

From the Executive Mayor's Desk

Mrs S. Mosikatsi



As we approach the end of the financial year I am delighted to share with you the achievements and some of the challenges we still face as a municipality.

The Auditor general report does not paint a good picture on the overall performance of the municipalities. However, we are busy working on the issues raised by the Auditor General and hopefully 2013/2014 there will be improvements. We have established a Municipal Public Accounts Committee better known as the MPAC. The MPAC is a committee of Council established in terms of Section 79 of the Municipal Structures Act and MFMA, section 129 to assist Council to consider the municipality's annual report and produce oversight report. The functions of the MPAC are aimed at holding the municipal Executive and the Administration accountable for the implementation of policies and budget. The MPAC's mandate is the statement of its functions and responsibilities delegated by Council.

The 2011 census have shown an increase in population in the District. This is attributed to by factors such as influx of other people from other Provinces, in search of work opportunities, and the increases in mining houses, the factors above poses huge challenges to our planning as municipalities. The demand for land and housing has increased significantly which impacts on delivery of basic services.

The district municipality in partnership with local municipalities are working together to find workable solutions to address the challenges. We acknowledge that as municipalities, we cannot overcome these challenges on our own hence we rely on the support of other stakeholders including government and the private sector. We will continue to engage them, and include them in our planning so that they know what our communities want.

Alignment of government programmes is still a challenge in our district to an extent that I had to call a stakeholders meeting to see how best we can work together both as local government and sector departments. This is work in progress and we will strive to make it work for all the our communities.

On a more positive side though, our municipality received the Govan Mbeki Award for Level 1 Accreditation in the best performing municipality category. The award gives recognition to municipalities and other role players who are involved in the provision of sustainable livelihoods. It also pushes us as municipalities to work hard in accelerating the delivery of houses in the district.