of any water and sanitation installation, and should a consumer contravene a provision with which he or she must comply, he or she commits an offence.

### 121. Notice of compliance and representations

- (1) The Municipality may, by a notice of compliance, which must be in writing, order an owner, consumer or any other person who fails, by act or omission, to comply with the provision of this By-law or to any condition imposed thereunder, to remedy such breach within a period specified in the notice, and the notice must specify –
  - (a) the name and residential and postal address, if either or both of these be known, of the affected person;
  - (b) the provision of this By-law which has not been complied with;
  - (c) in sufficient detail to enable compliance with the notice, the measures required to remedy the situation;
  - (d) that the person must within a specified period take the measures to comply with the notice, to diligently continue with the measures, and to complete the measures before a specified date;
  - (e) that failure to comply with the requirements of the notice within the period contemplated in paragraph (d) is an offence; and
  - (f) that written representations, as contemplated in subsection (3), may within the period stipulated under paragraph (d) above, be made to the Municipality at a specified place.
- (2) The Municipality, when considering any measure or period envisaged in subsection (1)(c) and (d), must have regard to –
  - (a) the principles and objectives contained in section 2;

- (b) the nature of the non-compliance; and
  - (c) any other relevant factors.
- (3) A person may, within the period contemplated in paragraph (1)(f), make representations, in the form of a sworn statement or affirmation to the Municipality at the place specified in the notice.
- (4) Representations not lodged within the period will not be considered, except where the person has shown good cause and the Municipality condones the late lodging of the representations.
- (5) The Municipality must consider the representations and any response thereto by an authorized official or any other person, if there be such a response.
- (6) The Municipality may, on its own volition, conduct any further investigations to verify the facts if necessary, and the results of the investigation must be made available to the person, who must be given an opportunity of making a further response if he or she so wishes, and the Municipality must also consider the further response.
- (7) The Municipality must, after consideration of the representations and response, if there be such a response, make an order in writing and serve a copy of it on the person.
- (8) The order must –
- (a) set out the findings of the Municipality;
  - (b) confirm, alter or set aside in whole or in part, the notice of compliance; and
  - (c) specify a period within which the person must comply with the notice.
- (9) If the notice of compliance is confirmed, in whole or in part, or is altered but not set aside, the Municipality must inform the person that he or she –
- (a) must discharge the obligations set out in the notice; or
  - (b) may elect to be tried in court.
- (10) If the person elects to be tried in court he or she must, within seven calendar days, notify the Municipality in writing of his or her intention to be so tried.
- (11) If the person does not elect to be tried in court, he or she must, within the manner and time set out in the notice discharge his or her obligations.

- (12) Where there has been no compliance with the requirements of a notice, the person commits an offence, and the Municipality may take such steps as it deems necessary to remedy the situation and the costs thereof must be paid to the Municipality in accordance with section 122.

## **122. Costs**

- (1) Should an owner or consumer fail to take the measures required of him or her by notice, the Municipality may, subject to subsection (3) recover all costs incurred as a result of it acting in terms of section 121(12) from that person.
- (2) The costs claimed must be reasonable and may include, without being limited to, costs relating to labour, electricity, water, equipment, administrative and overhead costs.
- (3) If more than one person is liable for the costs incurred, the liability must be apportioned by agreement among the persons concerned according to the degree to which each was responsible for the situation existing.
- (4) Costs that are incurred by the Municipality when it does alterations or other works may be recovered from the person on whom the notice was served, or if a deposit has been paid, the costs may be deducted from the deposit.

## **CHAPTER 8 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

### **123. Provision of information**

- (1) An owner, occupier, consumer or person within the area of supply of the Municipality must on written request provide the Municipality with accurate information in writing that is reasonably required by the Municipality for the implementation or enforcement of this By-law.

### **124. Authentication and serving of notices and other documents**

- (1) A notice or other document requiring authentication by the Municipality must be signed by the municipal manager or by an authorized officer and when the notice or document is issued by the Municipality in terms of this By-law it is regarded to be duly issued if it is signed by an authorized officer.



- (2) Any notice or other document that is served on a person in terms of this By-law is regarded as having been served –
- (a) when it has been delivered to that person personally;
  - (b) when it has been left at that person's place of residence or business in the Republic with a person apparently over the age of 16 years;
  - (c) when it has been posted by registered or certified mail to that person's last known residential or business address in the Republic, and an acknowledgment of the posting thereof from the postal service is obtained;
  - (d) if that person's address in the Republic is unknown, when it has been served on that person's agent or representative in the Republic in the manner provided by paragraphs (a), (b) or (c);
  - (e) if that person's address and agent or representative in the Republic is unknown, when it has been posted in a conspicuous place on the property or premises, if any, to which it relates;
  - (f) in the event of a body corporate, when it has been delivered at the registered office of the business premises of such body corporate; or
  - (g) when it has been delivered, at the request of that person, to his or her e-mail address.
- (3) Service of a copy is deemed to be service of the original.
- (4) When any notice or other document must be authorized or served on the owner, occupier, or holder of any property, or right in any property, it is sufficient if that person is described in the notice or other document as the owner, occupier, or holder of the property or right in question, and it is not necessary to name that person.
- (5) Any legal process is effectively and sufficiently served on the Municipality when it is delivered to the Municipal Manager, or a person in attendance at the municipal manager's office.

## **126. Offences**

- (1) A person commits an offence if he or she –
- (a) obstructs or hinders the Municipality in the exercising of the powers or performance of functions or duties under this By-law;

- (b) uses, tampers or interferes with the Municipality's equipment, the water supply system, sanitation system and reticulation network or consumption of services rendered;
  - (c) contravenes or fails to comply with this By-law other than a provision relating to payment for municipal services; or
  - (d) fails to comply with the written request served upon him or her in terms of section 124;
- (2) A person contemplated in subsection (1) is liable upon conviction to a fine or to a period of imprisonment or community service not exceeding four months, or in the event of a continued offence to a further fine of R2000,00 for every day the offence is continued.

#### **127. Power of entry and inspection**

- (1) An authorized officer may on the authority of a warrant, for any purpose connected with the implementation or enforcement of this By-law, at all reasonable times or in an emergency at any time –
- (a) enter premises;
  - (b) request information;
  - (c) take samples;
  - (d) make such inspection, examination and enquiry and carry out work as he or she may deem necessary, and for these purposes operate any component of the drainage installation.
- (2) If the authorized officer considers it necessary that work be performed to enable him or her properly and effectively to implement a function referred to in subsection (1) he or she may subject to subsection (3) –
- (a) by written notice require the owner or occupier of the premises at his or her own cost to do specified work within a specified period; or
  - (b) if the situation is a matter of urgency, without prior notice, do such work or cause it to be done, at the costs of the owner.
- (3) If the work referred to in subsection (2) is carried out for the sole purpose of establishing whether a contravention of this By-law has been committed and no such contravention is established, the Municipality must bear the expense connected therewith together with that of restoring the premises to its former condition.

- (4) Any entry and inspection must be conducted in conformity with the requirements of the Constitution of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act 108 of 1996), and any other law and, in particular, with strict regard to decency, order and respect for a person's dignity, freedom and security, and personal privacy.
- (5) An authorized officer may be accompanied by an interpreter and any other person reasonably required to assist the authorized officer in conducting the inspection.
- (6) A person representing the Municipality must, on request, provide his or her identification and authority.

#### **128. Indemnification from liability**

Neither employees of the Municipality nor any person, body, organisation or corporation acting on behalf of the Municipality is liable for any damage arising from any omission or act done in good faith without any fault in the course of his or her duties.

#### **129. Exemption**

- (1) The Municipality may, in writing, exempt an owner, consumer, any other person or category of owners, consumers or other persons from complying with a provision of this By-law, subject to any conditions it may impose if the application or operation of that provision would be unreasonable, but the Municipality may not grant exemption from any section of this By-law that may result in –
  - (a) the wastage or excessive consumption of water;
  - (b) the evasion or avoidance of water restrictions;
  - (c) significant negative effects on public health, safety or the environment;
  - (d) the non-payment for services;
  - (e) the installation of pipes and fittings which are not approved; and
  - (f) the Act, or any regulations made in terms thereof, not being complied with.
- (2) The Municipality may at any time after giving written notice of at least 30 days, withdraw any exemption given.
- (3) The Municipality must review all exemptions quarterly.

- (4) The Municipality must consider a submission for exemption at the next ensuing Municipality meeting immediately following receipt of a submission, and should the Municipality fail to do so or the meeting fail to address the issue and take a resolution, the applicant for exemption may appeal to the Member of the Executive Committee of the Provincial Government charged with the administration of local government affairs ("the MEC") to intervene in the matter.

### **130. Co-operation between municipalities and application**

- (1) In an effort to achieve optimal service delivery, the Municipality may enter into agreements with the District Municipality in respect of the following:
- (a) Practical arrangements with regard to the execution of the provisions of this By-law;
  - (b) recovery of costs and expenses;
  - (c) mechanisms for the settlement of disputes with regard to the execution of powers or a matter on which there has been an agreement;
  - (d) any other matter regarded as being necessary by the District Municipality and the Municipality to achieve optimal service delivery.
- (2) The provisions of this By-law apply to the jurisdictional area of the Municipality.

### **131. Transitional arrangements**

- (1) Installation work authorized by the Municipality prior to the commencement date of this By-law or authorized installation work in progress on such date is regarded to have been authorized in terms of this By-law, and the Municipality may for a period of 90 days after the commencement of this By-law authorise installation work in accordance with the by-laws that regulated such work immediately prior to the promulgation of these By-laws.
- (2) Any reference in this By-law to a charge determined by the Municipality is regarded to be a reference to a charge determined by the Municipality under the laws repealed by section 132, until the effective date of any applicable charges that may be determined by the Municipality in terms of these By-laws or by-laws relating to credit control and debt collection, and any reference to a provision in the laws repealed by section 132 is regarded to be a reference to the corresponding provision in these By-laws.
- (3) Any approval, consent or exemption granted under the laws repealed by section 132, save for the provisions of subsection (2), remain valid.

- (4) A consumer is not required to comply with this By-law by altering a water installation or part thereof which was installed in conformity with any laws applicable immediately prior to the commencement of these by-laws. If, however, the installation or part thereof is so defective or in such a condition or position as to cause waste or undue consumption of water, pollution of the water supply or a health hazard, the Municipality may by notice require the consumer to comply with the provisions of these By-laws.
- (5) Despite sub-section (4), no flushing urinal that is not user-activated may be installed or continue to operate in any water installation, and all flushing urinals that are not user-activated installed before these By-laws commence, must be converted to user-activated urinals within two years of the commencement of this By-law.

### **132. Repeal**

The following by-laws are hereby repealed:

- (a) The Drainage By-laws of the Town Council of Ellisras, Notice 11 of 1991 and published in the Provincial Gazette as Local Government Notice 2233 on 26 June, 1991, are hereby revoked;
- (b) the Standard Sanitary Conveniences and Nightsoil and Vacuum Tank Removal By-laws, published by Administrator's Notice 1102 of 5 June 1985 in terms of Section 101 of the Local Government Ordinance, 1939, and read with section 16(3) of the Transvaal Board for the Development of Peri-urban Areas, and Proclamation 6 (Administrator's) of 1945, and which became the by-laws of the Town Council of Ellisras, as amended, are hereby revoked; and
- (c) the Water and Sanitation By-laws of 27 February 2003, Notice 5 of 2003, published as Local Government Notice are hereby revoked.

### **133. Short title and commencement**

- (1) This by-law is called the Water Supply and Sanitation Services By-law of the Lephalale Local Municipality, and commence on the date of publication thereof in the Provincial Gazette.
- (2) The Municipality may, by notice in the Provincial Gazette, determine that the provisions of this by-law, listed in the notice, do not apply in certain areas within its area of jurisdiction listed in the notice from a date specified in the notice.

**SCHEDULE 1**  
**QUALITY STANDARDS**  
**(Section 93(1))**

**PART A**  
**Quality standards for disposal of industrial effluent**

Acceptance of industrial effluent for discharge into the sewage disposal system

No industrial effluent shall be accepted for discharge into the sewage disposal system unless it complies with the following conditions.

The industrial effluent shall not contain concentrations of substances in excess of those stated below :-

Large works general quality limits are applicable when an industry's effluent discharges in a catchment leading to a sewage works of greater than 25 Ml/d capacity. Small Works quality limits apply for catchments leading to sewage works with less than 25 Ml/d capacity.

GENERAL QUALITY LIMITS	LARGE WORKS □ 25 Ml/d	SMALL WORKS □ 25 Ml/d	UNITS
1. Temperature °C	□ 44 C	□ 44 C	Degrees Celsius
2. pH	6 □ pH □ 10	6,5 □ pH □ 10	pH units
3. Oils, greases, waxes of mineral origin	50	50	mg/
4. Vegetables oils, greases, waxes	250	250	mg/
5. Total sugar and starch (as glucose)	1 000	500	mg/
6. Sulphate in solution (as SO <sup>=</sup> )	250	250	mg/
7. Sulphide, hydrosulphides (as S <sup>=</sup> ) and polysulphides	1	1	mg/
8. Chlorides (as C <sup>=</sup> )	1 000	500	mg/
9. Fluoride (as F <sup>=</sup> )	5	5	mg/
10. Phenols (as phenol)	10	5	mg/

11.	Cyanides (as CN <sup>-</sup> )	20	10	mg/
12.	Settleable solids	Charge	Charge	m/
13.	Suspended solids	2 000	1 000	mg/
14.	Total dissolved solids	1 000	5000	mg/
15.	Electrical conductivity	-	400	Ms/m
16.	Anionic surfactants	-	500	mg/
17.	C.O.D.	Charge	Charge	mg/

GENERAL QUALITY LIMITS	LARGE WORKS >25 M/d	SMALL WORKS <25 M/d	UNITS
<u>Heavy Metal Limits</u>			
18. Copper (as Cu)	50	5	mg/
19. Nickel (Ni)	50	5	mg/
Zinc (Zn)	50	5	mg/
21. Iron (Fe)	50	5	mg/
22. Boron (B)	50	5	mg/
23. Selenium (Se)	50	5	mg/
24. Manganese (Mn)	50	5	mg/
25. Lead (Pb)	20	5	mg/
26. Cadmium (Cd)	20	5	mg/
27. Mercury (Hg)	1	1	mg/
28. Total Chrome (Cr)	20	5	mg/
29. Arsenic (As)	20	5	mg/
30. Titanium (Ti)	20	5	mg/
31. Cobalt (Co)	20	5	mg/
TOTAL METALS	100	20	mg/

Special limitations

- 1 No calcium carbide, radio active waste or isotopes
- 2 No yeast and yeast wastes, molasses spent or unspent
- 3 No cyanides or related compounds capable of liberating HCN gas or cyanogen
- 4 No degreasing solvents, petroleum spirit, volatile flammable solvents or any substance which yields a flammable vapour at 21 C



**PART B****Acceptance of industrial effluent for discharge into sea outfalls**

No industrial effluent shall be accepted for discharge into the sea outfall unless it complies with the following conditions. The industrial effluent shall not contain concentrations of substances in excess of those stated below:-

SEA OUTFALL QUALITY LIMIT		UNIT
1. Temperature	44	C
2. Ph	5,5 < pH < 9,5	
3. Settleable solids	2	m/
4. Oils, greases and waxes of mineral origin	50	mg/
5. Arsenic (expressed as As)	5	mg/
6. Cadmium (expressed as Cd)	1,5	mg/
7. Total chromium (expressed as Cr)	3	mg/
8. Copper (expressed as Cu)	3	mg/
9. Lead (expressed as Pb)	5	mg/
10. Mercury (expressed as Hg)	0,05	mg/
11. Cyanides (expressed as CN)	10	mg/
12. Nickel (expressed as Ni)	10	mg/
13. Zinc (expressed as Zn)	20	mg/
14. Sulphide (expressed as S <sup>-</sup> )	1	mg/
15. Sulphates in solution (expressed as SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> )	250	mg/

**SCHEDULE 2**  
**(Section 116(4)(d)(ix))**  
**VALUES**

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Allowed Specification</b>
PV-not exceed	1400 ml/l
Ph within range	6,0 – 10,0
Electrical conductivity - not greater than	500 m S / m at 20 °C
Caustic alkalinity (expressed as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	2 000 mg / l
Substance not in solution (including fat, oil, grease waxes and like substances)	2 000 mg / l
Substances soluble in petroleum ether	500 mg / l
Sulphides, hydro-sulphides and polysulphides (expressed as S)	50 mg / l
Substances from which hydrogen cyanide can be liberated in the sewage drainage installation, sewer or sewage treatment works (expressed as HCN)	20 mg / l
Formaldehyde (expressed as HCHO)	50 mg / l
Non - organic solids in suspension	100 mg / l
Chemical oxygen demand (CO)	5 000 mg / l
All sugars and / or starch (expressed as glucose)	1 500 mg / l
Available chlorine (expressed as Cl)	100 mg / l
Sulphates (expressed as SO <sub>4</sub> )	1 800 mg / l
Fluorine - containing compounds (expressed as F)	5 mg / l
Anionic surface active agents	500 mg / l

**METALS:**

**Group 1:**

<b>Metal</b>	<b>Expressed as</b>
Manganese	Mn
Chromium	Cr
Copper	Cu
Nickel	Ni
Zinc	Zn
Iron	Fe
Silver	Ag
Cobalt	Co

Tungsten	W
Titanium	Ti
Cadmium	Cd

The total collective concentration of all metals in Group 1 (expressed as indicated above) in any sample of the effluent, shall not exceed 50 mg/l, nor shall the concentration of any individual metal in a sample exceed 20 mg/l.

#### Group 2:

Metal	Expressed as
Lead	Pb
Selenium	Se
Mercury	Hg

The total collective concentration of all metals in Group 2 (expressed as indicated above) in any sample of the effluent shall not exceed 10 mg/l, nor shall the concentration of any individual metal in any sample exceed 5 mg/l.

#### OTHER ELEMENTS

Element	Expressed as
Arsenic	As
Boron	B

The total collective concentration of all elements (expressed as indicated above) in any sample of the effluent shall not exceed 20 mg / l.

#### RADIO-ACTIVE WASTES

Radio-active wastes or isotopes: Such concentration as may be laid down by the Atomic Energy Board or any national or Department:

Provided that, notwithstanding the requirements set out in this Part, the Municipality reserves the right to limit the total mass of any substance or impurity discharged per 24 hours into the sanitation system from any premises.

#### METHOD OF TESTING:

The method of testing in order to ascertain the concentration of any substance in this Schedule, shall be the test normally used by the Municipality for these purposes. Any person discharging any substance referred to in this Schedule shall ascertain the details of the appropriate test from the Municipality.

**SCHEDULE 3**  
**(Section 89(5))**

**APPLICATION FORM FOR THE DISCHARGE OF INDUSTRIAL  
EFFLUENT TO THE MUNICIPALITY'S SANITATION SYSTEM**

**(Please complete application in block capitals)**

I (name): \_\_\_\_\_

the undersigned, duly authorised to set on behalf of

\_\_\_\_\_ and hereinafter referred to as the applicant, hereby apply in terms of the Water Services Bylaws of the Municipality for approval to discharge industrial effluent into the Municipality's sanitation system in accordance with the information provided herein.

**PART I**

1. NATURE OF THE BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY CONCERNED:

\_\_\_\_\_

2. NAME OR STYLE UNDER WHICH THE BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY IS CONDUCTED:

\_\_\_\_\_

3. POSTAL ADDRESS OF THE BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY:

\_\_\_\_\_

4. PHYSICAL STREET ADDRESS:

\_\_\_\_\_

:

\_\_\_\_\_

ERF NO OR FARM PTN: \_\_\_\_\_ TOWNSHIP OR FARM: \_\_\_\_\_

5. If the business or industry is conducted by a company or closed corporation, state the name of the secretary, and if it is a partnership state the names of the partners:

\_\_\_\_\_

6. IS THIS A NEW OR ESTABLISHED BUSINESS:

7. DESCRIPTION OF INDUSTRIAL OR TRADE PROCESS BY WHICH THE EFFLUENT WILL BE PRODUCED:

8. INFORMATION RELATING TO EMPLOYEES:

	Office	Factory
Total number of daily employees (not included in (4)):		
(2) Number of shifts worked per day:		
(3) Number of days worked per week :		
(4) Number of persons resident on the premises:		
(5) Is a canteen provided? :		

## PART II

### INFORMATION RELATING TO THE CONSUMPTION OF WATER

1. TOTAL NUMBER OF LITRES OF WATER CONSUMED IN SIX MONTHS:

	Meter No	Meter No	Meter No	Total
Water purchased from the Municipality				
Water from borehole or other source				
Water entering with raw materials				
Section of plant served by meter				
Total A				

2. WATER CONSUMPTION

(1) Industrial

kl/Month

- (i) Quantity of water in product .....
- (ii) Quantity of water lost by evaporation .....
- (iii) Quantity of water used as boiler make-up .....
- (iv) Quantity of water for other uses (e.g. cooling, gardens, etc) .....

TOTAL B

(2) Domestic use kl/Month

- (i) Total number of employees (Allow 1 kilolitre/person/month) .....
- (ii) Total number of employees permanently resident on the premises eg. hostels (Allow 1 kilolitre/person/month) .....

TOTAL C

### 3. EFFLUENT DISCHARGE INTO SANITATION SYSTEM

- (1) Metered volume (if known) .....kl/ Month
- (2) Estimated un-metered volume (see below\*) .....kl/ Month
- (3) Estimated rate of discharge .....
- (4) Period of maximum discharge (eg. 07:00 to 08:00) .....

\* In the event that no effluent meter is installed on the premises, the estimated volume of un-metered effluent discharge to sewer is calculated as follows:

$$A - (B + C) = \text{.....Kilolitre /Month}$$

## PART III

### INFORMATION REGARDING THE COMPOSITION OF INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENT

Information relating to the chemical and physical characteristics of the effluent to be discharged:

- (1) Maximum temperature of effluent °C .....
- (2) pH value Ph .....
- (3) Nature and amount of settleable solids .....
- (4) Organic Content (Expressed as Chemical Oxygen Demand) .....

- (5) Maximum total daily discharge (kilolitres) \_\_\_\_\_
- (6) Maximum rate of discharge (kilolitres / hr) \_\_\_\_\_
- (7) Periods of maximum discharge, (e.g. 7:00 am to 8:00 am) \_\_\_\_\_
- (8) If any of the substances or their salts, specified in the table, are formed on the premises, a cross must be placed in the space in which the substance appears, and, if possible, the average concentration of this substance likely to be present in any effluent must also be stated.

TABLE

ELEMENTS		COMPOUNDS	OTHER SUBSTANCES
Arsenic	mg/l	Ammonium mg /l	Grease and / or oil mg/l
Boron	mg/l	Nitrate mg /l	Starch and / or sugars mg/l
Cadmium	mg/l	Sulphide mg /l	Synthetic detergents mg/l
Chromium	mg/l	Sulphate mg /l	Tar and / or tar oils mg/l
Cobalt	mg/l	Others (Specify) mg /l	Volatile Solvents mg/l
Copper	mg/l		Others (Specify) mg/l
Cyanide	mg/l		
Iron	mg/l		
Lead	mg/l		
Manganese	mg/l		
Mercury	mg/l		
Nickel	mg/l		
Selenium	mg/l		
Tungsten	mg/l		
Titanium	mg/l		
Zinc	mg/l		
Other (Specify)	mg/l		

- (9) Any further information as to kind or character, chemical compositions, concentrations or other properties peculiar to the industrial effluent to be furnished on a separate sheet and attached hereto.

**PART IV****CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENT**

1. The applicant shall attach descriptions and a statement of the dimensions of grease and oil traps, screens, dilution and neutralising tanks and any other provision made for the treatment of the effluent prior to discharge to the sanitation system.
2. The applicant shall submit to the Municipality, if requested, plans showing the reticulation systems on his premises for water and industrial effluent.
3. The applicant shall, in addition to complying with the provisions of the Municipality's Water Services Bylaws aimed at the protection of its employees, sewers and treatment plant from damage, comply with any direction concerned with such protection given by the Engineer verbally or in writing for the purpose of ensuring the applicant's compliance with the said bylaws.
4. The applicant shall notify the Municipality, as soon as possible after he becomes aware thereof, or at least 14 days before anything is done to cause material alteration in the nature or quantity of the industrial effluent specified in this application or in any of the facts stated by him therein.
5. The applicant shall, within 30 days from the date of signature of this application, procure an accurately representative sample of not less than 5 litre of the industrial effluent to be discharged into the sewer, which sample shall be free of domestic sewage, and shall submit one half thereof to the Municipality for analysis and also submit to the Engineer a report on the sample made by an analyst appointed by him: Provided that in the case of a newly established industry the period specified may be extended by the Municipality for a period not exceeding six months or such further extended periods as the Municipality in its discretion may approve.
6. The applicant hereby declares and warrants that the information given by him in this form, or otherwise, in connection with this application is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, in all respects correct.
7. The applicant agrees that the said information, being in all respects correct, shall form the basis on which this application is granted by the Municipality.

Thus done at ..... by the applicant this ..... day of  
..... 20 .....

.....

Signature and capacity of the applicant



**SCHEDULE 4**  
**FORMULA FOR THE CALCULATION OF EFFLUENT DISCHARGE**  
**CHARGES**  
**(Section 67(7))**

The additional charge for industrial effluent for the disposal of high strength sewage to a waste water treatment plant shall be determined in accordance with the following formula:

$$T_c = Q_c \left[ a \left( \frac{COD_c - COD_d}{COD_d} \right) + b \left( \frac{P_c - P_d}{P_d} \right) + c \left( \frac{N_c - N_d}{N_d} \right) \right]$$

Where  $T_c$  = Extraordinary Treatment Cost to Consumer

$Q_c$  = Waste water Volume discharged by consumer in kl

$t$  = Unit Treatment cost of waste water in R/kl

$COD_c$  = Total COD of waste water discharged by consumer in milligrams/litre and is inclusive of both the biodegradable and non-biodegradable portion of the COD

$COD_d$  = Total COD of domestic waste water in milligrams per litre

$P_c$  = Ortho-phosphate concentration of waste water discharged by consumer in milligrams phosphorus per litre

$P_d$  = Ortho-phosphate concentration of domestic waste water in milligrams phosphorus per litre

$N_c$  = Ammonia concentration of waste water discharged by consumer in milligrams of nitrogen per litre

$N_d$  = Ammonia concentration of domestic waste water in milligrams of nitrogen per litre

$a$  = Portion of the costs directly related to COD

$b$  = Portion of the costs directly related to the removal of phosphates

$c$  = Portion of the costs directly related to the removal of nitrates

Different terms	Value
$T$	R0.82/kl
$COD_d$	600 mg/l
	10 mg/l
$N_d$	25 mg/l
$a$	0.6
$b$	0.25
$c$	0.15

**LOCAL AUTHORITY NOTICE 224****LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY  
CUSTOMER CARE AND REVENUE MANAGEMENT BY-LAW**

The Municipal Manager of Lephalale Local Municipality hereby in terms of section 13(a) of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000) publishes Customer Care and Revenue Management By-Law for the Municipality as approved by its Council, as set out hereunder.

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## 1. Definitions

For the purposes of this by-law, unless the context otherwise indicates –

“**account holder**” means any person who is due to receive a municipal account, which includes a user of pre-paid electricity or water;

“**annual budget**” means the budget approved by the municipal council for any particular financial year, and includes any adjustments to such budget;

“**applicant**” means a person who applies for the supply of municipal services;

“**billing**” means invoicing on a municipal account to an account holder of an amount or amounts payable for rates, metered services, other municipal charges, levies, fees, fines, taxes, or any other amount or amounts payable arising from any other liability or obligation;

“**consumer**” means the occupier of any premises to which the municipality has agreed to supply or is actually supplying municipal services, or if there is no occupier, then any person who has entered into a service agreement with the municipality for the supply of municipal services to such premises, or, if there be no such person, then the owner of the premises, and

“**consumer price index**” means the consumer price index (CPIX) as determined and gazetted by the South Bureau of Statistics;

“**Council**” means the Council of the Lephalale Local Municipality (or any service provider to the municipality);

“**credit control**” means all the functions relating to the collection of revenue;

“**customer management**” means the focusing on the account holder’s needs in a responsive and proactive way to encourage payment and thereby limiting the need for enforcement;

“**customer service centre**” means and serves as –

- (a) an office where an applicant may apply for services and enter into a service agreement with the municipality;
- (b) an office where an account holder may settle an account or may make pre-payment for services;
- (c) a credit screening point where the credit assessment of an applicant can be processed; or
- (d) an office where an account holder may query or verify accounts and metered consumption, and may communicate grievances, inquiries, recommendations and other relevant issues to the municipality and from where the response from the municipality can be conveyed to the account holder;

“**due date**” means the date specified as such on a municipal account despatched from the offices of the responsible officer for any charges payable and which is the last day allowed for the payment of such charges;

“**interest**” means an amount calculated at a rate determined by the municipality on a municipal account in arrears;

“**land reform beneficiary**”, in relation to a property, means a person who –

- (a) acquired the property through the provision of the Land and Assistance Act, 1993 (Act 126 of 1993);
- (b) acquired the property through the provision of the Restitution of Land Rights Act, 1994 (Act 22 of 1994);
- (c) holds the property subject to the Communal Property Associations Act, 1996 (Act 29 of 1996); or
- (d) holds or acquires the property in terms of such other land tenure reform legislation as may be enacted;

“**local community**” or “**community**”, in relation to the municipality, means that body of persons comprising the residents of the municipality, the ratepayers of the municipality, any civic, non-governmental, private sector or labour organisations or bodies involved in local affairs within the municipality, and visitors and other people residing outside the municipality who, because of their presence in the municipality, make use of services or facilities provided by the municipality;

“**major services**” means those services contemplated in section 17(5);

“**market value**” in relation to a property means the value of the property as determined in accordance with section 46 of the Property Rates Act, 2004 (Act 6 of 2004);

“**minor tariffs**” means all tariffs, charges, fees, rentals or fines levied or imposed by the municipality in respect of services, other than major services, supplied, and includes services incidental to the provision of the major services, but does not include tariffs for major services;

“**month**” means one of 12 months of a calendar year;

“**municipal account**” means an account rendered on which is billed an amount or amounts payable to the municipality for rates, metered services, other municipal charges, levies, fees, fines, interest, taxes or any other amount or amounts payable arising from any other liability or obligation;

**“municipal entity”** means –

- (a) a company, co-operative, trust, fund or any other corporate entity established in terms of any applicable national or provincial legislation, and which operates under the ownership or control of one or more municipalities; or
- (b) a service utility;

**“municipality”** means the Municipality of Lephalale, and includes any political structure, political office bearer, Councilor, duly authorised agent thereof or any employee thereof acting in connection with this by-law by virtue of a power vested in the municipality and delegated or sub-delegated to such political structure, political office bearer, municipality or, agent or employee;

**“municipal manager”** means the person appointed in terms of section 82 of the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, 1998 (Act 117 of 1998);

**“municipal property”** includes a property owned by a municipal entity;

**“multiple purposes”**, in relation to a property, means the use of a property for more than one purpose;

**“municipal services”** means those metered services and other municipal services for which payment is required by the municipality;

**“municipal tariff”** means a tariff for services which the municipality sets for the provision of a service to the local community, such as a tariff set for major services or a minor tariff, and includes a surcharge on such service;

**“occupier”** means any person who occupies any premises or part thereof without regard to the title under which the person occupies, and includes –

- (a) any person in actual occupation of those premises;
- (b) any person legally entitled to occupy those premises;
- (c) in the case of those premises being subdivided and let to lodgers or various tenants, the person receiving the rent payable by such lodgers or tenants whether on the person’s own account or as agent for any person entitled thereto or interested therein;
- (d) any person having the charge or management of those premises, and includes the agent of any such person when the person is absent from the Republic of South Africa or his or her whereabouts are unknown; and
- (e) the owner of those premises;

**“officer”** means an employee of the municipality or any other person who is specifically authorised thereto by the municipality to perform any act, function or duty in terms of, or exercise any power under this by-law;

**“organ of state”** means an organ of state as defined in section 239 of the Constitution;

**“owner”**, in relation to –

- (a) a property referred to in paragraph (a) of the definition of “property”, means a person in whose name ownership of the property is registered;
- (b) a right referred to in paragraph (b) of the definition of “property”, means a person in whose name the right is registered;
- (c) a land tenure right referred to in paragraph (c) of the definition of “property”, means a person in whose name the right is registered or to whom it was granted in terms of legislation; and
- (d) public service infrastructure referred to in paragraph (d) of the definition of “property”, means the organ of state which owns or controls that public service infrastructure as envisaged in the definition of “publicly controlled”, however, the municipality may, for the purposes of the Property Rates Act, 2004 (Act 6 of 2004), regard as the owner of a property –
  - (i) in the case of a property in a trust, but excluding state trust land, a trustee;
  - (ii) in the case of a property in a deceased estate, an executor or administrator;
  - (iii) in the case of a property in an insolvent estate or in liquidation, a trustee or liquidator;
  - (iv) in the case of a property in the estate of a person under judicial management, a judicial manager;
  - (v) in the case of a property in the estate of a person under curatorship, a curator;
  - (vi) in the case of a property that is subject to a usufruct or other personal servitude, a person in whose name a usufruct or other personal servitude is registered;
  - (vii) in the case of a property that is registered in the name of the municipality and is leased by it, a lessee; and
  - (viii) in the case of a property sold by the municipality and of which possession was given to the buyer pending registration of ownership in the name of such buyer, a buyer;

**“permitted use”**, in relation to a property, means the limited purposes for which the property may be used in terms of any restrictions imposed by a condition of title, a provision of the municipality’s town planning or land use scheme, or any legislation applicable to any specific property or properties, or any alleviation of any such restrictions;

**“person”** includes a legal person and an organ of state;

**“preferred customer”** means a person who may be granted special concessions by the municipality;

**“premises”** means any piece of land, the external surface boundaries of which are delineated on –

- (a) a general plan or diagram registered in terms of Land Survey, Act of 1927 (Act 9 of 1927), or in terms of the Deeds Registry, Act of 1937 (Act 47 of 1937); or
- (b) a sectional plan registered in terms of the Sectional Titles Act, 1986 (Act 93 of 1986), which is situated within the area of jurisdiction of the municipality;
- (c) and includes any other land and any building or structure above or below the surface of any land;

**“property”** means –

- (a) immovable property registered in the name of a person, including in the case of a sectional title scheme a sectional title unit registered in the name of a person;
- (b) a right registered against immovable property in the name of the person, but excluding a mortgage bond registered against the property;
- (c) a land tenure right registered in the name of a person or granted to a person in terms of legislation, such as a “land reform beneficiary”; and
- (d) public service infrastructure;

**“publicly controlled”** means owned by or otherwise under the control of an organ of state, including a public entity listed in the Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (Act 1 of 1999), a municipality, or a municipal entity;

**“public service infrastructure”** means publicly controlled infrastructure of the following kinds:

- (a) national, provincial or other public roads on which goods, services or labour move across a municipal boundary;
- (b) water or sewer pipes, ducts or other conduits, dams, water supply reservoirs, water treatment plants or water pumps forming part of a water or sewer scheme servicing the public;
- (c) power stations, power sub-stations or power lines forming part of an electricity scheme serving the public;
- (d) gas or liquid fuel plants or refineries or pipelines for gas or liquid fuel forming part of the scheme for transporting such fuels;
- (e) railway lines forming part of a national railway system;



- (f) communication towers, masts, exchanges and lines forming part of a communication system serving the public;
- (g) runways or aprons at national or provincial airports;
- (h) breakwaters, seawalls, channels, basins, quay walls, jetties, roads, railway or infrastructure used for the provision of water, lights, power, sewerage or similar services of ports, or navigational aids comprising lighthouses, radio navigational aids, buoys, beacons or any other device or system used to assist the safe and efficient navigation of vessels;
- (i) any other publicly controlled infrastructure as may be prescribed by law; and
- (j) rights of way, easements or servitudes in connection with infrastructure mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (i);

**“rate”** means a municipal rate on property as envisaged in section 229(1)(a) of the Constitution;

**“rateable property”** means property on which the municipality may in terms of section 2 of the Property Rates Act, 2004, levy a rate, but excludes property fully excluded from the levying of rates in terms of section 17 of that Act, but includes any rights registered against such property, with the exception of a mortgage bond;

**“ratepayer”** means a person who is liable to the municipality for the payment of rates on property in the municipality, any other tax, duty or levy imposed by the municipality, or fees for services provided either by the municipality or in terms of a service delivery agreement, or a combination of the above;

**“rebate”**, in relation to a rate payable on a property, means a discount granted in terms of section 15 of the Property Rates Act, 2004 on the amount of the rate payable on the property;

**“residential property”** means a property included in the valuation roll as residential in terms of section 48(2)(b) of the Property Rates Act, 2004;

**“revenue”** means all monies due to the municipality and to which the municipality has the right to exact and to enforce payment of, irrespective of the reason for or the origin of its factuality;

**“sectional title scheme”** means a scheme as defined in section 1 of the Sectional Titles Act, 1986 (Act 95 of 1986);

**“sectional title unit”** means a unit as defined in section 1 of the Sectional Titles Act, 1986 (Act 95 of 1986);

**“state trust land”** means land owned by the state and held in trust for persons communally inhabiting the land in terms of a traditional system of land tenure, over which land tenure rights have been registered or granted, or which is earmarked for disposal in terms of the Restitution of Land Rights, 1994 (Act 22 of 1994);

“**tampering**” means any unauthorised interference with the municipality’s supply, seals and metering equipment and “**tamper**” has a corresponding meaning;

“**target**” means realistic targets which may be set by the municipality ;

“**tariffs for major services**” means tariffs set for the supply and consumption or usage of major services;

“**unreliable customer**” includes an account holder, who according to his or her payment record fails to settle his or her municipal account by the due date or who is in arrears with payments due to council or who tampers or interferes with metering equipment, seals or the supply of municipal services.

## **CHAPTER 1**

### **CUSTOMER CARE PRINCIPLES, OBJECTIVES AND IMPLEMENTATION, AND DIFFERENTIATION**

#### **2. Customer care principles and objectives**

- (1) The municipality aims to—
  - (a) move progressively towards the social and economic upliftment of the community in harmony with its natural environment;
  - (b) provide basic services that are affordable to all its people and specifically to the poor and disadvantaged, provided that, where applicable, service fees, rates, metered services, other municipal charges, levies, fees, fines, interest, taxes or any other amount or amounts payable, arising from any other liability or obligation, are paid for.
- (2) The municipality by this By-law, within the scope and spirit of the Constitution, the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000), and the Property Rates Act, 2004 (Act 6 of 2004), gives effect to the principles underlying and expressed in these Acts, and therefore designs, regulates on and implements –
  - (a) a customer care and management system which has as purpose to—
    - (i) create a positive and reciprocal relationship between the municipality and an account holder;
    - (ii) establish mechanisms for an account holder to give feedback to the municipality regarding the quality of the services and the performance of the municipality;
    - (iii) ensure that reasonable steps are taken to inform an account holder of the costs involved in service provision, the reasons for payment of service fees, and the manner in which monies raised from the services provided, are utilised;
    - (iv) ensure, where the consumption of services has to be measured, that reasonable steps are taken to measure the consumption by individual account holders of services through accurate and verifiable metering systems;

- (v) ensure that an account holder receives regular and accurate accounts that indicate the basis for calculating the amounts due;
- (vi) provide accessible mechanisms for an account holder to query or verify a municipal account and metered consumption and appeal procedures which allow the account holder to receive prompt redress for inaccurate accounts;
- (vii) provide accessible mechanisms for dealing with complaints from an account holder, together with prompt replies and corrective action by the municipality, and to provide mechanisms to monitor the response time and efficiency of the municipal's actions; and
- (viii) provide for accessible pay points and other mechanisms for settling an account or for making pre-payments for services;
- (b) credit control and debt collection mechanisms and procedures which aim to ensure, subject to the Act and other legislation, that all money that is due and payable, from whatever source or cause, to the municipality, is collected; and
- (c) structures for tariffs and rates.

**3. Duties and functions of municipal Manager as responsible officer, duties and functions of communities, ratepayers and residents, duties and functions of ward committees**

**(1) The Municipal Manager –**

- (a) is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of these By-laws;
- (b) must, for the purposes of paragraph (a) take the necessary steps to implement and enforce the provisions of this by-law;
- (c) is accountable for the agreed performance targets as approved by the municipality and the Council, and for these purposes must –
  - (i) report to the Council on matters relating to this by-law, including but not limited to –
    - (aa) the effectiveness of administrative mechanisms, resources processes and procedures to collect money that is due and payable to the municipality;
    - (bb) billing information, including the number of account holders, accruals, cash-flow, and customer management;
    - (cc) the satisfaction levels of account holders regarding services rendered; and
    - (dd) the effectiveness of the municipality's indigence relief measures;

- (ii) at regular intervals meet with municipal officials with the aim of submitting a joint recommendation on the policy to the Council;
  - (iii) where necessary, propose steps to the Council with the aim of improving the efficiency of the credit control and debt collection mechanisms, processes and procedures within the ambit of these By-laws; and
  - (xii) with the consent of an account holder, enter into an agreement with the account holder's employer to deduct from the salary or wages of the account holder –
    - (aa) any outstanding amounts as may be agreed; or
    - (bb) such regular monthly amounts as may be agreed,and may provide special incentives for employers to enter into such agreements, and employees to consent to such agreements.
- (2) The communities, ratepayers and residents must –
- (a) pay all moneys due to the municipality;
  - (b) observe the mechanisms and processes of the municipality in exercising its rights;
  - (c) allow municipal officials access to their property to execute municipal functions at a time that is agreed on between the consumer and the municipal officials;
  - (d) comply with these by-laws; and
  - (e) refrain from tampering with municipal services and property.
- (3) Ward committees must –
- (a) hold regular ward meetings;
  - (b) adhere to and convey the municipality's policies to residents and ratepayers;
  - (c) adhere to the Code of Conduct for Councillors; and
  - (d) act in terms of roles and functions as approved by the municipality.

#### **4. Differentiation between customers and exemption**

- (1) In accordance with the principles embodied in the Constitution and the provisions of sections 6 and 8 of the Property Rates Act, 2004, and sections 74(3) and 75 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000, the municipality differentiates between different categories of users and consumers in regard to the tariffs which it levies, categories of ratepayers, account holders, customers, debtors, taxes, services, service standards and other matters, however, such differentiation must at all times be reasonable, and must be fully disclosed in each annual budget.
- (2) The municipality may, in writing, exempt an account holder, category of account holders, or other persons from complying with a provision of this by-law, subject to any conditions it may impose, if the application or operation of that provision would be unreasonable, however the municipality or its authorised agent may not grant exemption from any section of this by-law that may result in –
- (a) the wastage or excessive consumption of water or electricity;
  - (b) the evasion or avoidance of water or electricity restrictions;

- (c) significant negative effects on public health, safety or the environment;
  - (d) the non-payment for services;
  - (e) the installation of pipes and fittings which are not acceptable in terms of the municipality's prescribed standard; or
  - (f) any Act, or any regulation made under it, not being complied with.
- (3) The municipality or its authorised agent may at any time after giving written notice of at least 30 days, withdraw any exemption given under subsection (2).

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **SUPPLY OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES**

#### *Part 1*

#### *Application for supply and service agreements, credit screening, deposits, billing and payment, and termination of service agreements*

#### **5. Application for supply of municipal services and service agreements**

- (1) Any application for any supply of services to any premises must be made at the municipal offices.
- (2) Only the owner of a property or his or her duly authorised agent on his or her behalf may apply for municipal services to be supplied to a property.
- (3) No services shall be supplied unless and until application has been made by the owner and a service agreement in the format prescribed by the municipality has been entered into and a deposit provided for in section 6 has been paid.
- (4) An application for a supply for a period of less than one year is regarded as an application for a temporary supply.

#### **6. Deposits**

- (1) On approval of the application and before the service is made available, the municipality may require the applicant –
  - (a) to deposit for municipal services with the municipality a sum of money;
  - (b) to provide any other form of security; or
  - (c) to agree to special conditions regarding payment of the municipal account,and monies so deposited with the municipality serve as security and working capital.

- (2) The Municipal Manager or his or her nominated officer reserves the right to review the sum of money deposited or the amount for which additional security is required.
- (3) The Municipal Manager or his or her nominated officer may, in respect of preferred customers, consider relaxation of the conditions pertaining to deposits as set out in subsections (1) and (2).
- (4) On termination of the supply of services, the amount of such deposit, as determined by the municipality, less any payments due to the municipality, must be refunded to an account holder.

**7. Billing and payment**

- (1) The account holder must pay all amounts due to the municipality as reflected in the municipal account and the onus is on the account holder to verify the accuracy of such account.
- (2) An account holder must pay for metered services, and must pay the rates, other municipal charges, levies, fees, fines, interest, taxes or any other liability or obligation from the date of origin of such municipal charges until the written termination of the services.
- (3) An account holder –
  - (a) has one account number and must be rendered one account, on which the due date for settlement of the total amount owing is reflected, subject to the provisions of subsection (14); and
  - (b) must be rendered an account monthly in cycles of approximately 30 days.
- (4) Payment must be received on or before the close of business on the due date.
- (5) The municipality may estimate the quantity of metered services supplied in respect of a period or periods within the interval between actual successive readings of the meters, and may render an account to an account holder for the quantity of metered services so estimated.
- (6) If an account holder is dissatisfied with an account rendered for metered services supplied by the municipality, such account holder may, prior to the due date stipulated therein object to the account, setting out reasons for such dissatisfaction.
- (7) Should any dispute arise as to the amount owing by an account holder, and subject to the provisions of section 102 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000), the account holder must notwithstanding such dispute proceed to make regular payments by the due date based on the calculation of the average municipal account for the preceding three months prior to the arising of the dispute and taking into account interest as well as the annual amendments of tariffs of the municipality.
- (8) An error or omission in any account or failure to render an account does not relieve the account holder of the obligation to pay by the due date.

- (9) If an account holder uses water or electricity for a category of use other than that for which it is supplied by the municipality and is in consequence not charged for water or electricity so used, or is charged for the water or electricity at a rate lower than that at which the account holder should be charged, the account holder is liable for the amount due to the municipality in accordance with the prescribed charges in respect of –
- (a) the quantity of water or electricity which the account holder has used and for which the account holder has not been charged; or
  - (b) the difference between the cost of the water or electricity used by the account holder at the rate at which the account holder has been charged and the cost of the water or electricity at the rate at which the account holder should have been charged.
- (10) An account holder is not entitled to a reduction of the amount payable for metered services which are lost due to a default in the meter, until such time as the provisions of section 13(8)(c) have been met.
- (11) The municipality may, in accordance with the provisions of section 102 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000). –
- (a) consolidate any separate accounts of an account holder liable for payment to the Municipality; and
  - (b) credit any full or part payment by an account holder against any debt of that account holder in the following order of priority allocation:
    - (i) Interest on arrears;
    - (ii) miscellaneous charges;
    - (iii) rental charges;
    - (iv) refuse and sewage charges;
    - (v) assessment charges; and then
    - (vi) electricity and water charges.
- (12) The owner of property may enter into an agreement with the municipality in terms of which payment for rates is made annually, in which case payment must be made on or before the date determined by the municipality.
- (13) On receipt of a dishonoured cheque –
- (a) the payment shall be reversed on the account holder's account;
  - (b) services to such account holder's premises shall be disconnected and only reconnected when the account holder's account has been settled in full;
  - (c) no arrangements to pay arrears shall be entertained; and
  - (d) the account holder shall be informed that cash only will be accepted in future payments.
- 14) The owner of property may enter into an agreement with the municipality in terms of which payment for rates is made annually, in which case payment must be made on or before the date determined by the municipality.

- (15) On receipt of a dishonoured cheque –
- (a) the payment shall be reversed on the account holder's account;
  - (b) services to such account holder's premises shall be disconnected and only reconnected when the account holder's account has been settled in full;
  - (c) no arrangements to pay arrears shall be entertained; and
  - (d) the account holder shall be informed that cash only will be accepted in future payments.

## **8. Termination of service agreement**

- (1) Termination of the service agreement must be in writing.
- (2) Where a property is sold, an owner may terminate a service agreement by giving the municipality not less than four working days' notice in writing.
- (3) The municipality may, by notice in writing of not less than 14 working days, advise an account holder of the termination of the agreement for a supply of municipal services if –
- (a) the account holder has not consumed any water or electricity during the preceding six months, or has vacated the property and has not made satisfactory arrangements for the continuation of the agreement;
  - (b) the account holder has committed a breach of this by-law and has failed to rectify such breach; or
  - (c) the municipality cannot continue to supply the account holder with municipal services, as in terms of an arrangement with another authority supplying municipal services such authority must in future supply municipal services to the account holder.

### ***Part 2***

#### ***Non-payment of municipal accounts***

## **9. Arrangements for payments**

- (1) Non-payment of a municipal account on the due date as indicated on the account shall result in debt collection action.
- (2) A consumer who cannot pay the municipal account may enter into an arrangement with the municipality to pay the account over an extended period of time, however, the municipality shall entertain one arrangement only.
- (3) In the event of an arrangement being made, the consumer must –
- (a) sign an acknowledgement of debt;
  - (b) acknowledge that interest will be charged at the prescribed rate;
  - (c) acknowledge that if the arrangements being negotiated later are defaulted on, restrictions of water supply and disconnection of electricity of water supply and disconnection of electricity and legal proceedings shall follow immediately; and
  - (d) acknowledge liability of all legal costs incurred.
- (4) In the event that an arrangement has been broken, all arrear arrangement instalments plus the



current monthly account must be paid before the arrangement is reinstated, and should the required payments not be made, debt collection action shall be instituted immediately.

**10. Interest on overdue municipal accounts**

- (1) The municipality may, by resolution of its determined number of members, charge or recover interest at a determined interest rate in respect of any arrear amounts due and payable to the municipality.
- (2) Interest is calculated monthly according to the interest rate approved by the municipality, and a portion of a month is regarded as a month.
- (3) Interest is payable if payment is not received at an office of the municipality or to the credit of the bank account of the municipality at the close of business on the due date.
- (4) Subsections (1), (2), and (3), do not apply to a person who has been granted the status as poor household in terms of section 15.

**11. Debt collection mechanisms**

- (1) ~~Where appropriate, the Municipality must at all times attempt to advise an account holder of an impending disconnection or restriction of a supply and the following mechanisms may be applied should an account holder fail to settle a municipal account by the due date:~~
  - (a) delivering or mailing of a final demand and explaining to the account holder the status of the account and the consequences of not paying or concluding an arrangement;
  - (b) informing the account holder verbally, in writing, telephonically, or by electronic means of the overdue amount and the impending disconnection or restriction of services;
  - (c) disconnecting or restricting the supply of municipal services to the premises and the serving of a disconnection or restriction notice on the account holder; or
  - (d) debiting the municipal account of the account holder with all relevant fees or penalties approved by the municipality.
- (2) Where the metered supply had been disconnected or restricted, and should the account holder still fail to pay the account, the premises may be revisited at regular intervals to ensure that the metered supply remains disconnected or restricted, and if it is found that the supply which had been disconnected or restricted previously has been restored –
  - (a) the municipality has the right to take whatever action is required in terms of section 29, and the account holder is responsible for the relevant fees or charges or damages caused;

- (b) the municipality may refuse to supply services for a period determined by the municipality ; and
  - (c) in the instance of the use of a pre-paid meter, the municipality may cease further vending of pre-paid services.
- (3) Where a duly authorised officer of the municipality has visited the premises for the purpose of disconnecting or restricting the supply and was obstructed or prevented from effecting such disconnection or restriction, an amount equal to the prescribed fee for a reconnection becomes payable for each visit necessary for the purpose of such disconnection or restriction, subject to a maximum of two such visits during which disconnection or restriction could not be effected.
- (4) The municipality may use any one or more of the following mechanisms to secure full payment of any amounts owing to it:
- (a) restricting or denying the sale of pre-paid services to an account holder, or disconnecting any pre-paid metering system of an account holder, who is in arrears with other services;
  - (b) requiring of the account holder to convert to another metering system;
  - (c) allocating a portion of any pre-paid payment to other debts;
  - (d) releasing debtor information to a credit bureau;
  - (e) publishing a list of account holders who remain in default;
  - (f) withholding payment of a grand-in-aid and subject to the provisions of section 31, excluding the account holder from the tender process;
  - (g) withholding payment on contracts for settlement of the municipal account;
  - (h) reviewing and altering the conditions of the service agreement;
  - (i) instituting legal proceedings for the recovery of the debt;
  - (j) classifying the account holder as an unreliable customer;
  - (k) using the services of external debt collection specialists or agencies;
  - (l) insisting on conversion to pre-paid metering at the cost of the account holder; or
  - (m) employing any other methods authorised by the municipality from time to time to recover arrear amounts.
- (5) The cost of collection, where applicable, is to the account holder's account.

- (6) Subject to the provisions of sections 28 and 29 of the Property Rates Act, 2004 (Act 6 of 2004), and section 102(2) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000), the right to deny, restrict, disconnect or terminate services due to the non-payment for any rates, metered services, other municipal charges, levies, fees, fines, interest, taxes or any other amount or amounts payable arising from any other liability or obligation prevails notwithstanding the fact that –
- (a) payment was intended for any specific service; or
  - (b) the person who entered into a service agreement for supply of services with the municipality and the owner are different entities or persons, as the case may be.

**Part 3**  
***Metering equipment and metering of services***

**12. General provisions**

- (1) The municipality may introduce various metering equipment and may encourage an account holder to convert to a system which is preferred by the municipality when there are benefits for the municipality.
- (2) After commencement of this by-law and where possible and applicable, pre-paid meters must preferably be installed for all new connections.

**13. Metering equipment and measuring of consumption**

- (1) The municipality must, at the consumer's cost in the form of a direct charge or prescribed fee, provide, install and maintain appropriately rated metering equipment at the point of metering for measuring metered services.
- (2) The municipality reserves the right to meter the supply to a block of shops, flats, tenement-houses and similar buildings for the building as a whole, or for an individual unit, or for a group of units.
- (3) Where any building referred to in subsection (2) is metered by the municipality as a whole –
  - (a) the owner may, at own cost, provide and install appropriate sub-metering equipment for each shop, flat and tenement; or
  - (b) the municipality may require the installation, at the account holder's expense, of a meter for each unit of any premises in separate occupation for the purpose of determining the quantity of metered services supplied to each such unit.

- (4) Where the electricity used by consumers is charged at different tariff rates, the consumption must be metered separately for each rate.
- (5) Where sub-metering equipment is installed, accommodation separate from the municipality's metering equipment must be provided where appropriate.
- (6) Except in the case of pre-payment meters, the quantity of metered services used by a consumer during any metering period is ascertained by reading the appropriate meter or meters supplied and installed by the municipality at the beginning and end of such metering period, except where the metering equipment is found to be defective.
- (7) For the purpose of calculating the amount due and payable for the quantity of metered services consumed, the same amount of metered services is deemed to be consumed during every period of 24 hours between readings.
- (8) The following apply to the accuracy of metering:
  - (a) A meter is conclusively presumed to be registering accurately if its error, when tested in the manner prescribed in subsection (13), is found to be within the limits of error as provided for in the applicable standard specifications;
  - (b) the municipality has the right to test its metering equipment, and if it is established by test or otherwise that such metering equipment is defective, the Municipality must –
    - (i) in case of a credit meter, adjust the account rendered; or
    - (ii) in the case of prepayment meters:
      - (aa) render an account where the meter has been under-registering; or
      - (bb) issue a free token where the meter has been over-registering; and
  - (c) the consumer is entitled to have the metering equipment tested by the municipality on payment of the prescribed fee, and if the metering equipment is found not to comply with the system accuracy requirements as provided for in the applicable standard specifications, an adjustment in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (b) and subsection (7) must be made and the aforesaid fee must be refunded.
- (9) No alterations, repairs, additions or connections of any description may be made on the supply side of the point of metering unless specifically approved in writing by the Municipal Manager or a duly authorised officer of the municipality.
- (10) Prior to the municipality making any upward adjustment to an account in terms of subsection (8)(b), the municipality must –
  - (a) notify the consumer in writing of the monetary value of the adjustment to be made and the reasons therefor;
  - (b) in such notification provide sufficient particulars to enable the consumer to submit representations thereon; and

- (c) call upon the consumer in such notice to present it with reasons in writing, if any, within 21 days or such longer period as the municipality may permit, why the account should not be adjusted as notified, and should the consumer fail to provide any representation during the period the municipality is entitled to adjust the account as notified in paragraph (a).
- (11) The Municipality must consider any representation provided by the consumer in terms of subsection (10) and must, if satisfied that a case has been made out therefore, adjust the account appropriately.
- (12) If the Municipal Manager or a duly authorised officer of the municipality decides, after having considered the representation made by the consumer, that such representation does not establish a case warranting an amendment to the monetary value established in terms of subsection (15), the municipality is entitled to adjust the account as notified in terms of subsection (10)(a), and the consumer has the right to appeal the decision of the official in terms of section 62 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000).
- (13) Meters are tested in the manner provided for in the applicable standard specifications.
- (14) When an adjustment is made to the consumption registered on a meter in terms of subsection (8)(b) or (8)(c), such adjustment is based either on the percentage error of the meter as determined by the test referred to in subsection (13), or upon a calculation by the Municipality from consumption data in its possession, and where applicable, due allowance must be made, where possible, for seasonal or other variations which may affect consumption.
- (15) When an adjustment is made as contemplated in subsection (14), the adjustment may not exceed a period of six months preceding the date on which the metering equipment was found to be inaccurate, however the application of this subsection does not bar a consumer from claiming back overpayment for any longer period where the consumer is able to prove the claim in the normal legal process.
- (16) The municipality may dispense with the use of a meter in case of –
  - (a) an automatic sprinkler fire installation; and
  - (b) special circumstances at the Engineer's discretion.
- (17) The municipality may by notice –
  - (a) prohibit or restrict the consumption of metered services –
    - (i) for specified or non-specified purposes;
    - (ii) during specified hours of the day or on specified days or otherwise than during specified hours of the day or on specified days; and
    - (iii) in a specified or non-specified manner;

- (b) determine and impose –
    - (i) limits on the quantity of metered services which may be consumed over a specified period;
    - (ii) charges additional to those prescribed in respect of the supply of metered services in excess of a limit contemplated in subparagraph (i); and
    - (iii) a general surcharge on the prescribed charges in respect of the supply of metered services; and
  - (c) impose restrictions or prohibitions on the use or manner of use or disposition of an appliance by means of which metered services is used or consumed, or on the connection of such appliance.
- (18) The municipality may limit the application of the provisions of a notice contemplated by subsection (17) to specified areas and classes of account holders, premises and activities and may provide for the Municipality to permit deviations and exemptions from and the relaxation of any of the provisions on such grounds as he or she may deem fit.
- (19) To ensure compliance with a notice published in terms of subsection (17), the municipality may take, or by written notice require an account holder at the account holder's expense to take, such measures, including the installation of measuring devices and devices for restricting the flow of metered services as may be necessary.
- (20) In addition to the person by whose act or omission a contravention of or failure to comply with the terms of a notice published in terms of subsection (17) is actually committed, an account holder in respect of the premises to which metered services are supplied is presumed also to have committed the contravention or to have so failed to comply, unless evidence is adduced that the account holder had taken all reasonable steps to prevent such a contravention or failure to comply by any other person, however, the fact that the account holder issued instructions to the other person shall not of itself be accepted as sufficient proof that the account holder took all such reasonable steps.
- (21) The provisions of this section also apply in respect of metered services supplied directly by the municipality to account holders outside its area of jurisdiction, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the conditions governing such supply, unless otherwise specified in the notice published in terms of subsection (17).
- (22) If such action is necessary as a matter of urgency to prevent waste of metered services, refuse or sewerage, damage to property, danger to life, or pollution of water, the municipality may –
- (a) without prior notice disconnect the supply of metered services to any premises; and
  - (b) enter upon such premises and do such emergency work, at the account holder's expense, as he or she may deem necessary, and in addition by written notice require the account holder to do within a specified period such further work as the municipality may deem necessary.

- (23) Before any metered or pre-paid metered supplies which have been disconnected or restricted for non-payment is restored, an account holder must pay all fees and charges as determined by the municipality.
- (24) The municipality may, at the written request of an account holder and on the dates requested by the account holder –
- (a) disconnect the supply of metered services to the account holder's premises; and
  - (b) restore the supply, and the account holder must before the metered services is restored pay the prescribed charge for the disconnection and restoration of his or her supply of metered services.
- (25) After disconnection for non-payment of an account or a contravention of any provision of this by-law, the prescribed fees must be paid before reconnection is made.
- (26) The following apply to the reading of credit meters:
- (a) unless otherwise prescribed, credit meters are normally read at intervals of approximately one month and the fixed or minimum charges due in terms of the tariff are assessed accordingly and the municipality is not obliged to effect any adjustments to such charges;
  - (b) if for any reason the credit meter cannot be read, the municipality may render an estimated account, and estimated consumption must be adjusted in a subsequent account in accordance with the consumption actually consumed;
  - (c) when an account holder vacates a property and a final reading of the meter is not possible, an estimation of the consumption may be made and the final account rendered accordingly;
  - (d) if a special reading of the meter is desired by a consumer, this may be obtained upon payment of the prescribed fee; and
  - (e) if any calculating, reading or metering error is discovered in respect of any account rendered to a consumer –
    - (i) the error must be corrected in subsequent accounts;
    - (ii) any such correction applies only in respect of accounts for a period of six months preceding the date on which the error in the accounts was discovered,
    - (iii) the correction is based on the actual tariffs applicable during the period; and
    - (iv) the application of this section does not prevent a consumer from claiming back overpayment for any longer period where the consumer is able to prove the claim in the normal legal process.

(27) The following apply to prepayment metering:

- (a) no refund of the amount tendered for the purchase of electricity or water credit is given at the point of sale after initiation of the process by which the prepayment meter token is produced;
- (b) copies of previously issued tokens for the transfer of credit to the prepayment meter may be issued at the request of the consumer;
- (c) when an account holder vacates any premises where a prepayment meter is installed, no refund for the credit remaining in the meter is made to the owner by the municipality;
- (d) the municipality is not liable for the reinstatement of credit in a prepayment meter lost due to tampering with, or the incorrect use or the abuse of, prepayment meters or tokens;
- (e) where an account holder is indebted to the municipality for any rates, metered services, other municipal charges, levies, fees, fines, interest, taxes or any other amount or amounts payable arising from any other liability or obligation, the municipality may deduct a percentage from the amount tendered to offset the amount owing to the municipality; and
- (f) the municipality may appoint vendors for the sale of credit for prepayment meters and does not guarantee the continued operation of any vendor.

#### **14. Resale of water or electricity**

- (1) No account holder who is supplied with metered services in terms of this by-law may sell or supply water or electricity, supplied to the account holder's premises under an agreement with the municipality, to any other person or persons for such use upon any premises other than those in respect of which such agreement is made, or permit or suffer such resale or supply to be made, unless provision has been made therefore in a special agreement or unless prior permission from the municipality to do so has been obtained.
- (2) If the municipality grants the permission referred to in subsection (1), it may stipulate the maximum price at which the water or electricity may be sold and impose such other conditions as it may deem fit.
- (3) Permission referred to in subsection (1) may be withdrawn at any time.
- (4) Where water or electricity is resold for use on the same premises, such resale must be in accordance with the tariff and subject to such conditions as the municipality may decide.



**Part 4**  
***Indigence relief measures***

**15. Requirements for indigence relief and auditing**

- (1) To qualify for indigence relief, the following requirements must be met:
- (a) the applicant, who may be either the owner or occupier of property, must be an account holder;
  - (b) the applicant must, before a date determined by the municipality, apply annually, or at such intervals as determined by the municipality, to be granted the status as a poor household, and for these purposes must –
    - (i) complete and sign the prescribed forms; and
    - (ii) provide any other documentation as may be required by the municipality, such as, but not limited to an affidavit stating the collective household income contemplated in paragraph (d) copies of the latest payslips of employed members of the collective household and copies of identity documents;
  - (c) the applicant may not be the owner of more than one fixed property;
  - (d) the collective household income may not exceed the amount determined by the municipality annually; and
  - (e) the Ward Councillor in the particular ward must confirm the applicant's impecuniousness.
- (2) The process for auditing an application is as follows:
- (a) all indigent registrations must be audited.
  - (b) should the audit establish that the applicant filed an application containing false information, this shall be communicated to the Ward Councillor contemplated in subsection (1)(e), and the Ward Councillor must, within 14 days, either confirm that the application contains false information, or that the application does not contain false information.
  - (c) should the Ward Councillor confirm that the application contains false information, the account holder shall be removed from the indigent register and, where applicable, parked arrears shall be reinstated onto his or her municipal account.
  - (d) should the Ward Councillor confirm that the application does not contain false information, the account holder shall remain on the indigent register.
  - (e) in the instance where the Ward Councillor does not confirm as contemplated in paragraph (b), the account holder shall be informed that the application was regarded as having contained false information, and he or she shall be removed from the indigent register.

- (3) In the event of the death of an indigent account holder, the following apply:
  - (a) proof of the death of the account holder must be supplied;
  - (b) the occupier of the property must open a municipal account.
  - (c) such occupier must complete the required disconnection form for the deceased account holder, and thereafter must enter into a service agreement with the municipality as contemplated in section 5(3) and, where applicable, apply to be granted the status as a poor household as contemplated in subsection (1)(b).
  - (d) such occupier must pay the deposit as contemplated in section 6, and such connection fee as determined by the municipality.
  - (e) such occupier is liable for the payment of all service charges as from the date of the deceased.
  - (f) the process of transferring the property to such occupier must be proceeded with forthwith.
  - (g) any monies owed by the deceased to the municipality shall be referred to the deceased's estate.
- (4) In the instance where a account holder who formerly has not been granted the status of a poor household be granted such status, his or her debt, excluding the current year's charges, shall be parked.
- (5) The municipality shall keep and maintain a register of all households which have been granted the status as poor households.

#### **16. Credit given**

- (1) Households which qualify for indigence relief measures may receive a credit for some or all of the following:
  - (a) a quantity of electricity, as determined by the municipality;
  - (b) a quantity of water, as determined by the municipality;
  - (c) the refuse removal charges, as determined by the municipality;
  - (d) the sewerage charges, as determined by the municipality;
  - (e) rates, as determined by the municipality; or
  - (f) any other service fees, taxes or charges over and above the rendered services.
- (2) The municipality has the right to visit the property mentioned in section 15(1)(c) at any reasonable time for the purposes of auditing or application.
- (3) The normal rates, fees and charges and the requirement to pay an account will apply should a household account exceed the credit given.
- (4) Where it has been established that indigence relief has been granted on the basis of false or fraudulent information supplied, the municipality may withdraw such relief with immediate effect.

### CHAPTER 3 TARIFFS

#### *Part 1*

#### *General principles, calculation of tariffs for major services*

#### **17. General principles**

- (1) The municipality adopts, subject to subsection (13), sections 20(3)(d) and (e) and 21(5)(d), a two-part tariff structure consisting of a fixed availability charge coupled with a charge based on consumption.
- (2) In setting its annual tariffs the municipality must at all times take due cognisance of the –
  - (a) tariffs applicable elsewhere in the economic region; and
  - (b) impact which its own tariffs may have on local economic development.
- (3) With the exception of the indigence relief measures approved by the municipality, service tariffs imposed by the municipality should be viewed as user charges and not as taxes, and the ability of the relevant consumer or user of the services to which such tariffs relate, to pay for such services, should not be considered as a relevant criterion.
- (4) The municipality must ensure that its tariffs are uniformly and fairly applied throughout the municipal area.
- (5) Tariffs for the following services rendered by the municipality, must as far as possible recover the expenses associated with the rendering of each service concerned and where feasible, generate a modest surplus as determined in each annual budget:
  - (a) supply of electricity;
  - (b) supply of water;
  - (c) sanitation services, including sewerage and waste water disposal services; and
  - (d) refuse (solids waste) removal services.
- (6) A surplus contemplated in subsection (5) must be applied in relief of property rates or for the future capital expansion of the service concerned or both.
- (7) The tariff, which a particular consumer or user pays, must be directly related to the standard of service received and the quantity of the particular service used or consumed.
- (8) The municipality must annually review its indigence relief measures, as contemplated in sections 15 and 16, and must set out the –

- (2) The tariff for a pre-paid meter is the same as the ordinary consumption tariffs levied on the category of consumer concerned, and no availability charge is levied on a property where a pre-paid meter has been installed.

## **20. Electricity**

- (1) The various categories of electricity consumers, as set out in subsection (3), are charged at the applicable tariffs, as approved by the municipality in each annual budget.
- (2) Tariff adjustments are effective from 1 July each year or as soon as possible thereafter.
- (3) Categories of consumers and charges are as follows:
  - (a) with the exception of a registered indigent, a consumer must be billed for all the electricity consumed at the tariff applicable to the category in which the particular consumer falls.
  - (b) the tariff for domestic consumption of electricity may not exceed 75% per kilowatt-hours of the tariff applicable to other consumers, and all other consumers, including businesses, industries and institutional consumers, must pay the same tariff per kilowatt-hour.
  - (c) a domestic electricity consumer of the municipality who is registered as an indigent with the municipality must receive free the first 50 kilowatt-hours of electricity consumed per month.
  - (d) a domestic electricity consumer other than a registered indigent and a consumer using a prepaid meter per month must additionally be billed a basic charge per meter installed.
  - (e) a commercial, industrial and other non-domestic property must additionally be billed a monthly basic charge per meter installed and, where applicable, a demand charge appropriate to its respective levels of consumption.

## **21. Water**

- (1) The categories of water consumers as set out in subsection (5), are charged at the applicable tariffs, as approved by the municipality in each annual budget.
- (2) Tariff adjustments are effective from 1 July each year.
- (3) The tariff levied for domestic consumption of water escalates according to the volume of water consumed and the tariff for domestic consumption is based on a monthly consumption of –
  - (a) up to 6 kilolitres, for non-indigents;
  - (b) more than 6 kilolitres, but not more than 15 kilolitres;
  - (c) more than 15 kilolitres, but not more than 25 kilolitres;

- (d) more than 25 kilolitres, but not more than 40 kilolitres; and
- (e) more than 40 kilolitres.
- (4) The tariff for non-domestic water consumption is based on a single tariff per kilolitre consumed, irrespective of the volume of consumption concerned.
- (5) Categories of consumers and charges are as follows:
  - (a) a domestic water consumer registered as an indigent with the municipality must receive free the first six kilolitre of water consumed per month, thereafter a stepped tariff per kilolitre as determined by the municipality is applicable on metered water consumption.
  - (b) all other domestic consumers are charged for actual water consumption at a stepped tariff per kilolitre as determined by the municipality.
  - (c) the tariff applicable to domestic consumption of water may not exceed 75% per kilolitre of the tariff applicable to other consumers, and all other consumers, including businesses, industries and institutional consumers, must pay the tariff as contemplated in subsection (4).
  - (d) a basic charge per water meter, as determined by the municipality, is charged on a water consumer, except a registered indigent and a consumer using a prepaid meter.

## **22. Refuse removal**

- (1) The categories of refuse removal users as set out in subsection (3) are charged at the applicable tariffs, as approved by the municipality in each annual budget.
- (2) Tariff adjustments are effective from 1 July each year.
- (3) A separate fixed monthly refuse removal charge applies to each of the following categories of users, based on the costs of the service concerned:
  - (i) domestic and other users, where refuse is removed by the municipality once weekly; and
  - (ii) business and other users, where refuse is removed by the municipality twice weekly;
  - (iii) business and other users, where refuse is removed by the municipality thrice weekly; and
  - (iv) business and other bulk consumers.
- (4) A registered indigent may receive such discount on this charge as the municipality deems affordable when approving each annual budget, which discount may not be less than 50% of the monthly amount billed as a refuse removal charge.

**23. Sewerage**

- (1) The categories of sewerage users as set out in subsection (3) are charged per month at the applicable tariff as approved by the municipality in each annual budget.
- (2) Tariff adjustments are effective from 1 July each year.
- (3) Categories of users and charges are:
  - (a) an availability charge is charged per month for an undeveloped erf, irrespective of its permitted or intended use;
  - (b) a fixed monthly charge based on the costs of the service, is charged for bucket removal for a domestic user, however, a registered indigent may receive such discount on this charge as the municipality deems affordable when approving each annual budget, which discount may not be less than 50% of the monthly amount billed for this service;
  - (c) a fixed monthly charge based on the costs of the service is charged for a domestic user, however, a registered indigent may receive such discount on this charge as the municipality deems affordable when approving each annual budget, which discount may not be less than 50% of the monthly amount billed for this service;
  - (d) a fixed monthly charge based on the costs of the service per sewer point or toilet is charged to all businesses, industries and institutional users; and
  - (e) an effluent fee is payable by a factory and another industrial user where the wastewater emanating from such user requires special purification measures by the municipality, and the fee is based on the toxic content of the wastewater concerned and the costs of the purification.

**24. Minor tariffs**

- (1) All minor tariffs are standardised within the municipal region.
- (2) All minor tariffs are approved by the municipality in each annual budget and are, when deemed appropriate by the municipality, subsidised by property rates and general revenues, particularly when the –
  - (a) tariffs prove uneconomical when charged to cover the cost of the service concerned;
  - (b) cost cannot accurately be determined; or
  - (c) tariff is designed purely to regulate rather than finance the use of the particular service or amenity.
- (3) Unless there are compelling reasons why such adjustment should not be effected, all minor tariffs over which the municipality has full control, and which are not directly related to the cost of a particular service, are adjusted annually at least in accordance with the prevailing consumer price index.

- (4) The following services are subsidised services, and the tariffs levied cover 50%, or as near as possible to 50%, of the annual operating expenses budgeted for the service concerned:
- (a) burial services and the provision of cemeteries; and
  - (b) the provision of municipal sports facilities for use against a fee.
- (5) The following services are considered as being community services, and no tariffs are levied for their use of:
- (a) a municipal swimming pool;
  - (b) a municipal museum and art gallery;
  - (c) the disposal of garden refuse at the municipal tip site;
  - (d) a municipal reference library;
  - (e) a municipal lending library, except for fines determined;
  - (f) a municipal botanical garden, other park or open space;
- (6) The following services are considered as being economic services, and the tariffs levied cover 100%, or as near as possible to 100%, of the budgeted annual operating expenses of the service concerned:
- (a) the maintenance of graves, gardens of remembrance and crematoria against payment of a fee;
  - (b) the availability of a house against payment of a housing rental;
  - (c) subject to subsection (9), the use of a municipal hall and other premises against payment of a fee;
  - (d) the supply of a building plan against payment of a fee;
  - (e) the selling of –
    - (i) plastic refuse bags;
    - (ii) the selling of refuse bins; or
    - (iii) livestock and plants;
  - (f) the cleaning of stands against payment of a fee;
  - (g) the connection of electricity, water and sewerage against payment of a connection fee;
  - (h) the Photostatting of copies against payment of a fee; and

- (i) the issuing of a clearance certificate against payment of a fee.
- (7) The following charges and tariffs are considered as regulatory or punitive, and are determined as appropriate in each annual budget:
  - (a) Fines for lost or overdue library books;
  - (b) advertising sign fees;
  - (c) pound fees;
  - (d) disconnection and reconnection fees of electricity and water;
  - (e) penalty and other charges imposed in terms of Chapters 1 and 2; and
  - (f) penalty charges for the submission of dishonoured, stale, post-dated or otherwise unacceptable cheques.
- (8) A market-related rental is levied for the lease of a municipal property.
- (9) If the municipal manager is satisfied, in the case of a rental for the use of a municipal hall and premises, that the hall or premises is required for non-profit making purposes and for the provision of a service to the community, the municipal manager may waive 50% of the applicable rental.
- (10) The municipal manager must determine whether an indemnity or guarantee is to be lodged in each instance for the rental of a municipal hall, premises or sports field, and in so determining must be guided by the likelihood of the municipality's sustaining damages as a result of the use of the facilities concerned.
- (11) The costs of the democratic process in the municipality such as, but not limited to, all expenses associated with the political structures of the municipality, form part of the expenses to be financed from property rates and general revenues and are not included in the costing of the major services of the municipality.

#### **CHAPTER 4 RATES**

##### **25. Imposition of rates**

- (1) The municipality must impose and imposes, as part of each annual operating budget component, a rate in the rand on the market value of all rateable property as recorded in the municipality's valuation roll and supplementary valuation roll.
- (2) When imposing the rate for each financial year, the municipality must take proper cognisance of the –
  - (a) aggregate burden of rates and service charges on property owners in the various categories of property ownership; and



- (b) extent to which this burden is or remains competitive with the comparable burden in other municipalities within the local economic region.

**26. Rebates on rates**

- (1) The municipality grants rebates in recognition of the following factors:
  - (a) the inability of residential property owners to pass on the burden of rates, as opposed to the ability of the owners of business, commercial, industrial and certain other properties to recover such rates as part of the expenses associated with the goods or services which they produce;
  - (b) the need to accommodate indigents and less affluent pensioners;
  - (c) the services provided to the community by public service organisations;
  - (d) the value of agricultural activities to the local economy coupled with the limited municipal services extended to such activities, but also taking into account the municipal services provided to municipal residents who are employed in such activities;
  - (e) the need to preserve the cultural heritage of the local community;
  - (f) the need to encourage the expansion of public service infrastructure; and
  - (g) the indispensable contribution which property developers, especially in regard to commercial and industrial property development, make towards local economic development, and the continuing need to encourage such development.
- (2) The municipal manager must, subject to section 15(3) and 15(4) of the Property Rates Act, 2004 (Act 6 of 2004), ensure that rebates are indicated on the rates accounts submitted to each property.
- (3) The municipality must in respect of each category of –
  - (a) property specified in column 1 of Schedule 1 grant the rebate set out against it in column 2 of Schedule 1; and
  - (b) owner specified in column 1 of Schedule 2 grant the additional rebate set out against it in column 2 of Schedule 2.
- (4) In determining whether a property forms part of a particular category contemplated in subsection (3), the municipality must have regard to the actual use to which the relevant property is put, and in the case of vacant land not specifically included in any of the categories, the permitted use of the property determines into which category it falls.
- (5) The rebates granted under subsection (3) apply in addition to the provisions of section 17(1)(h) of the Property Rates Act, 2004.

- (6) (a) Subject to the provisions of section 9 of the Property Rates Act, 2004; a property, other than one referred to in section 17(1)(h)(i) of that Act, is rated on the value assigned to each component, and receives the rebate applicable to such component.
- (b) Where one component on average represents 90% or more of the property's actual use, such property must be rated as though it were used for that use only.
- (7) A person who wishes to apply for a rebate, must –
  - (a) do so on the form supplied for this purposes by the municipality;
  - (b) submit such completed form before 30 September of each year;
  - (c) include the following in the application:
    - (i) Proof of income;
    - (ii) a copy of his or her identity document; and
    - (iii) an affidavit stating that income from all sources does not exceed R1500,00 per month.
- (8) An application for rebates as contemplated in subsection (7) must be submitted annually.

## **27. Adjustment of rates**

- (1) Where the rates levied on a particular property have been incorrectly determined, whether because of –
  - (a) an error or omission on the part of the municipality;
  - (b) false information provided by the property owner concerned; or
  - (c) a contravention of the permitted use to which the property concerned may be put, the rates payable must be appropriately adjusted for the period extending from the date on which the error or omission is detected back to the date on which rates were first levied in terms of the current valuation roll.
- (2) Where the error occurred as contemplated in subsection (1)(b) or (c), interest on the unpaid portion of the adjusted rates payable must be levied at the maximum rate permitted by prevailing legislation.

## **CHAPTER 5 ENFORCEMENT**

## **28. Municipality's powers to restrict or disconnect supply of services**

- (1) The municipality may, over and above the provisions of any other provisions in these by-laws restrict or disconnect the supply of water and electricity, or discontinue any other service to any premises if –
  - (a) an administration order is granted in terms of section 74 of the Magistrates Court Act, 1944 (Act 37 of 1944), in respect of an account holder;
  - (b) an account holder of any service fails to comply with a condition of supply imposed by the municipality;

- (c) an account holder obstructs the efficient supply of electricity, water or any other municipal services to another account holder;
- (d) an account holder supplies such municipal services to any person who is not entitled thereto or permits such service to continue;
- (e) an account holder causes a situation which is dangerous or a contravention of relevant legislation; or
- (f) an account holder is placed under provisional registration, liquidation or judicial management, or commits an act of insolvency in terms of the Insolvency Act, 1936 (Act 24 of 1936).

**29. Tampering, unauthorised connections and reconnections and improper use**

- (1) The municipality reserves the right to monitor the service network for signs of tampering or irregularities, and may visit premises on house-to-house basis to detect tamperers, and may follow up after meters have been disconnected for non-payment of accounts.
- (2) No person may in any manner or for any reason whatsoever tamper or interfere with any meter or metering equipment or service connection or service protective device or supply mains or any other equipment of the municipality.
- (3) Where prima facie evidence exists of an account holder or any person having contravened subsection (2), the municipality –
  - (a) in the instance of tampering with an electricity meter –
    - (i) may have a photograph taken of the suspected tampering; and
    - (ii) may have an electrician inspect the suspected tampering, and should the tampering be confirmed, the meter will be disconnected, and the meter will only be reconnected on the payment of the relevant tamper fee, and the settlement of the arrear account or after suitable arrangement to settle the arrears; and
    - (iii) after the third offence the meter shall be removed and the consumer must pay the penalties and the reconnection cost before the electricity is reconnected; and
  - (b) in the instance of tampering with a water meter –
    - (i) may place a restriction washer the pipe, lock the meter, and remove bypassing pipes, and the water flow shall only be restored on the payment of the relevant tamper fees, and the settlement of the arrear account or after a suitable arrangement to settle the arrears; and
    - (ii) after the third offence the meter and water connection shall be removed and the consumer must pay the penalties and the reconnection cost before the water supply is reconnected, and the municipal account must be settled in full.
- (4) The electricity and water consumption not charged due to tampering shall be calculated and the consumer must pay the amount before the services are restored.
- (5) Where an account holder or any person has contravened subsection (2) and such contravention has resulted in the meter recording less than the true consumption, the municipality has the right to recover from the account holder the full cost of his or her estimated consumption.

- (6) A person who in any manner whatsoever tampers or interferes with any meter or metering equipment or service connection or service protective device or supply mains or any other equipment of the municipality commits an offence.

**30. Clearance certificate**

- (1) To effect the transfer of any immovable property from one registered owner to another, the Registrar of Deeds requires a clearance certificate, which certificate is obtainable from the municipal manager or a duly authorised officer of the municipality, upon payment of the prescribed fee and subject to the conditions of section 118 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000) being met.
- (2) Should an amount due, as contemplated in section 118(1)(b) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000), be due for a period exceeding two years, a judgement shall be obtained and the conveyancing attorney must deduct such amount from the proceeds of the sale of the property.
- (3) Where property is sold in execution the sheriff shall be informed of the amount due, as contemplated in section 118(1)(b) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000), and must deduct such amount from the proceeds of the sale of the property.

**31. Tenders and grants-in-aid**

- (1) Each tender submitted to the municipality must be accompanied by a certificate from the municipality stating that the proposed supplier is not indebted to the municipality for any arrear amount reflected on the municipal account.
- (2) Should a proposed supplier be so indebted, the municipality may disallow the tender.
- (3) The municipality may only consider a tender once the proposed supplier has made satisfactory arrangements to pay the outstanding amount by means of instalments, or has settled all arrear amounts in full.
- (4) The municipal manager or a duly authorised officer of the municipality must in the condition of contract, provide for the deduction from moneys owed to the supplier in order to settle any outstanding amount.
- (5) Payment of any grants-in-aid approved by the municipality may be withheld pending payment of any outstanding municipal account, or pending an agreement between the municipality and the receiver of a grant-in-aid in which satisfactory arrangements have been made regarding the settlement of the outstanding municipal account.

**32. Power of council to recover costs**

- (1) Where a bank dishonours any payment made to the municipality, the municipality may levy and recover all related costs and any administration fees against an account of the defaulting account holder and may disconnect or restrict the supplies to the premises of such account holder.

- (2) All legal costs, including attorney-and-client costs incurred in the recovery of amounts in arrears and payable in terms of the Magistrates Court Act, 1944 (Act 32 of 1944), must be levied against the arrears account of the account holder.
- (3) For any action taken in demanding payment from an account holder or reminding an account holder by means of telephone, fax, electronic mail, letter or otherwise that payments are due, a fee will be levied against the municipal account of the account holder in terms of the municipality's tariff provisions.

**33. Abandonment of bad debts, and full and final settlement of account**

- (1) Before terminating the debt collection procedure in any individual instance, the municipal manager must –
  - (a) ensure that all debt collection mechanisms as provided for in section 11 have been utilised where reasonable;
  - (b) maintain an audit trail; and
  - (c) document the reasons for terminating the debt collection procedure, including the cost of enforcement and necessary financial adjustments.
- (2) The municipal manager or a duly authorised officer of the municipality may consider an offer for full and final settlement, and must, if in the interests of the municipality, in writing consent to the acceptance of a lesser amount as full and final settlement of the amount due and payable.
- (3) Where the exact amount due and payable to the municipality has not been paid in full, any lesser amount tendered to and accepted by any the municipality employee, except the municipal manager or the municipal manager's delegate, shall not be deemed to be in full and final settlement of such an amount.

**34. Power of entry and inspection**

- (1) A duly authorised representative of the municipality may for any reason related to the implementation or enforcement of this by-law at all reasonable times or in emergency at any time, enter premises, request information and carry out such inspection as deemed necessary, and may for purposes of installing or repairing any meter or service connection for reticulation disconnect, stop or restrict the provision of any service.
- (2) If the municipality considers it necessary for work to be performed to enable an officer to perform a function referred to in subsection (1) properly and effectively, it may –
  - (a) by written notice require an account holder to do, at own expense, specified work within a specified period; or
  - (b) if the situation is a matter of urgency, without prior notice do such work or cause it to be done at the expense of the account holder.

- (3) If the work referred to in subsection (2) is carried out for the sole purpose of establishing whether a contravention of these by-laws has been committed and no such contravention has taken place, the municipality must bear the expense connected therewith together with that of restoring the premises to their former condition.

**35. Authentication and service of orders, notices and other documents**

- (1) An order, notice or other document requiring authentication by the municipality must be signed by the municipal manager or by a duly authorised officer of the municipality, such authority being conferred by resolution of the municipality or by a by-law or regulation, and when issued by the municipality in terms of this by-law is deemed to be duly issued if it is signed by an officer authorised by the municipality.
- (2) Any notice or other document that is served on a person by a duly authorised officer of the municipality in terms of these by-laws, is regarded as having been served –
- (a) when it has been delivered to that person personally;
  - (b) when it has been left at that person's place of residence or business in the Republic with a person apparently over the age of 16 years;
  - (c) when it has been posted by registered or certified mail to that person's last known residential or business address in the Republic and an acknowledgement of the posting thereof from the postal service is obtained;
  - (d) if that person's address in the Republic is unknown, when it has been served on that person's agent or representative in the Republic in the manner provided by paragraphs (a), (b) or (c);
  - (e) if that person's address and agent or representative in the Republic is unknown, when it has been placed in a conspicuous place on the property or premises, if any, to which it relates;
  - (f) in the event of a body corporate, when it has been delivered at the registered office of the business premises of such body corporate to a person apparently over the age of 16 years; or
  - (g) when it has been delivered, at the request of a person, to that person's electronic mail address.
- (3) When any notice or other document has to be served on the owner, an account holder or holder of any property or right in any property, it is sufficient if that person is described in the notice or other document as the owner, account holder or holder of the property or right in question, and it is not necessary to name that person.
- (4) Service of a copy is deemed to be service of the original.
- (5) Any legal process is effectively and sufficiently served on the municipality when it is delivered to the municipal manager or a person in attendance at the municipal manager's office.

## **CHAPTER 6 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

### **36. Offences and penalties**

A person who has committed an offence is liable, on conviction, to fine or a period not exceeding of community service or a combination of a fine and community service.

### **37. Repeal of By-laws**

By-laws on Customer Care and Revenue Management previously made by the municipality or its constituent predecessors in respect of any portion of the area of the Lephalale Local Municipality are hereby repealed in so far as they are inconsistent with the provisions of this By-law.

### **38. Short title and commencement**

This By-law is called Lephalale Local Municipality Customer Care and Revenue by-law and commences into operation on the date of publication thereof in the Provincial Gazette.

**SCHEDULE 1****CATEGORIES OF PROPERTY AND REBATE GRANTED**

<b>COLUMN 1</b>	<b>COLUMN 2</b>
<b>CATEGORY OF PROPERTY</b>	<b>% OF REBATE GRANTED</b>
1. Residential properties or properties of any category used for multiple purposes where the residential component represents on average 90% or more of the property's actual use.	40%
2. Industrial properties.	0%
3. Business and commercial properties.	0%
4. Farm properties with a residential component.	40%
5. Farm properties with a business and commercial component	0%
6. Farm properties with an agricultural component.	50%
7. Farm properties which is used for no purpose.	0%
8. Smallholdings with a residential component.	40%
9. Smallholdings with a business and commercial component.	0%
10. Smallholdings with an industrial component.	0%
11. Smallholdings with an agricultural component.	50%
12. State-owned properties (residential).	40%
13. State-owned properties (public service infrastructure).	30%
14. State-owned properties (other).	0%
15. Municipal properties (residential).	40%
16. Municipal properties (public service infrastructure)	30%
17. Municipal properties (other).	0%
18. Formal (all properties with a rateable value of up to R30 000).	60%
19. Formal (all properties with a rateable value of R30 000 or more).	50%
20. Communal land.	50%
21. State trust land.	50%
22. Protected areas.	100%
23. Properties on which national monuments are situated and where no business or commercial activities are conducted in respect of such monuments.	100%
24. Properties on which national monuments are situated, but where business or commercial activities are conducted in respect of such monuments.	40%
25. Properties owned by public benefit organisations and used to further the objectives of such organisations.	100%



**SCHEDULE 2****CATEGORIES OF OWNERS AND ADDITIONAL REBATE GRANTED**

<b>COLUMN 1</b>	<b>COLUMN 2</b>
<b>CATEGORY OF OWNERS</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL REBATES TO BE GRANTED</b>
1. A property owner who is the permanent occupant as well as the sole owner of the property concerned as well as a registered indigent in terms of the municipality's indigence relief measures.	100% of the rates based on the rateable value up to R30 000 and 75% of the rates based on the rateable value above R30 000.
2. A property owner who is over 60 years of age as well as the permanent occupant as well as the sole owner of the property concerned, and whose aggregate household income is proved to the municipal manager not to exceed R2 500 per month, or such amount as the municipality may determine.	100% of the rates based on the rateable value up to R30 000, 50% of the rates based on the rateable value above R30 000 but below R100 000, and 40% of the rates based on the rateable value above R100 000.
3. An owner of property which is being developed for approved commercial or industrial usage.	80% of the rates based on the rateable value until the development is completed, 60% of the rates based on the rateable value for the municipality's financial year or part thereof immediately following the completion of development, 40% of the rates based on the rateable value for each of the ensuing years.