

Mohokare Local Municipality

(Municipal demarcation code: FS/163)

Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2011

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. Reporting municipality

Mohokare Local Municipality ("the municipality") is a local government institution in Zastron, Smithfield and Rouxville towns in the Xhariep district, Free State Province. Its principal activities and the address of its principal place of business are disclosed under "General Information" in the annual report.

2. Presentation of annual financial statements

2.1 Statement of compliance

The annual financial statements have been prepared in compliance with the effective Standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (GRAP) including any interpretations, guidelines and directives issued by the Accounting Standards Board.

These annual financial statements have been compiled in accordance with the Municipal Finance Management Act 56 of 2003.

These annual financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis of accounting and are in accordance with historical cost convention unless specified otherwise.

The following significant accounting policies had been applied consistently during the current and previous reporting period except to the extent that a transitional provision, as set out in note 2.6 has been applied.

2.2 Going concern assumption

These annual financial statements have been prepared on the assumption that the municipality will continue to operate as a going concern for at least the next twelve months.

2.3 Functional and presentation currency

These annual financial statements are presented in South African Rand, which is the municipality's functional currency. All financial information has been rounded to the nearest Rand.

2.4 Offsetting

Financial assets and liabilities are set off and the net amount presented in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the municipality has a legal right to set off amounts and intends either to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Revenues and expenses have not been offset except when offsetting is required or permitted by a Standard of GRAP.

2.5 Use of estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GRAP requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

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

Information about critical judgements in applying accounting policies that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the annual financial statements as well as assumptions and estimation uncertainties that have a significant risk of resulting in a material adjustment within the next financial year are included in note 2.23.

2.6 Property, plant and equipment

The policy set out below has been applied only to the extent that the requirement is not covered by the relevant transitional provision explained in this note below.

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

Initial recognition and measurement

Property, plant and equipment are measured at cost. This cost is the provisional value of the property, plant and equipment until the municipality complies no longer applies Directive 4.

Land and buildings are measured at revalued amounts, being the fair value at the date of revaluation less any accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset. Where an asset is acquired at no cost, or for a nominal cost, its cost is its fair value as at date of acquisition. Where an item of property, plant and equipment is acquired in exchange for a non-monetary asset or a combination of monetary and non-monetary assets, the cost of the asset acquired is initially measured at fair value. If the acquired item's fair value was not determinable, its deemed cost is the carrying amount of the asset given up.

Property that is being constructed or developed for future use as investment property is classified as property, plant and equipment and stated at cost until construction or development is complete, at which time it is reclassified as investment property.

When the use of a property changes from owner-occupied to investment property carried at fair value using the fair value model, the property is remeasured to fair value and reclassified as investment property. Any gain or loss arising on remeasurement is treated in the same way as a revaluation in terms of GRAP 17 as follows:

- any resulting decrease in the carrying amount of the property is recognised in surplus or

deficit.

However, to the extent that an amount is included in a revaluation surplus for that property, the decrease is charged against that revaluation surplus.

- any resulting increase in the carrying amount is treated as follows:
 - to the extent that the increase reverses a previous impairment loss for that property, the increase is recognised in surplus or deficit. The amount recognised in surplus or deficit does not exceed the amount needed to restore the carrying amount to the carrying amount that would have been determined (net of depreciation) had no impairment loss been recognised.
 - any remaining part of the increase is credited directly to the revaluation surplus in net assets. On subsequent disposal of the investment property, the revaluation surplus included in net assets may be transferred to accumulated surpluses or deficits. The transfer from revaluation surplus to accumulated surpluses or deficits is not made through surplus or deficit.

Purchased software that is integral to the functionality of the related equipment is capitalised as part of that equipment.

Revaluations are made with sufficient regularity such that the carrying amount does not differ materially from that which would be determined using fair value at the end of the reporting period.

The revaluation surplus relating to a specific item of property, plant and equipment is transferred directly to accumulated surplus or deficit when the asset is derecognised.

Subsequent cost

The cost of replacing a part of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised in the carrying amount of the item if it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the municipality and the cost or fair value of the item can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised.

The costs of the day-to-day servicing of property, plant and equipment are recognised in surplus or deficit as incurred.

Rehabilitation costs capitalised to the cost of landfill sites are written off on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the sites.

Leased assets are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives unless it is reasonably certain that the municipality will obtain ownership by the end of the lease term.

Incomplete construction work is stated at historical cost. Depreciation only commences when the asset is available for use.

The useful lives for the current and previous financial year are as follows:

Item	Average useful life
Land	Indefinite Buildings 30
years Plant and machinery	5 years Furniture and fixtures
	7 years Motor vehicles 5
years	

2.6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Office equipment	3 years IT equipment
3 years Computer software	3 years Infrastructure
• Electricity	20 years
• Roads and paving	15 years
• Water	20 years
• Sewerage	20 years
• Stormwater drains	20 years
Other assets	
• Computer equipment	3 years
• Furniture and fittings	6 years
• Other assets	10 years Communication
equipment	5 years Investment property
30 years Leased Assets	
• Office equipment	Lease term
Tools and loose gear	5 years

Spare parts

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

Derecognition

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised on disposal or when no future economic benefits or service potential is expected from its continued use or disposal.

Gains and losses on disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment are determined by comparing the proceeds from disposal with the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment, and are recognised net within other revenue in surplus or deficit.

Leased assets

Leases in terms of which the municipality assumes substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as finance leases. Other leases are classified as operating leases. Upon initial recognition of assets leased under finance leases, the leased asset is measured at an amount equal to the lower of its fair value and the present value of the minimum lease payments. Subsequent to initial recognition, the asset is accounted for in accordance with the accounting policy applicable to that asset.

Items of property, plant and equipment are derecognised when the asset is disposed of or when there are no further economic benefits or service potential expected from the use of the asset.

The gain or loss arising from the derecognition of an item of property, plant and equipment is

included in surplus or deficit when the item is derecognised. The gain or loss arising from the derecognition of an item of property, plant and equipment is determined as the difference between the net disposal proceeds, if any, and the carrying amount of the item.

Transitional provision

The municipality changed its accounting policy for property, plant and equipment in 2008. The change in accounting policy is made in accordance with its transitional provision as per Directive 4 of the GRAP Reporting Framework.

According to the transitional provision, the municipality is not required to measure property, plant and equipment for reporting periods beginning on or after a date within three years following the date of initial adoption of the Standard of GRAP on Property, plant and equipment. Property, plant and equipment has accordingly been recognised at provisional amounts, as disclosed in note 6. The transitional provision expires on 30 June 2011.

In accordance with the transitional provision as per Directive 4 of the GRAP Reporting Framework, where property, plant and equipment was acquired through a transfer of functions, the municipality is not required to measure that property, plant and equipment for a period of three years from the effective date of the transfer of functions or the effective date of the Standard, whichever is later. The municipality has accordingly recognised property, plant and equipment at provisional amounts, as disclosed in note 6.

Until such time as the measurement period expires and property, plant and equipment is recognised and measured in accordance with the requirements of the Standard of GRAP on Property, plant and equipment, the municipality need not comply with the Standards of GRAP on:

- Presentation of Financial Statements (GRAP 1),
- The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Transactions (GRAP 4),
- Leases (GRAP 13),
- Segment Reporting (GRAP 18),
- Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations (GRAP 100)

The exemption from applying the measurement requirements of the Standard of GRAP on Property, plant and equipment implies that any associated presentation and disclosure requirements need not be complied with for property, plant and equipment not measured in accordance with the requirements of the Standard of GRAP on Property, plant and equipment.

2.7 Investment property

Investment property is property held either to earn rental income or for capital appreciation or both, rather than for:

- use in the production or supply of goods or services or for
- administrative purposes, or
- sale in the ordinary course of business.

Owner-occupied property is property held for use in the production or supply of goods or services or for administrative purposes.

Where investment property is acquired at no cost or for a nominal cost, its cost is its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Costs include costs incurred initially and costs incurred subsequently to add to, or to replace a part of a property. If a replacement part is recognised in the carrying amount of the investment property, the carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised.

Where investment property is acquired at no cost or for a nominal cost, its cost is its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Property interests held by the municipality (lessee) under an operating lease are accounted for as investment property only if the property meets the definition of an investment property and the lessee uses the fair value model as required by paragraph 6 of GRAP 16.

The initial cost of a property interest held under a lease classified as an investment property, shall be recognised at the lower of the fair value of the property and the present value of the minimum lease payments. An equivalent amount is recognised as a liability.

The fair value of investment properties is determined at the reporting date by an independent valuer who holds a recognised and relevant professional qualification and has recent experience in the location and category of the investment property being valued. The valuations are based on the value of similar properties in the market.

Fair value

Investment property is subsequently measured at fair value with any change therein recognised in surplus or deficit .

When the use of a property changes such that it is reclassified as property, plant and equipment, its fair value at the date of reclassification becomes its cost for subsequent accounting.

Investment property is derecognised on disposal or when the investment property is permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its disposal.

Gains or losses arising from the retirement or disposal of investment property are calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and are recognised in surplus or deficit in the period of retirement or disposal.

2.8 Biological assets

The fair value of livestock is determined based on market prices of livestock of similar age, breed, and genetic merit.

Where market determined prices or values are not available, the present value of the expected net cash inflows from the asset, discounted at a current market-determined pre-tax rate where applicable is used to determine fair value.

2.9 Financial instruments

Classification

The municipality classifies financial instruments , or their component parts, on initial recognition

as financial assets, a financial liabilities or equity instruments in accordance with the substance of the contractual arrangement.

- Financial assets at fair value through surplus or deficit - held for trading
- Financial assets at fair value through surplus or deficit - designated
- Held-to-maturity investment
- Loans and receivables
- Available-for-sale financial assets
- Financial liabilities at fair value through surplus or deficit - held for trading
- Financial liabilities at fair value through surplus or deficit - designated
- Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost

Classification depends on the purpose for which the financial instruments were obtained / incurred and takes place at initial recognition. Classification is re-assessed on an annual basis, except for derivatives and financial assets designated as at fair value through surplus or deficit, which shall not be classified out of the fair value through surplus or deficit category.

Financial assets classified as at fair value through surplus or deficit which are no longer held for the purposes of selling or repurchasing in the near term may be reclassified out of that category:

- in rare circumstances
- if the asset met the definition of loans and receivables and the entity has the intention and ability to hold the asset for the foreseeable future or until maturity.

No other reclassifications may be made into or out of the fair value through surplus or deficit category.

A financial asset classified as available-for-sale that would have met the definition of loans and receivables may be reclassified to loans and receivables if the entity has the intention and ability to hold the asset for the foreseeable future or until maturity.

Non-derivative financial assets

The municipality initially recognises loans and receivables on the date that they are originated. All other financial assets (including assets designated at fair value through profit or loss) are recognised initially on the trade date at which the municipality becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

The municipality derecognises a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or it transfers the rights to receive the contractual cash flows on the financial asset in a transaction in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred. Any interest in transferred financial assets that is created or retained by the municipality is recognised as a separate asset or liability.

The municipality has the following classes and categories of financial assets as reflected on the face of the statement of financial position or in the notes thereto:

Class of financial asset	IAS 39 category
Investments in fixed deposits (banking institutions, etc)	Held-to-maturity
Trade and other receivables from exchange receivables transactions (consumer debtors)	Loans and

Short-term investment deposits	Held-to-maturity
Cash and cash equivalents receivables	Loans and
Unlisted shares (in 'Other financial assets')	Fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are financial assets that meet either of the following conditions:

- They are classified as held for trading; or
- Upon initial recognition they are designated as at fair value through profit or loss.

Financial assets are designated as at fair value through profit or loss if the municipality manages such investments and makes purchase and sale decisions based on their fair value in accordance with the municipality's documented risk management or investment strategy.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are measured initially and subsequently at fair value and gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are recognised in surplus or deficit for the period. Transaction costs are recognised in surplus or deficit.

Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. Such assets are recognised initially at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, loans and receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less an allowance for impairment losses.

Cash includes cash-on-hand and cash with banks. Cash equivalents are short-term highly liquid investments that are held with registered banking institutions with maturities of three months or less and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value. Bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the municipality's cash management are included as a component of cash and cash equivalents for the purpose of the statement of cash flows.

Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturity where the municipality has the positive intent and ability to hold the investment to maturity. Held-to-maturity investments are initially recognised at fair value plus direct transaction costs. At subsequent reporting dates, held-to-maturity investments are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses.

Any sale or reclassification of a more than insignificant amount of held-to-maturity investments not close to their maturity would result in the reclassification of all held-to-maturity investments as available-for-sale, and prevent the municipality from classifying investment securities as held-to-maturity for the current and the following two financial years.

Non-derivative financial liabilities

The municipality initially recognises financial liabilities, including liabilities designated at fair value through surplus or deficit, on the trade date at which the municipality becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

The municipality derecognises a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled or expire. Where an existing financial liability is replaced by another from the same lender on substantially different terms, or the terms of an existing liability are substantially modified, such an exchange or modification is treated as a derecognition of the original liability and the recognition of a new liability, and the difference in the respective carrying amounts is recognised in surplus or deficit.

The municipality has the following classes of financial liabilities as reflected on the face of the statement of financial position or in the notes thereto:

- Loans and borrowings
- Trade and other payables from exchange transactions
- Bank overdraft
- Current portion of loans and borrowings
- Consumer deposits

The above financial liabilities form part of the “other financial liabilities carried at amortised cost” category per IAS 39 and are recognised initially at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs.

Subsequent to initial recognition these financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Financial guarantee contracts

Financial guarantees are contracts that require the municipality to make specified payments to reimburse the holder for a loss it incurs because a specified debtor fails to make payment when due in accordance with the terms of a debt instrument. Financial guarantee liabilities are recognised initially at fair value, and the initial fair value is amortised over the life of the financial guarantee. The financial guarantee liability is subsequently carried at the higher of this amortised amount and the present value of any expected payment when a payment under the guarantee becomes probable. Financial guarantees are included in other liabilities.

The municipality does not account for financial guarantee contracts under IFRS 4 *Insurance Contracts*.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and demand deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject

to an insignificant risk of changes in value. These are initially and subsequently recorded at fair value.

Bank overdraft and borrowings

Bank overdrafts and borrowings are initially measured at fair value, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the settlement or redemption of borrowings is recognised over the term of the borrowings in accordance with the municipality's accounting policy for borrowing costs.

2.10 Inventories

Cost

The cost of inventories comprises all costs of purchase, cost of conversion and other cost incurred in bringing the inventory to its present location and condition. Where inventories are acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, the cost is deemed to be the fair value as at the date of acquisition. Cost is generally determined using the first-in-first-out principle except where stated otherwise.

Subsequent measurement

Consumable stores, raw materials, work-in-progress and finished goods are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and current replacement cost where they are held for:

- distribution at no charge or for a nominal charge; or
- consumption in the production process of goods to be distributed at no charge or for a nominal charge. Current replacement cost is the cost the municipality incurs to acquire the asset on the reporting date.

Unsold properties are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value on a weighted average cost basis.

Redundant and slow-moving inventories are identified and written down to net realisable value and sold by public auction.

The amount of any write-down of inventories to net realisable value and all losses of inventories are recognised as an expense in the period the write-down or loss occurs. The amount of any reversal of any write-down of inventories, arising from an increase in net realisable value, are recognised as a reduction in the amount of inventories recognised as an expense in the period in which the reversal occurs.

Water inventory

Water inventory represents water housed in dams within the municipal area and is measured at the lower of cost, which is deemed to be fair value, and net realisable value. In the absence of a market that trades in water outside of local government, the fair value utilised to quantify water inventory is based on the unit reference value. The unit reference value is a determined by a formula that is utilised in the engineering department to calculate the development cost of new

water resources.

The water levels in the dams are based on cubic meter capacity taking into account the capacity of the dam, based on land surveying reports and the curve of the dam.

Readings of water levels are taken at year-end, which is quantified at the above fair value.

Water and purified effluent are measured at the lowest of purified cost and net realisable value insofar as it is stored and controlled in reservoirs at year-end.

The municipality applies Directive 4 for the measurement of water inventory.

2.11 Impairment

Financial assets

A financial asset, not carried at fair value through profit or loss, is assessed at each reporting date to determine whether there is objective evidence that it is impaired. A financial asset is impaired if objective evidence indicates that a loss event has occurred after the initial recognition of the asset, and that the loss event had a negative effect on the estimated future cash flows of that asset that can be estimated reliably.

Objective evidence that financial assets are impaired can include default or delinquency by a debtor, restructuring of an amount due to the municipality on terms that the municipality would not consider otherwise and indications that a debtor or issuer will enter bankruptcy.

In the case of equity securities classified as available-for-sale, a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of the security below its cost is considered an indicator of impairment.

The municipality considers evidence of impairment at both a specific asset and collective level. All individually significant receivables are assessed for specific impairment. All individually significant receivables found not to be specifically impaired are then collectively assessed for any impairment that has been incurred but not yet identified. A report on the various categories of customers is drafted to substantiate the impairment evaluation. Receivables that are not individually significant are collectively assessed for impairment by grouping together receivables with similar risk characteristics.

In assessing collective impairment the municipality uses historical trends of the probability of default, timing of recoveries and the amount of loss incurred, adjusted for management's judgement as to whether current economic and credit conditions are such that the actual losses are likely to be greater or less than suggested by historical trends.

An impairment loss in respect of a financial asset measured at amortised cost is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. Impairment losses are recognised in surplus or deficit and reflected in an allowance account against receivables. If impaired financial assets are written off, the write off is made against the allowance account. Interest on the impaired asset continues to be recognised through the unwinding of the discount. When a subsequent event causes the amount of impairment loss to decrease, the decrease in impairment loss is reversed through surplus or deficit, subject to the restriction that the carrying amount of the financial instrument shall not exceed what the amortised cost would have been had the impairment not been recognised.

Impairment losses on available-for-sale financial assets are recognised by transferring the cumulative loss that has been recognised in net assets, and presented in the fair value reserve, to surplus or deficit. The cumulative loss that is removed from the fair value reserve and recognised in surplus or deficit is the difference between the acquisition cost, net of any principal repayment and amortisation, and the current fair value, less any impairment loss previously recognised in surplus or deficit. Changes in impairment provisions attributable to time value are reflected as a component of interest income.

If, in a subsequent period, the fair value of an impaired available-for-sale debt security increases and the increase can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised in surplus or deficit, then the impairment loss is reversed, with the amount of the reversal recognised in surplus or deficit. However, any subsequent recovery in the fair value of an impaired available-for-sale equity security is recognised in net assets.

Impairment losses are not subsequently reversed for equity instruments which are carried at cost because fair value was not determinable.

Non-financial assets

Cash generating assets

Cash-generating assets are those assets held by the municipality with the primary objective of generating a commercial return. When an asset is deployed in a manner consistent with that adopted by a profit-orientated entity, it generates a commercial return.

The carrying amounts of the municipality's cash generating non-financial assets, other than inventories, are reviewed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, then the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. For intangible assets that have indefinite lives or that are not yet available for use, the recoverable amount is estimated annually.

If it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of the individual asset, the municipality determines the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. For the purpose of impairment testing, assets are therefore grouped together into the smallest group of assets that generates cash inflows from continuing use that are largely independent of the cash inflows of other assets or groups of assets (the "cash-generating unit").

The recoverable amount of an asset or cash-generating unit is the greater of its value in use and its fair value less costs to sell. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset or cash-generating unit.

An impairment loss is recognised if the carrying amount of an asset or cash-generating unit exceeds its estimated recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised in surplus or deficit.

Impairment losses recognised in respect of cash-generating units are allocated on a pro rata basis to reduce the carrying amounts of the other assets in the unit. The allocation of impairment losses to assets in a cash generating unit may not reduce the carrying amount of

such assets below the highest of its fair value less costs to sell, value in use and zero.

Impairment losses recognised in prior periods are assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

A reversal of an impairment loss for a cash-generating unit is allocated to the cash-generating assets of the unit pro rata with the carrying amounts of those assets. In allocating a reversal of an impairment loss for a cash-generating unit, the carrying amount of an asset is not increased above the lower of its recoverable amount the carrying amount that would have been determined (net of amortisation or depreciation) had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior periods.

The redesignation of assets from a cash-generating asset to a non-cash-generating asset or from a non-cash-generating asset to a cash-generating asset only occur when there is clear evidence that such a redesignation is appropriate.

Non-cash-generating assets

Non-cash-generating assets are assets other than cash-generating assets.

The carrying amounts of the municipality's non-cash generating assets are reviewed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. A non-cash-generating asset is impaired when the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its recoverable service amount. The recoverable service amount is the greater of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

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

The present value of the remaining service potential of a non-cash-generating asset is determined using the following approach:

Depreciated replacement cost approach - The present value of the remaining service potential of a non-cash-generating asset is determined as the depreciated replacement cost of the asset. The replacement cost of an asset is the cost to replace the asset's gross service potential. This cost is depreciated to reflect the asset in its used condition. An asset may be replaced either through reproduction (replication) of the existing asset or through replacement of its gross service potential. The depreciated replacement cost is measured as the reproduction or replacement cost of the asset, whichever is lower, less accumulated depreciation calculated on the basis of such cost, to reflect the already consumed or expired service potential of the asset.

An impairment loss is recognised if the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated recoverable service amount. Impairment losses are recognised in surplus or deficit.

Impairment losses recognised in prior periods are assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable service amount. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed

the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

2.12 Revenue

Revenue from exchange transactions includes revenue from trading activities and other services provided while revenue from non-exchange transactions includes rates levied, fines, donations and grants from other spheres of government.

Revenue from exchange transactions

Revenue is generally recognised when it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential will flow to the municipality and these benefits or service potential can be measured reliably, except when specifically stated otherwise. Revenue from the rendering of services is recognised in surplus or deficit in proportion to the stage of completion of the transaction at the reporting date.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, net of value added tax, estimated returns, rebates and discounts.

Services

When the outcome of a transaction involving the rendering of services cannot be estimated reliably, revenue is recognised only to the extent of the expenses recognised that are recoverable and service revenue.

Service revenue is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of transaction at reporting date. When the outcome of a transaction involving the rendering of services can be estimated reliably, revenue associated with the transaction is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction at the reporting date. The outcome of a transaction can be estimated reliably when all the following conditions are satisfied:

- the amount of revenue can be measured reliably;
- it is probable that the economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the municipality;
- the stage of completion of the transaction at the reporting date can be measured reliably; and
- the costs incurred for the transaction and the costs to complete the transaction can be measured reliably.

Service charges

Service charges relating to distribution of electricity and water are based on consumption. Meters are read on a monthly basis and are recognised as revenue when invoiced. Provisional estimates of consumption, based on the consumption history, are made on a monthly basis when meter readings have not been performed. The provisional estimates of consumption are recognised as revenue when invoiced, except at year-end when estimates of consumption up to year-end are recorded as revenue without it being invoiced. In respect of estimates of consumption between the last reading date and the reporting date, an accrual is raised based

on the average monthly consumption. Adjustments to provisional estimates of consumption are made in the invoicing period in which meters are read. These adjustments are recognised as revenue in the invoicing period. Estimates of consumption between meter readings are based on the average consumption of the past 3 months before the month being assessed.

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

Service charges from sewerage and sanitation services are based on the type of service and the number of sewer connections on all developed property, using the tariffs approved by Council. Revenue is recognised on a monthly basis.

Interest, royalties and dividends

Interest earned and rentals received

Interest income is recognised in surplus or deficit as it accrues, using the effective interest method. Interest earned on unutilised conditional grants is recognised as an unspent conditional grants liability if the grant conditions indicate that interest is payable to the grantor.

Dividends

Dividends are recognised on the date that the municipality's right to receive the dividend has been established.

Royalties

Royalties are recognised on an accrual basis in accordance with the substance of the relevant agreements.

Other

Tariff charges

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

Agency commission

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

Housing rental and instalments

Finance income from the sale of housing by way of instalment sales agreements or finance leases is recognised as it accrues in surplus or deficit using the effective interest method.

Sale of goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of

ownership are transferred to the buyer, recovery of the consideration is probable, the associated costs can be estimated reliably, there is no continuing managerial involvement with the goods, and the amount of revenue can be measured reliably.

Sale of goods can include among others sale of land, sale of gravel, tender documents etc.

Revenue from non-exchange transactions

Revenue from non-exchange transactions is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the municipality, the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably and, if applicable, there has been compliance with the relevant legal requirements or restrictions.

Rates and taxes

Revenue from rates, including collection charges and penalty interest, is recognised on a monthly basis when the taxes are levied as this is regarded to be the date when it is probable that the economic benefits or service potential will flow to the municipality, the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably and there has been compliance with the relevant legal requirements.

A composite rating system charging different rate tariffs is employed. Rebates are granted to certain categories of ratepayers and are deducted from revenue.

Fines

Revenue from the issuing of fines is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefits or service potential will flow to the municipality and the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably.

Fines consist of spot fines and summonses. There is uncertainty regarding the probability of the flow of economic benefits or service potential in respect of spot fines as these fines are usually not given directly to an offender. Further legal processes have to be undertaken before the spot fine is enforceable. In respect of summonses the public prosecutor can decide whether to waive the fine, reduce it or prosecute for non- payment by the offender.

An estimate is made for revenue from spot fines and summonses based on past experience of amounts collected. Where a reliable estimate cannot be made of revenue from summonses, the revenue is recognised when the public prosecutor pays the cash collected over to the municipality.

Receipt of community services in exchange for a fine is not recognised as revenue.

Donations and contributions

Revenue from donations is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefits or service potential will flow to the municipality, the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably and any restrictions associated with the donation have been met.

Revenue from donations is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable which is the cash amount received or where the donation is in the form of property, plant and equipment, the fair value of the property, plant and equipment received or

receivable.

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

Revenue from the recovery of unauthorised, irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure is based on legislated procedures, including those set out in the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act No.56 of 2003) and is recognised when the recovery thereof from the responsible councillors or officials is virtually certain.

Unconditional grants and receipts

Revenue from unconditional grants is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefits or service potential will flow to the municipality the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably. Since these grants are unconditional and there are no attached stipulations, the grants are recognised as revenue or, if the recognition criteria had been met, as assets in the reporting period in which they are received or receivable.

Conditional grants and receipts

Revenue from conditional grants is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefits or service potential will flow to the municipality the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably and to the extent that there has been compliance with any restrictions associated with the grant.

Interest earned on investments is treated in accordance with grant conditions. If interest is payable to the grantor, it is recognised as a liability and if not, it is recognised as interest earned in the statement of financial performance.

Conditions on transferred assets are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset is required to be consumed by the recipient as specified or future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the transferor.

Restrictions on transferred assets are stipulations that limit or direct the purposes for which a transferred asset may be used, but do not specify that future economic benefits or service potential is required to be returned to the transferor if not deployed as specified.

Stipulations on transferred assets are terms in laws or regulation, or a binding arrangement, imposed upon the use of a transferred asset by entities external to the reporting municipality.

Transfers are inflows of future economic benefits or service potential from non-exchange transactions, other than taxes.

Recognition

An inflow of resources from a non-exchange transaction recognised as an asset is recognised as revenue, except to the extent that a liability is also recognised in respect of the same inflow.

As the municipality satisfies a present obligation recognised as a liability in respect of an inflow of resources from a non-exchange transaction recognised as an asset, it reduces the carrying amount of the liability recognised and recognises an amount of revenue equal to that reduction. Measurement Revenue from a non-exchange transaction is measured at the amount of the increase in net assets recognised by the municipality.

When, as a result of a non-exchange transaction, the municipality recognises an asset, it also recognises revenue equivalent to the amount of the asset measured at its fair value as at the date of acquisition, unless it is also required to recognise a liability.

Where a liability is required to be recognised it will be measured as the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date, and the amount of the increase in net assets, if any, recognised as revenue. When a liability is subsequently reduced, because the taxable event occurs or a condition is satisfied, the amount of the reduction in the liability is recognised as revenue.

Taxes

The municipality recognises an asset in respect of taxes when the taxable event occurs and the asset recognition criteria are met.

Resources arising from taxes satisfy the definition of an asset when the municipality controls the resources as a result of a past event (the taxable event) and expects to receive future economic benefits or service potential from those resources. Resources arising from taxes satisfy the criteria for recognition as an asset when it is probable that the inflow of resources will occur and their fair value can be reliably measured. The degree of probability attached to the inflow of resources is determined on the basis of evidence available at the time of initial recognition, which includes, but is not limited to, disclosure of the taxable event by the taxpayer.

The taxable event for property tax is the passing of the date on which the tax is levied or, if the tax is levied on a periodic basis, the period for which the tax is levied.

Transfers

Apart from services in kind, which are not recognised, the municipality recognises an asset in respect of transfers when the transferred resources meet the definition of an asset and satisfy the criteria for recognition as an asset.

Transferred assets are measured at their fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Debt forgiveness and assumption of liabilities

The municipality recognises revenue in respect of debt forgiveness when the former debt no longer meets the definition of a liability or satisfies the criteria for recognition as a liability.

Revenue arising from debt forgiveness is measured at the fair value of the debt forgiven. Where debt is carried at a value other than fair value, the receivable is recognised at the carrying amount.

Fines

Fines are recognised as revenue when the receivable meets the definition of an asset and satisfies the criteria for recognition as an asset.

Assets arising from fines are measured at the best estimate of the inflow of resources to the municipality. Where the municipality collects fines in its capacity of an agent, the fine is not recognised as revenue. Bequests

Bequests that satisfy the definition of an asset are recognised as assets and revenue when it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential will flow to the municipality,

and the fair value of the assets can be measured reliably.

Gifts and donations, including goods in-kind

Gifts and donations, including goods in kind, are recognised as assets and revenue when it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential will flow to the municipality and the fair value of the assets can be measured reliably.

Services in-kind

Services in-kind are not recognised.

2.13 Provisions

A provision is recognised if, as a result of a past event, the municipality has a present legal or constructive obligation that can be estimated reliably, and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation.

The amount of a provision is the best estimate of the expenditure expected to be required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date.

Where the effect of time value of money is material, the amount of a provision is the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation. The discount rate is a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost.

Provisions are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted to reflect the current best estimate. Provisions are reversed if it is no longer probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits or service potential will be required, to settle the obligation.

Site restoration

In accordance with applicable legal requirements, a provision for site restoration in respect of landfill sites is recognised when the land is contaminated. The related expense is capitalised against the cost of the landfill sites.

2.14 Employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits

The cost of short-term employee benefits, (those payable within 12 months after the service is rendered, such as paid vacation leave and sick leave, bonuses, and non-monetary benefits such as medical care), are recognised in the period in which the service is rendered.

The expected cost of compensated absences is recognised as an expense as the employees render services that increase their entitlement or, in the case of non-accumulating absences, when the absence occurs.

The expected cost of bonus payments is recognised as an expense when there is a legal or constructive obligation to make such payments as a result of past service or performance and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities for short-term employee benefits that are unpaid at year-end are measured at the

undiscounted amount that the municipality expects to pay in exchange for that service and had accumulated at the reporting date.

Other long-term employee benefits

Long service awards are provided to employees who achieve certain pre-determined milestones of service within the municipality.

The municipality's net obligation in respect of long service awards is the amount of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods. The benefit is discounted to determine its present value and the fair value of any related assets is deducted to determine the net obligation.

Termination benefits

Termination benefits are recognised as an expense when the municipality is committed demonstrably, without realistic possibility of withdrawal, to a formal detailed plan to either terminate employment before the normal retirement date, or to provide termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy. Termination benefits for voluntary redundancies are recognised as an expense if the municipality has made an offer of voluntary redundancy, it is probable that the offer will be accepted, and the number of acceptances can be estimated reliably. If benefits are payable more than 12 months after the reporting period, then they are discounted to their present value.

2.15 Leases

A lease is classified as a finance lease if it transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership. A lease is classified as an operating lease if it does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership.

Finance leases - municipality as lessee

Finance leases are recognised as assets and liabilities in the statement of financial position at amounts equal to the fair value of the leased property or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments. The corresponding liability to the lessor is included in the statement of financial position as a finance lease obligation.

The determination of whether an arrangement is, or contains a lease is based on the substance of the arrangement at inception date of whether the fulfillment of the arrangement is dependant on the use of a specific asset or assets, or the arrangement conveys a right to use the asset.

The discount rate used in calculating the present value of the minimum lease payments is the interest rate implicit in the lease.

Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and reduction of the outstanding liability. The finance charge is allocated to each period during the lease term so as to produce a constant periodic rate of on the remaining balance of the liability.

Any contingent rents are expensed in the period in which they are incurred.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the asset is accounted for in accordance with the accounting policy applicable to that asset.

Assets leased under operating leases, except for property interests held by the municipality as investment property, are not recognised in the statement of financial position.

Operating leases - municipality as lessee

Operating lease payments are recognised in surplus or deficit on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The difference between the amounts recognised as an expense and the contractual payments are recognised as an operating lease asset or liability.

Lease incentives received are recognised as an integral part of the total lease expense, over the term of the lease.

Finance leases - municipality as lessor

The municipality recognises finance lease receivables as assets on the statement of financial position. Such assets are presented as a receivable at an amount equal to the net investment in the lease.

Finance revenue is recognised based on a pattern reflecting a constant periodic rate of return on the municipality's net investment in the finance lease.

Operating leases - municipality as lessor

Operating lease revenue is recognised as revenue on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging operating leases are added to the carrying amount of the leased asset and recognised as an expense over the lease term on the same basis as the lease revenue.

The aggregate cost of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental revenue over the lease term on a straight-line basis.

Finance sale and leaseback

Where the sale and leaseback results in a finance lease, any excess of sales proceeds over the carrying amount of the asset is not recognised immediately as revenue in the annual financial statements of the seller – lessee. The excess amount is deferred and amortised over the lease term.

Operating sale and leaseback

Where the sale and leaseback results in an operating lease and the transactions is accounted for as follows:

- If the transaction is concluded at fair value, any gain or loss is recognised immediately.
- If the sale price is below fair value, any gain or loss is recognised immediately except that, if the loss is compensated for by future lease payments at below market price, it is deferred and amortised in proportion to the lease payments over the period for which the asset is expected to be used.

- If the sale price is above fair value, the excess over fair value is deferred and amortised over the period for which the asset is expected to be used.

2.16 Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs are capitalised in respect of qualifying assets that necessarily take a substantial period to get ready for their intended use.

If the carrying amount of the qualifying asset exceeds its recoverable amount or recoverable service amount, an impairment loss is recognised for the excess amount. To the extent that an entity borrows funds generally and uses them for the purpose of obtaining a qualifying asset, the entity shall determine the amount of borrowing costs eligible for capitalisation by applying a capitalisation rate to the expenditure on that asset. The capitalisation rate shall be the weighted average of the borrowing costs applicable to the borrowings of the entity that are outstanding during the period, other than borrowings made specifically for the purpose of obtaining a qualifying asset. The amount of borrowing costs that an entity capitalises during a period shall not exceed the amount of borrowing costs it incurred during that period.

Borrowing costs that are not capitalised are recognised as an expense in surplus or deficit.

2.17 Donations and grants in aid

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

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

These transfers are recognised as expenses in surplus or deficit in the period that the events giving rise to the transfer occur.

2.18 Tax

Value added tax (VAT)

The municipality accounts for VAT on the cash basis. The municipality is liable to account for VAT at the standard rate (14%) in terms of section 7 (1) (a) of the VAT Act in respect of the supply of goods or services, except where the supplies are specifically zero-rated in terms of section 11, exempted in terms of section 12 of the VAT Act or are scoped out for VAT purposes. The municipality accounts for VAT on a monthly basis.

2.19 Unauthorised expenditure

Unauthorised expenditure is expenditure that has not been budgeted for, expenditure that is not in terms of the conditions of an allocation received from another sphere of government, municipality or organ of state and expenditure in the form of a grant that is not permitted in terms of the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act No 56 of 2003) as defined in chapter of the said Act. Unauthorised expenditure is accounted for as an expense and where recovered, it

is subsequently accounted for as revenue in the statement of financial performance. Refer to note 41

2.20 Irregular expenditure

Irregular expenditure is expenditure that is contrary to the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act No 56 of 2003), the Municipal Systems Act (Act No 32 of 2000) and the Public Office Bearers Act (Act No 20 of 1998) or is in contravention of the municipality's supply chain management policies as defined in chapter 1 of the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act 56 of 2003). Irregular expenditure excludes unauthorised expenditure. Irregular expenditure is accounted for as an expense in the statement of financial performance and where recovered, it is subsequently accounted for as revenue in the statement of financial performance. If the expenditure is not condoned by the relevant authority, it is treated as a receivable until it is recovered or written off as irrecoverable. Refer to note 43.

2.21 Fruitless and wasteful expenditure

Fruitless and wasteful expenditure is expenditure that was made in vain and would have been avoided had reasonable care been exercised as defined in chapter 1 of the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act 56 of 2003). Fruitless and wasteful expenditure is accounted for as a receivable in the statement of financial position until such expenditure is recovered or written off as irrecoverable. Refer to note 42.

2.22 Comparative figures

When the presentation or classification of items in the annual financial statements are amended, comparative amounts are reclassified. The nature and amounts of reclassifications as well as the reasons are disclosed in note 38.

Where accounting errors have been identified and/or, there has been a change in accounting policy in the current year, corrections and adjustments are made retrospectively as far as is practicable, and the prior year comparatives are restated accordingly. The nature and amounts of restatements as well as the reasons are disclosed in note 37

2.23 Accounting estimates and judgements

General

The municipality's accounting policies for material transactions, events or conditions not covered by the GRAP reporting framework, have been developed in accordance with paragraphs 7, 11 and 12 of GRAP 3 and the hierarchy approved in Directive 5 issued by the Accounting Standards Board.

Impairment of trade and other receivables

The impairment of the municipality's trade and other receivables is based on incurred losses in accordance with the requirements of IAS 39. The historical loss experience of the municipality, based on observable data through the passage of time, is used to estimate the impairment of trade and other receivables. Any changes in the payment status of customers in a specific group or national or local economic conditions that correlate with defaults on the assets in the group will have an impact on the impairment of trade and other receivables.

Provisions

The provisions raised by the municipality are detailed in note . These provisions represent management's best estimate of the municipality's exposure. The probability that an outflow of economic resources will be required to settle the obligation must be assessed and a reliable estimate must be made of the amount of the obligation. Actual results may, however, differ from these estimates.

Fair value estimation

The fair value information presented by the municipality in note 7 requires the application of valuation techniques and assumptions based on market conditions existing at the end of the reporting period. The actual fair values may differ from those estimated.

Classification as investment property

The municipality has reviewed its property portfolio and determined which items of land and buildings are held to earn rental revenue or for capital appreciation. Land and buildings fulfilling these requirements have been classified as investment property, whilst the remainder of the portfolio have either been classified as property, plant and equipment or inventory depending on management's intention in dealing with these properties.

Depreciation and the carrying value of items of property, plant and equipment

The estimation of the useful lives of assets is based on management's judgement. Any material adjustment to the estimated remaining useful lives of items of property, plant and equipment will have an impact on the carrying value of these items.

Critical judgements in applying accounting policies

Identification of impairment indicators

Management is required to make judgements concerning the cause, timing and amount of impairment. In the identification of impairment indicators, management considers the impact of changes in current competitive conditions, cost of capital, availability of funding, technological obsolescence, discontinuance of services and other circumstances that could indicate that impairment exists. The municipality applies the impairment assessment to its assets or separate cash generating units. This requires management to make significant judgements and estimates concerning the existence of impairment indicators, separate cash generating units, remaining useful lives of assets, projected cash flows and net realisable values. Management's judgement is also required when assessing whether a previously recognised impairment loss should be reversed.

2.24 Finance income and expenses

Finance income comprises interest income on funds invested (including available-for-sale financial assets), dividend income, gains on the disposal of available-for-sale financial assets and changes in the fair value of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss. Interest income is recognised as it accrues in surplus or deficit, using the effective interest method. Dividend income is recognised in surplus or deficit on the date that the municipality's right to receive payment is established, which in the case of quoted securities is the ex-dividend date.

Finance expenses comprise interest expense on borrowings, unwinding of the discount on provisions, changes in the fair value of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss and

impairment losses recognised on financial assets. Borrowing costs are recognised in surplus or deficit using the effective interest method.