



2025 OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

VOLUME 1 | ISSUE 2



HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY TAKES BOLD STEP TOWARDS ENHANCED SERVICE DELIVERY - ADOPTION OF IDP

THE DISTRICT'S MUNICIPAL HEALTH SERVICE TAKES PRIDE IN THEIR CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN!!



KZN COGTA HARRY GWALA SERVICE DELIVERY ROADSHOW



"CELEBRATING OUR ROOTS, BUILDING A FUTURE TOGETHER"



CELEBRATION OF ARBOR DAY AT UMZIMKHULU

TOGETHER WE DELIVER AND GROW





VISION, GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

Continuously improving Water and Sanitation Provision for our Communities through sustainable innovations by 2050.

MISSION STATEMENT

Working together with its communities and stakeholders, Harry Gwala District Municipality will ensure the provision of sustainable potable water and sanitation services.

CORE VALUES

- Transparency
- Accountability
- Consultation
- Commitment and Honesty

The structure below depicts how the Committees have been established and further indicates the respective Chairpersons and members - 2024/2025:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Councillor ZD Nxumalo	Mayor (Chairperson)
Councillor TN Jojozi	Deputy Mayor
Councillor SD Bekwa	Member
Councillor Z Tshangase	Member
Councillor KS Dlamini	Member

MUNICIPAL PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (MPAC)

Councillor NW Dladla	Chairperson
Councillor N Mda	Member
Councillor BL Marnce	Member
Councillor BR Memela	Member
Councillor HA Lukhozi	Member

BUDGET AND TREASURY OFFICE COMMITTEE

Councillor ZD Nxumalo	Chairperson (Mayor)
Councillor TN Jojozi	Member (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor SD Bekwa	Member (Exco)
Councillor KS Dlamini	Member (Exco)
Councillor SRL Nzimande	Member

CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councillor TN Jojozi	Chairperson (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor B Sibeni	Member
Councillor TSH Gamede	Member
Councillor XM Memela	Member
Councillor PN Damoyi	Member

SOCIAL SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councillor TN Jojozi	Chairperson (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor NH Zaca	Member
Councillor PK Memela	Member
Councillor NC Dlamini	Member
Councillor N Mhatu	Member

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councillor ZD Nxumalo	Chairperson (Mayor)
Councillor ZP Dlamini	Member
Councillor NR Mtshali	Member
Councillor HV Msomi	Member
Councillor ZM Ngidi	Member

Councillor Z Tshangase	Member (Exco)
Inkosi VV Zimema	Ex Officio Member

WATER SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councillor SD Bekwa	Chairperson
Councillor SG Mkhize	Member
Councillor TG Soni	Member
Councillor ZR Tshazi	Member
Councillor NH Malimela	Member
Councillor N Mathe	Member

LOCAL LABOUR FORUM (LLF)

Councillor SRL Nzimande	Chairperson
Councillor ZR Tshazi	Member
Councillor ZP Dlamini	Member
Councillor TSH Gamede	Member

WOMENS MULTI PARTY COMMISSION

Councillor ZP Dlamini	Chairperson Women's Caucus
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All Female Councillors Are Members

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HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MAYOR, CLLR Z.D. NXUMALO, WISHES THE MATRIC CLASS OF 2025 ALL THE BEST OF LUCK IN THEIR EXAMINATIONS. HE EXTENDS HIS MESSAGE TO THOSE WHO MIGHT NOT PERFORM AS EXPECTED, ENCOURAGING THEM NOT TO GIVE UP HOPE, AS EDUCATION DOES NOT HAVE AN AGE LIMIT.



Putting plans into action: Service Delivery is not just a dream but a reality



Mr Ndabezitha Tenza
Communications Manager

As we gracefully draw the curtain on yet another fruitful year, it fills me with deep pride and gratitude to reflect on the strides we have made as the Harry Gwala District Municipality- a district that continues to move with purpose, unity, and resilience. The second quarter of 2025 has not only showcased progress but also reaffirmed our steadfast commitment to delivering quality services, empowering communities, and building a sustainable future for all.

This edition captures the heartbeat of our people and the spirit of collaboration that drives our development journey. From the colorful Heritage month celebrations that reminded us that our diversity is our strength, to Arbor Week, activities where our communities came together to green our shared spaces, the message is clear: together we grow, and the spirit of collaboration continues to thrive.

Our teams have been on the ground, ensuring that service delivery is not just a promise but a living reality. The site visit to the water project in Kokstad and uMzimkhulu demonstrated our dedication to infrastructure that changes lives and remains a top priority. The Agricultural Land Summit Profiling reaffirmed our belief that empowering our farmers is key to unlocking rural prosperity and advancing land reform.

Equally, the handover of the new offices on the uMngeni Water Satellite marked a significant milestone in strengthening our capacity to serve every citizen with efficiency and dignity. The KwaZulu-Natal Cooperative Government and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) and the district Integrated Development Program (IDP) roadshow engagements reminded us that local government is truly the closest sphere to the people - where democracy meets daily life, and where voices from every village and ward help shape our collective progress.

Rural tourism has gained momentum in this district, particularly through the exciting developments in the Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Local Municipality. We are reminded of the vast potential of our region. The achievements of our youth graduates in the excavator training program and the vibrant participation of our senior citizens in the Golden Games in Durban remind us that every generation carries the torch of hope for a thriving Harry Gwala District.

We are sad to report that, towards the end of the year, the Municipality has lost one of its employees. Ntombenhle Zimu, ISD Officer at the Water Services Department, who passed away after a short illness, was described by her colleagues as a dedicated and committed worker. Hails from Nkumba under Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma Municipality. Ms Zimu was not just an ordinary staff member, but she was a pillar of strength to her unit. She provided guidance to her colleagues when needed. Her legacy will always be celebrated by the municipality. "Akalalanga uguqe ngamadoto"

As we step into the festive season, let us do so with gratitude and renewed determination. To our stakeholders, partners, and communities- thank you for your unwavering support and shared vision. Together, we have proven that progress is not built in isolation, but through unity, partnership, and perseverance.

'Let us continue walking this journey side by side- building a prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable region for future generations to come.' Happy Holidays and a Prosperous New Year.

“ **As we step into the festive season, let us do so with gratitude and renewed determination. To our stakeholders, partners, and communities- thank you for your unwavering support and shared vision. Together, we have proven that progress is not built in isolation, but through unity, partnership, and perseverance** ”



SIBONGILEKUNENE
COMMUNICATIONS
OFFICER



MS ATH'ENKOSI BAQWA
COMMUNICATIONS
INTERN



MS FUNDISILE QOZA
EPWP COMMUNICATIONS
ASSISTANT



MR BANDILE MTOLO
COMMUNICATIONS
INTERN

HGDM undertakes a hive of activities as it continues to deliver essential services to citizens



**His Worship the District Mayor
Cllr. Z.D Nxumalo**

I extend warm greetings to all citizens of the Harry Gwala District Municipality.

As we present this second-quarter edition of our Harry Gwala District newsletter, we find ourselves in a season filled with festivity and reflection. It is a time when many will travel to various areas to reunite with their families and loved ones. I therefore take this opportunity to urge all motorists and pedestrians to exercise caution, obey the rules of the road, and prioritize safety at all times. It is always better to arrive late than never to arrive at all.

This edition outlines our progress in implementing critical service delivery programmes and highlights activities undertaken as we advance through the 2025/2026 financial year.

Strengthening Partnerships to Advance Service Delivery

The Harry Gwala District Municipality, together with members of Council and our District Development Model (DDM) Champion — Deputy Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Hon. Richard Mkhungo — recently hosted a delegation of key partners and stakeholders for bilateral discussions aimed at strengthening service delivery coordination across the district.

This engagement formed part of an oversight visit under the DDM framework — a national initiative designed to foster integrated planning, promote intergovernmental collaboration, and accelerate socio-economic growth at the district level.

Our discussions focused on reviewing progress in key areas such as water infrastructure, addressing challenges in waste management, and identifying strategic interventions such as the establishment of public-private partnerships (PPPs) and the development of an Integrated Service Delivery Plan (ISDP) to better serve our citizens.

Deputy Minister Mkhungo commended the District for its dedication to implementing impactful projects that improve community livelihoods. His positive remarks reaffirm our collective commitment to achieving tangible outcomes that drive sustainable development and transformation within the Harry Gwala District. This engagement represented a vital milestone in our ongoing pursuit of inclusive growth and effective governance.

Engaging Citizens Through Service Delivery Feedback Sessions

In advancing the principles of transparency and accountability, the Harry Gwala District Municipality proudly hosted the KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Rev. Thulasizwe Buthelezi, during his Service Delivery Roadshow in our region.

This important engagement brought together traditional leaders, ward committees, Community Development Workers (CDWs), and residents from all local municipalities within the District — including Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Greater Kokstad, uMzimkhulu, and Johannes Phumani Phungula Local Municipalities.

The roadshow created a vital platform for open dialogue between the MEC and local structures to assess service delivery progress, identify challenges, and strengthen coordination between spheres of government.

As a District, we appreciate the MEC's continued presence and support, which affirms his understanding of the District Development Model and his commitment to partnership-based governance. I also emphasized our shared goal of addressing water supply challenges across our largely rural region — a matter that requires close collaboration and funding support from both provincial and national departments. Together, we can fast-track development, improve efficiency, and bring lasting change to the

communities of Harry Gwala.

Promoting Inclusive Governance Through Public Participation

Public participation remains a cornerstone of our democratic governance model. To this end, the Municipality successfully hosted a Public Participation Workshop, reinforcing our commitment to inclusive decision-making and civic involvement.

This engagement served as a meaningful platform for residents, traditional leaders, and community stakeholders to engage directly with municipal representatives, share feedback, and gain insights into current and planned projects. The interactive discussions enhanced understanding of project implementation timelines, resource allocations, and service delivery priorities.

By promoting open communication and accountability, such engagements strengthen the bond between government and the people it serves. Indeed, a robust democracy is sustained through the active participation of its citizens.

Enhancing Service Delivery Infrastructure: Opening of the uMngeni Satellite Office

In our continued efforts to improve operational efficiency, the Harry Gwala District Municipality officially opened the new uMngeni Satellite Office.

This development underscores our commitment to modernizing our administrative infrastructure and bringing services closer to our people.

The facility, which accommodates the Registry and Stores divisions, was proudly constructed using local skills and materials — demonstrating our belief in empowering local talent and stimulating local economic growth. The project was fully executed by our own Infrastructure Department, showcasing the capacity and capability that exist within our institution when teamwork, innovation, and dedication are combined.

Empowering Youth Through Skills Development

The Municipality remains steadfast in its mission to empower the youth of Harry Gwala District through practical and marketable skills training. Recently, twelve learners successfully completed accredited training in operating heavy machinery — specifically excavators and motor graders.

This initiative marks a significant milestone in our broader youth development and skills empowerment agenda. By equipping young people with technical competencies in infrastructure development, we are opening pathways for employment, entrepreneurship, and self-sustainability.

We remain committed to expanding such programmes in the future as part of our ongoing efforts to reduce unemployment and uplift our communities. Empowered youth represent hope, resilience, and the foundation of a prosperous District.

Conclusion

As we draw near to the close of 2025, I appeal to all residents to prioritize safety and responsibility during the festive season. Let us cherish life, drive safely, and act with consideration for others. May this holiday season be a time of rest, reflection, and renewed strength. On behalf of the Harry Gwala District Municipality, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year — 2026 filled with peace, progress, and unity. I thank you.

Cllr Zamo Nxumalo
His Worship, The Mayor
Harry Gwala District Municipality

Harry Gwala District Strengthens service delivery, through community inputs and project oversight



Mr Gamakulu Ma-Art Sineke
Municipal Manager

ALLOW me to greet all the citizens of the Harry Gwala District Municipality, as well as those of our sister local municipalities, in the name of equitable, balanced, enhanced, and tailor-made service delivery. This column is part of the edition of the District's newsletter in the first quarter of the 2025/26 financial year. As the Accounting Officer, I am inclined to touch, albeit briefly, on the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and the Auditor General (AG). I wish to remind you, valuable stakeholders, that some of the responsibilities assigned to me by the Municipality, as per the provisions of the Municipal Structures Act (1998), are to

- ensure integrated development planning for the district as a whole
- promote bulk infrastructural development and services for the district as a whole,
- build the capacity of local municipalities in their area to perform their functions and exercise their powers where such capacity is lacking, and,
- promote the equitable distribution of resources between the local municipalities in its area to ensure appropriate levels of municipal services within the area.

“ **Together with the management are continuing to address the challenges of the municipality. We have recently visited water and sanitation projects under the Greater Kokstad and uMzimkulu Municipalities. We are thrilled by the progress in these projects that we have visited.**

As part of our integrated planning, at the beginning of October 2025, we have been crisscrossing the District, consulting our communities regarding service delivery issues. All the views solicited from the communities during consultative meetings are assessed, processed accordingly, and they will be converted into tangible services as feedback. We (Harry Gwala District Municipality) draw lens from the “Input-Output Model”, and Local Government: Municipal Systems Act of 2000, which both advocate the consideration of the community views in the decisions of the municipality.

Together with the management are continuing to address the challenges of the municipality. We have recently visited water and sanitation projects under the Greater Kokstad and uMzimkulu Municipalities. We are thrilled by the progress in these projects that we have visited. Visiting projects is not an ordinary thing, but it is a fact-finding mission on our side as the management. The data that we collect during the visit helps us to make informed decisions as the management.

As part of compliance with legislation that governs local government, we have submitted the annual audited financial statements to the Auditor General as per the provisions of the Local Government Municipal Finance Management Act of 2003.

Finally, I wish to remind you that the festive season has started, and all of us should enjoy it; however, we should be cautious with our spending. Our expenditure during this time should be limited and guided by the activities of January of the following year to avoid more financial challenges.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas with God's love and grace. May the light of Christ guide you through the season and into the New Year.

Thank you.

Mr. G. M. Sineke
Municipal Manager

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



MR. NKULULEKO BIYASE
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES



MRS. THOBILE THELMA THIYANE-MAGAQA
CORPORATE SERVICES



MR. LINDUMUSA GWALA
WATER SERVICES



MS. THOBEKA MAHLABA
SOCIAL SERVICES

“WATER IS LIFE”

Let us explore what this phrase really means to us.

THE phrase "water is life" highlights water's essential role for all living things, from supporting basic bodily functions in humans to enabling ecosystems and agriculture. It is a universal truth emphasizing that life cannot exist without water. This phrase also carries a deeper meaning, representing stewardship and a reminder of the global challenges like scarcity, pollution, and climate change that threaten this vital resource. In other words the phrase "water is life" is a statement that underscores the fundamental importance of water for the survival and well-being of all living organisms and ecosystems. The phrase holds biological, ecological, and spiritual significance across cultures. Water is vital for life, supporting functions such as regulating body temperature, transporting nutrients and oxygen, cushioning joints, flushing out waste products. For ecosystems water is the foundation for all ecosystems, supporting biodiversity and providing food production. Plants, animals, and even microorganisms cannot survive without water. Water is the foundation of life on Earth as such 71% of Earth's surface is covered by water. However only 3% of the world's water is freshwater. This limited supply indicates the need for careful management of freshwater.

Here are five essential uses of water:

- 1. Drinking:** Water is essential for human survival and health, helping to keep us hydrated and regulate body functions.
- 2. Agriculture:** Water is crucial for growing crops and raising livestock, making it vital for food production worldwide.
- 3. Industry:** Water is used in numerous industrial processes and manufacturing, from cooling machinery to creating products.
- 4. Cleaning and Sanitation:** Water is used for personal hygiene, such as bathing and brushing teeth, and for cleaning homes, clothes, and dishes etc.
- 5. Recreation:** Many recreational activities involve water, including swimming, boating, fishing, and other water sports.

Despite its essential role, water is a threatened resource and due to it being threatened, people lack access to safely managed drinking water. This has serious consequences for human well-being and development and has led to the United Nations prioritising "clean water and sanitation" as one of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG). As a shared resource, access to water is a fundamental necessity for health, safety, and development.

NB: The phrase is often used to advocate for responsible management of water resources and to highlight the urgent need for solutions to water scarcity and pollution.



HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

COUNCIL MEMBERS



HONORABLE DEPUTY MAYOR
CLLR. T.N. JOJOZI



HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
CLLR. Z.D. NXUMALO



HONORABLE SPEAKER
CLLR. M.S.D. MDUNGE



HONORABLE CHIEF-WHIP
CLLR. N. MHATU



EXCO MEMBER
CLLR. S.D. BEKWA



EXCO MEMBER
CLLR. K.S. DLAMINI



EXCO MEMBER
CLLR. Z. TSHANGASE



CLLR. T.G. SONI



CLLR. T.S.H. GAMEDE



CLLR. S.G. MKHIZE



CLLR. X. MEMELA



CLLR. Z.M. NGIDI



CLLR. N.W. DLADLA



CLLR. Z.R. TSHAZI



CLLR. P.N. DAMOYI

HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

COUNCIL MEMBERS



CLLR. P.K. MEMELA



CLLR. N. MDA



CLLR. N.R. MTSHALI



CLLR. N.H. ZACA



CLLR. N.H. MALIMELA



CLLR. H.A. LUKHOZI



CLLR. N. DLAMINI



CLLR. Z.P. DLAMINI



CLLR. H.V. MSOMI



CLLR. S.R.L. NZIMANDE



CLLR. B.R. MEMELA



CLLR. B.L. MARNCE



CLLR. B. SIBENI



CLLR. N. MATHE

TRADITIONAL LEADERS



INKOSI M.B. MJOLI



INKOSI V.V. ZIMEMA



INKOSI L.T. BALENI



HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY TAKES BOLD STEP TOWARDS ENHANCED SERVICE DELIVERY - ADOPTION OF IDP

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS: Chief Whip Cllr N. Mhatu during council meeting, wearing heritage attire during heritage month.

THE Harry Gwala District Municipality convened a Special Council Meeting at the Harry Gwala District Municipal Council Chamber, marking a significant milestone in its commitment to responsive governance and community-centric development. The meeting's primary objective was the adoption of the Final HGDM Framework and Process Plan for the Review of the Integrated Development Plan (IDP), a critical document that outlines the municipality's strategic development blueprint.

The review process aims to synchronize the municipality's strategic plan with current needs and conditions, ensuring its relevance and efficiency. This encompasses organizational arrangements for the review, including consultation mechanisms, timelines, and alignment considerations. Emphasizing on service delivery as a shared interest, Mayor Cllr Zamo Nxumalo stated, "At the District, we share a common interest, and that's to render services to



Municipal Councillors deliberate on the adoption of the final Integrated development plan and framework.

the community of Harry Gwala, working together hand in hand with our local municipalities, the District's Integrated Development Plan (IDP) Roadshows unfolded successfully at the Greater Kokstad Local Municipality and concluded at the uMzimkhulu Local Municipality engaging communities, gathering feedback, and fostering transparency regarding developmental plans".

After the Council Meeting, Capacity Building on IDP Workshop took place. This workshop equipped councillors

with insights into ground-level projects and progress updates on projects across the District.

The workshop underscored the municipality's dedication to aligning its development agenda with community needs, reinforcing its commitment to effective service delivery and collaborative governance as Harry Gwala District Municipality is one of the KwaZulu-Natal's 11th Districts, who play a role in water and sanitation services within the province.





HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY KICKS OFF IDP ROADSHOWS WITH VIBRANT ENGAGEMENT!

Municipalities join forces during IDP Roadshows, as they listened to the community's needs, so that enhanced service delivery can be met.

ALL institutions within local government are subjected to ensuring that the prescripts of service delivery, promoting social and economic development are met. As per section 152 of the Constitution the Harry Gwala District Municipality breathed life into adhering to the legislation through its Integrated Development Plan (IDP) Roadshows held recently.

In a powerful display of collaborative governance, the municipality joined forces with Greater Kokstad Local Municipality to host the IDP's Stakeholders Consultative Meeting.

The main objective of the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) Stakeholders gathering was to drive inclusive and participatory development by creating a dynamic platform for dialogue, negotiation, and joint decision-making regarding service delivery.

The municipality and its diverse stakeholders converged to uncover pressing community needs, build a shared vision for the future, and forge a unified strategy steering the Harry Gwala District towards responsive growth.

Cllr Sydney Lonwabo Nzimande of Harry District Municipality, in his presentation, highlighted different

projects taking place around Kokstad, such as Kempdale Dam Wall Construction, this vital project is going to benefit 11,524 households around the Kokstad Town; Shayamoya and Bhongweni currently, the project is at 33% progress.

"The installation of smart meters assists us as the municipality in identifying usage of water in each household, it also helps households to be able to identify how much money they spend on paying for water," Cllr Sydney Lonwabo Nzimande.

The citizens seized the opportunity during the questions and answers session by articulating their interests and needs, ranging from Horseshoe's unlinked installed flushing toilets to ward 6 in Kokstad, where a tank stand structural property is built improperly.

The Harry Gwala District Municipality is dedicated to hearing the community's concerns and addressing such concerns. It's about aligning developmental beats with citizen aspirations, addressing palpable needs, nurturing that all-important bond between the municipality and the people it serves. The IDP roadshow was a continuation, as they have started in Kokstad, then Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Johannes Phumani Phungula, ending with the uMzimkhulu Local Municipality.





HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY HONOURS THE LATE MS. NTOMBENHLE PRIMROSE ZIMU

[SUNRISE: SEPTEMBER 1971 | SUNSET: 24 OCTOBER 2025]



It is with deep sorrow and heavy heart that the Harry Gwala district Municipality lost one of our own, Ms. Ntombenhle Primrose Zimu, who departed this life on 24 October 2025. Family, colleagues, and friends gathered at Peace Initiative Hall to pay tribute.

Ms. Zimu was remembered as a woman of purpose, humility, and grace — a devoted public servant whose life embodied integrity and compassion. A proud daughter of the KwaZulu-Natal soil, she matriculated from Emoyeni High School in 1990 and went on to obtain a Higher Diploma in Education (Senior Primary Phase) from Edgewood College of Education in 1995. Her academic journey continued at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, where she achieved a Bachelor of Education Honors in 2001.

Her professional journey began at the Department of Education, where she served with distinction before joining the Harry Gwala District Municipality on 1 July 2012 as a Senior ISD Officer under the Water Services Department. For 13 years, she served the Municipality faithfully, earning the respect and admiration of all who worked alongside her.

“Ms. Zimu was more than a colleague; she was a dedicated public servant, a compassionate team player, and a beacon of kindness and professionalism. Even in her final days, she demonstrated a deep passion for her work and a genuine love for people,”- Mr. L. Gwala

Speaking during the memorial, Speaker of the Harry Gwala District Municipality, Cllr. Sibongiseni Mdunge, reflected on her invaluable contribution: “We are gathered not only to mourn but to celebrate a life well-lived. Ms. Zimu was a source of calm and wisdom, especially during the Spring Protection projects. Her insight and commitment guided us through many challenges. To her family, may you find comfort in the words of the Psalmist: ‘uJehova ungumalusi wami’ — The Lord is my Shepherd. Her legacy

of service and care will continue to inspire us all.”

Delivering a message of gratitude on behalf of the family, Mr. Zimu, the father of the late Ntombenhle, expressed heartfelt appreciation to the Municipality for honouring his daughter’s life and contributions. He described her as a caring, independent, and faith-driven individual who touched many lives through her work and humility.

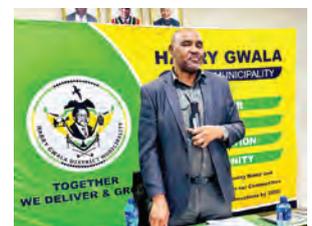
Ntombenhle was laid to rest on 30 October 2025 in Bulwer, Nkumba, surrounded by loved ones and colleagues who came to bid her farewell. Her passing leaves a profound void in the hearts of those she served and loved, but her light will continue to shine brightly through the legacy she left behind — one of service, humanity, and love for her community.

Rest in Peace, Ms. Ntombenhle Primrose Zimu — your light will forever shine in our hearts.





The ribbon-cutting ceremony marked a new leaf for registry and store division.



HARRY GWALA OFFICIALLY OPENS UMNGENI SATELLITE REGISTRY AND STORE DIVISION

THE Harry Gwala District Municipality recently marked a significant milestone with the official opening of its new office building in UMngeni Satellite. This strategic move underscores the municipality's commitment to enhancing its working environment, improving service delivery, and fostering collaborative governance. The project involved construction of perimeter fencing around the UMngeni Satellite and the development of an additional parking area next to SASSA offices.

The scope of work included the installation of clearvue fence, refurbishment of the existing gate, installation of a new gate, and preparation of the parking area.

The new facility, which houses the Registry and Stores divisions, was built using local skills and resources, demonstrating the municipality's dedication to supporting local talent and stimulating economic growth.

Mayor Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo emphasized the importance of this achievement, stating that: "Today shows the great work we can do in our municipality. Our own Infrastructure Department planned and completed this project. We didn't hire outside companies. This proves that with hard work, good ideas, and teamwork, we can achieve a lot."



ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ETHICS AWARENESS WORKSHOP AT HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN ACTION
 — Harry Gwala District is working hard to build a corruption-free municipality.

Addressing Corruption and Advancing Ethics in the Harry Gwala District

CORRUPTION remains a pressing challenge in government institutions. It hinders social and economic development operators, where the public’s needs are undermined. The local government sphere has partnered in a dialogue addressing all negative indicators that cause corruption and unethical behaviour within the District.

The Local Government Anti-Corruption Forum, which is aligned with the District Development Model has launched an Anti-corruption and ethics awareness workshop at the Harry Gwala District Municipality (HGDM) alongside the HGDM risk management unit, in collaboration with key stakeholders, namely the national Department and provincial Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Office of the Premier, Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation (HAWKS), the

Moral Regeneration Movement (MRM), and the Special Investigation Unit (SIU). The workshop was aimed at fostering preventative efforts in eradicating corruption and unethical behaviour in workspaces.

This session equipped participants from senior management levels, including Chief Financial Officers, Chief Risk Officers, Internal Auditors, Ethics Officers/Champions, and Supply Chain Management Officers from the District and local municipalities. The key functions were to strengthen the capacity to identify corruption, prevent risks and comply with the employment guidelines as to how to behave in a workplace.

The Harry Gwala District is committed to providing educational training about anti-corruption and ethical behavior workshops in organizations. The session promotes a culture of integrity, transparency, and accountability.



“CELEBRATING OUR ROOTS, BUILDING A FUTURE TOGETHER”

EMBRACING HERITAGE IN STYLE!
Corporate Service Department brought their A- game in best dressed.

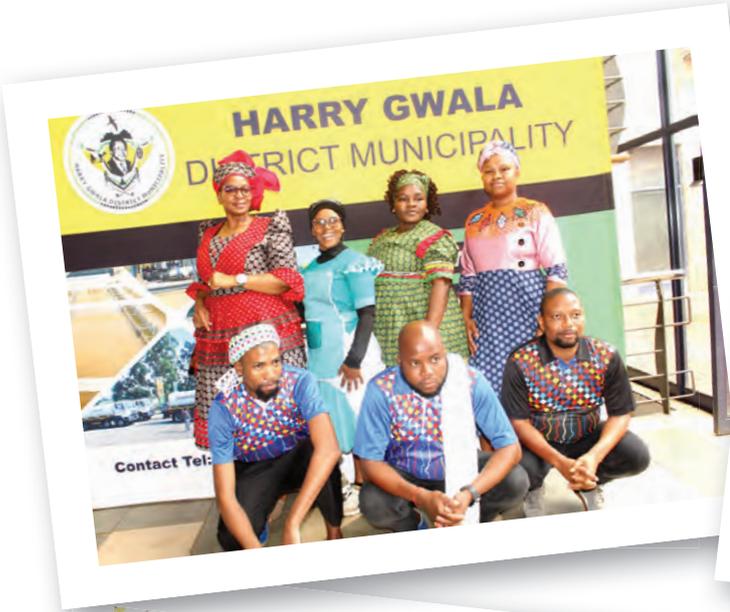
THE Harry District Municipality stood united in closing the chapter of Heritage Month by celebrating the cultural tapestry that defines the various aspects of what makes the region unique. Our heritage is more than a collection of customs, languages, and traditions — it is the heartbeat of our identity and the foundation upon which our community continues to grow.

“ *Together, we honour our ancestors, celebrate our present, and build a legacy for the generations yet to come — a legacy grounded in unity, respect, and the unwavering belief that our shared heritage is the foundation of our shared future.* ”

This celebration serves as a reminder that our strength lies in our diversity. From the rhythms of traditional dance to the wisdom of our elders and the creativity of our youth, each contribution tells a story of resilience, pride, and unity. It is through embracing these roots that we find the inspiration to build a shared future filled with hope and opportunity.

Employees rejoiced the day by featuring vibrant cultural performances and shared traditional food which united them together. As a district, we are committed to nurturing this spirit of togetherness. We envision a future where every employee feels seen, valued, and empowered to contribute to the collective progress of our region. By learning from our past and celebrating our cultural wealth, we reaffirm our pledge to uphold inclusivity, social cohesion, and development.

Together, we honour our ancestors, celebrate our present, and build a legacy for the generations yet to come — a legacy grounded in unity, respect, and the unwavering belief that our shared heritage is the foundation of our shared future.





CELEBRATION OF ARBOR DAY AT UMZIMKHULU





Guarding our natural resources for future generations, the Harry Gwala District remains committed to environmental stewardship by preserving the beauty and diversity of this region.

THE Harry Gwala District Municipality, together with the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA) and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, gathered to celebrate Arbor Day at Clydsdale Community Hall, uMzimkhulu in Ward 17.

The purpose of the gathering was to encourage the community to take care of plants and to educate them on the importance of planting trees and growing plants. Mayor of uMzimkhulu, Cllr Jabulile Msiya, Mayor of the District, Cllr Zamo Nxumalo, Inkosi Zimema, and as well as Councillors under the Harry Gwala District Municipality graced this gathering with their presence.

The District Mayor, Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo, Mayor of uMzimkhulu Local Municipality, EDTEA and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, proceeded to different places like Clydsdale Dumping site, where handover of cleaning equipment was

distributed. They also emphasized that the community must ensure protection of indigenous plants and trees. A tree was also planted at Luncedo early childhood development (ECD) to ensure that kids in the future will get shelter when the tree grows. The principal was overjoyed by the planting of trees around her school and expressed appreciation to all stakeholders involved in this initiative.

Harry Gwala District Municipality Mayor Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo said “Today marks a significant day, where we emphasize the importance of planting trees and plants, as they are a source of life. They provide us with oxygen; they create job creation and help with soil and water conservation. Therefore, I want to encourage the community to not only plant trees and plants, but also plant cabbage, potatoes, beans and grow chickens to minimize food expense and fight hunger by ensuring that we bring back the tradition of growing our own food”.



12 LEARNERS COMPLETE AN EXCAVATOR AND MOTOR GRADER TRAINING PROGRAM



Special Programmes Senior Manager Mr. Raymond Langa, continues to champion youth empowerment initiatives through valuable skills and development.

THE completion of excavator and motor grader training to selected learners marked a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to enhance skills development to empower young people in the Harry Gwala District.

This program was designed to train participants with the necessary skills to utilize heavy machines such as motor graders and excavators. The set of skills plays a vital role in infrastructure development and maintenance within the District, and it serves as an important skill that is imperative and implemented in the District. This great opportunity will advance young people by working on supervised projects that contribute a great deal in the community.

The learners received certificates beaming with pride as Mr. Raymond Langa the Special Programs Manager

at Harry Gwala District Municipality expressed joy and gratitude as the beneficiaries seized the opportunity. Langa furthermore encouraged learners to never stop educating themselves and to keep enrolling in short programs as they gain more skills in the industry.

The Harry Gwala District Municipality is committed to expanding similar programs in the future as it aims to reduce unemployment. It focuses on upskilling young people by ensuring that they attain qualifications and improve their chances of employment.

Such programs give hope in the society as other households are unable to make ends meet. The initiative creates equipped skilled business owners as they will grow in the field by operating the machines and one day owning heavy machines.

KNOW YOUR MUNICIPALITY

DR NKOSAZANA DLAMINI-ZUMA MUNICIPALITY RURAL TOURISM RECEIVE A MAJOR BOOST



DR Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Municipality Mayor Sindisiwe Msomi reiterated that "rural tourism has become a very important and fast-growing industry and that there is increased competition for tourists among international destinations. "It can also be a major contributor in terms of employment creation for destinations such as Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Municipality," said Mayor Msomi in her recent media interview.

In his State of the Nation Address earlier in the year 2019, President Cyril Ramaphosa set the goal of achieving 21 million tourists by 2030. This is double the number of tourists South Africa had at the beginning of the year and equates to a 6% compound growth.

Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Municipality, under the tourism unit, held a tourism awareness program recently. Commitments were made by all stakeholders that were present to grow this sector through ensuring that tourists visit the area. "Today, we are communicating the successful outcome of the awareness programmes, this is the results of a strong partnership between the Department of Economic Development Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Harry Gwala Development Agency, Department of Sport, Art and Culture and Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Municipality," said Mayor Msomi.

Homestay, said Mayor Msomi, was also a popular tourism attraction in many destinations; it adds authentic sociocultural richness to the tourist's experience. During the tourism awareness, Deputy Mayor Kholeka Hadebe mentioned that

"homestay will ultimately address the challenges of unemployment, poverty, inequality, and lack of skills development in rural villages by using tourism as a vehicle for change. The Rural Homestay initiative will provide employment opportunities that will increase income, enable development, and are compatible with other economic activities within the immediate and broader areas of Dr NDZ Municipality. It is therefore believed that as the program develops, there will be a meaningful increase in local benefits, particularly within host communities living in areas where tourism potential exists, said Hadebe. "Under Dr NDZ Municipality, we have people who are owning homestay accommodation in rural areas. Slowly, we are transforming this sector," added Hadebe.

The benefits of homestay tourism are that the supplemental income for hosts in rural areas contributes to economic and community development. The Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Municipality under the tourism unit, believes that heritage can be packaged as a tourism experience only as it is placed in its location of origin to provide a sustainable attraction known for its authenticity and therefore is a draw card for local tour operators and tourists.

Rural tourism should be the vehicle to give visitors personal contact with a taste of the physical and human environment of the rural areas as far as possible, allow them to participate in the activities, traditions, and lifestyles of the local people. These are some of the strides that the Municipality is making to ensure that Dr NDZ is A Better Place for All.



AGRICULTURAL LAND SUMMIT PROFILING CONDUCTED IN KOKSTAD



Local Farmers show excitement during agricultural land summit profiling, unity in cultivating progress and nurture the future of farming.



THE Harry Gwala District Municipality (HGDM), through its Development Agency (HGDA) under the Local Economic Development (LED) division, in partnership with the Department of Human Settlements, Land Reform, and the Department of Agriculture, recently conducted an Agricultural Land Summit Profiling exercise in Kokstad, focusing on three black-owned farms.

This important initiative was conceptualized and championed by the District Mayor, Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo, under the District Development Model (DDM) framework. The summit was previously proposed during the visit of District Development Model Champions — Minister of Science, Technology, and Innovation Prof. Blade Nzimande, and the Deputy Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Richard Mkhungo.

The profiling was a response to the call and a step in preparing for the summit. The overall objective was to develop practical strategies to enhance agricultural productivity, promote rural economic development, and to strengthen the District's agricultural value chain through the Land Summit Programme.

The delegation was led by Mr. L. Zondi Senior manager, Development and Planning, accompanied by Mrs. T. Thiyane-Magaqa, Corporate Executive Director and acting CEO at HGDA, relevant stakeholders, the Department of Land and Human Settlements Reform; and the Department of Agriculture. Together, the delegation engaged directly with local farmers to gather essential

information about their farming operations — including available equipment, production levels, challenges faced, and the kind of support required from the government to improve productivity and job creation.

First Farm Visit: eGoxe Agri-Tourism

Mrs. Constance Bucu, Founder and Director of eGoxe Cooperative in Gogela Kokstad, is a self-taught farmer employing seven permanent workers. The cooperative was established in 2002 and initially focused on cutting flowers. Due to low market demand, they later diversified into white and red maize, spinach, and cabbage productions.

In 2009, they were advised to formalize their operations as a cooperative, which improved access to government support. The Department of Agriculture later assisted them with a tractor, and the cooperative successfully became a supplier to Boxer Supermarkets, providing potatoes, spinach, cabbage, and red maize.

The farm covers 20 hectares, producing vegetables and maize, and keeping 30 beef cattle. However, the farmers depend heavily on rainfall, and recent flooding has affected production. Despite these challenges, they remain resilient and have secured a funding of R350,000 from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) to purchase a harvesting machine and irrigation system.

Mrs. Bucu appealed for assistance in securing a title deed for the property, as the current ownership documents still reflect the old cooperative name, which complicates



Local farmers share insight about farming operations and highlight resources needed to improve their productivity.

access to funding in the agricultural sector.

Second Farm Visit: Bruce’s Valley Commercial Dairy Farm

Bruce’s Valley is located in Driefontein in Kokstad and is owned by Mr. Sive Mbebe, a qualified Soil Scientist with an Honours Degree, who is also the majority shareholder of the company. The farm operates a large-scale dairy business with about 1000 dairy cattle, supplying milk to Clover in South Africa and to Zambian powder milk producers.

The farm employs 40 permanent staff members, including specialists in agricultural engineering, animal science, and pasture management. It operates a 100-hectare pivot irrigation system, grows lucerne, clover, and dairy meal, and produces its own feed. The farm also conducts artificial insemination and crossbreeding programs to improve herd quality and milk yield.

Mr. Mbebe pointed out that access to capital remains a key challenge because he lacks a title deed for his property. However, he receives ongoing mentorship and technical support from the Milk Producers’ Organization

(MPO), which helps him maintain strong business performance.

Third Farm Visit: Livestock Commercial Farm

Nozuko Cezula, a former educator and self-taught farmer, operating in Tefelkop Kokstad as a private company Pty. Her farm focuses on beef cattle and sheep farming, along with maize production used primarily for animal feed.

Mrs Cezula expressed her aspiration to start artificial insemination to improve the quality of her livestock. She appealed for government assistance to purchase additional cattle, which would help her expand operations and grow her business.

The programme aims to ensure that farmers receive targeted interventions to increase production, create employment, and strengthen the local agricultural economy. Currently, the district has 69 farms that have been restored to black ownership. The one high-performing farmer seized the opportunity to present their success story and best farming practices at the Land Summit, aimed at inspiring others to follow sustainable and productive methods.

DDM DELEGATION CONDUCTS OVERSIGHT VISIT TO HGDM



DDM members showcased leadership in diversity, reflecting unity and collaboration across the district.

Led by His Worship, the Mayor of the Harry Gwala District Municipality, Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo and the District Development Model (DDM) Champion, Deputy Minister of Defence and Military, Richard Mkhungo. A delegation made up of various partners and stakeholders recently held a key DDM oversight visit within the District. This high-level compliance meeting brought together a broad range of stakeholders, including various government departments, local municipalities, private sector entities, and community representatives.

The DDM framework represents a joint initiative led by the government to promote cohesive service provision, strengthen collaboration among different stakeholders, and drive socio-economic growth at the district level. This meeting concentrated on reviewing achievements such as youth skills development programs and water infrastructure projects, tackling existing obstacles such as addressing challenges in waste management, and defining strategic actions such as launching public-private partnerships (PPPs) as well as developing an integrated service delivery plan (ISDP) to enhance the well-being of the citizens within the Harry Gwala District.

As the DDM champion for the Harry Gwala District, Deputy Minister Mkhungo commended the District for its dedication to delivering essential services to its communities. "We extend our sincere appreciation for the invitation to attend this significant engagement as the

DDM champion assigned to this District by the President of the Republic of South Africa, His Excellency President Cyril Ramaphosa. I view this as part of the oversight role that I, alongside my colleague the Honourable Minister Nzimande, am entrusted with. We must honour invitations to the political hub to ensure continuity in implementing resolutions from prior meetings to provide political leadership on key matters, and to verify that the "ONE PLAN" remains aligned and effective," said Deputy Minister Mkhungo. He also urged the municipalities within the District to maintain strong engagements with the communities they serve. "I must commend this District for performing exceptionally well in advancing service delivery to its residents," added Deputy Minister Mkhungo.

Mayor Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo also expressed appreciation to all those who attended the DDM meeting and emphasized that the key priority was achieving tangible results and practical solutions that will drive positive change for the people within the Harry Gwala District. "Today's gathering marked a significant step forward in advancing our District's development agenda. We are fully committed to working collaboratively with all stakeholders to ensure that the citizens of the Harry Gwala District experience inclusive and lasting progress. We acknowledge the importance of enhanced coordination and partnership, and the discussions held today have played a vital role in identifying actionable strategies," said Mayor Nxumalo.



ADVANCING GOVERNANCE THROUGH PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



An open dialogue provided a platform for every citizen's voice to be heard, by unifying voices and shaping futures through public participation.

THE Harry Gwala District Municipality successfully hosted a public participation workshop on the 17th of September 2025, reinforcing its commitment to inclusive governance and enhanced community engagement. The workshop served as a vital platform to promote transparency, accountability, and active civic involvement in municipal affairs.

Held at Amble Inn in Ixopo, the event convened a broad range of stakeholders, including traditional authorities namely Inkosi uMboneni Mjoli, local government officials, Councillors, and the District Mayor, Cllr Zamo Nxumalo, to deliberate on critical developmental challenges facing the district.

The forum served as an interactive and participatory platform where residents, traditional leaders, and various stakeholders engaged directly with municipal representatives on matters affecting their communities.

Attendees were given the opportunity to voice their concerns, complaints and compliments regarding service delivery, infrastructure development, water and sanitation, local economic development, and other pressing issues.

Municipal officials provided detailed presentations on current and planned projects, enabling transparent

communication about resource allocation, timelines, and implementation challenges.

The structured sessions allowed for open dialogue, with facilitated discussions and question-and-answer segments that encouraged constructive feedback and collaborative problem-solving. This participatory approach not only promoted accountability and transparency but also strengthened trust between the municipality and its constituencies by ensuring that community input is acknowledged and integrated into planning and policy-making processes.

In his keynote address, Mayor Nxumalo underscored the centrality of public participation in democratic governance.

“A robust democracy is anchored in the meaningful participation of its citizens. This workshop reflects our unwavering dedication to ensuring that every resident’s voice contributes to shaping a more resilient, inclusive, and prosperous Harry Gwala District,” said Mayor Nxumalo. He added that the initiative represented a positive move towards building stronger trust between the municipality and its citizens, encouraging meaningful cooperation for lasting community growth.



**KZN COGTA
HARRY GWALA
SERVICE
DELIVERY
ROADSHOW**



Mayor Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo and Nkosi Mjoli witnessed two community members receiving essential work equipment from COGTA MEC during service delivery event.

THE KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Rev. Thulasizwe Buthelezi, brought the Service Delivery Roadshow to the Harry Gwala District’s Soweto Hall in Ixopo recently where the MEC met and engaged with Amakhosi, headmen, Ward Committees, Community Development Workers’ (CDWs) and community members from across the municipalities within the region on service delivery matters affecting their communities.

The roadshow provided a platform engagement between the MEC and ward-level structures to strengthen service delivery efforts and address challenges that hinder the effective implementation of government projects at grass-root levels. Participants included representatives from all local municipalities within the district, from Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Local Municipality, Greater

Kokstad Local Municipality, uMzimkhulu Local Municipality and the Johannes Phumani Phungula Local Municipality.

Harry District Municipality Mayor Cllr. Zamo Nxumalo expressed gratitude that the MEC continuously visits and supports the district. He also said that he is pleased that the MEC fully understands the District Development Model (DDM). “I previously wished to sit down with the Minister and Premier Thamsanqa Ntuli to propose prioritizing the issue of water supply in this district, as you are among the champions serving our people here. I appreciate that you brought this program, hoping that the message you will share today truly resonates with our communities,” said Mayor Nxumalo during his welcoming remarks.

MEC Rev. Thulasizwe Buthelezi emphasized the importance of working closely with traditional leaders, ward committees, and CDWs for effective work production. He commended ward committees in the district to produce good-quality reports, but noted that the district only has 35 CDWs, which is a small number compared to the work that needs to be covered, and should be topped up to improve community service delivery. He announced that by the end of October, the department will have 50 employees under the Expanded Public Works Program (EPWP), aimed at expanding job opportunities, particularly for women in need in rural areas, as they are mostly the backbone of families.

The MEC stressed that these opportunities will not be distributed based on personal connections, but on genuine need. He further committed to returning in December to assess whether the number of employed participants has increased and whether the program delivers results like those in other districts.

“ I previously wished to sit down with the Minister and Premier Thamsanqa Ntuli to propose prioritizing the issue of water supply in this district, as you are among the champions serving our people here. I appreciate that you brought this program, hoping that the message you will share today truly resonates with our communities



**THE
DISTRICT'S
MUNICIPAL
HEALTH
SERVICE
TAKES PRIDE
IN THEIR
CLEAN-UP
CAMPAIGN!!**



Caring for our community the Harry Gwala District Municipality educated community members, on the importance of maintaining a clean environment in their surroundings.

THE Harry Gwala District Municipal Health Services (MHS) and the Waste Unit from uMzimkhulu Local Municipality conducted a clean-up campaign in the town of uMzimkhulu. The aim of this campaign was to remove waste, teach the public to keep the environment and town clean, encourage the use of waste bins provided, and reduce waste sent to disposal sites by reusing and recycling materials such as plastics.

The awareness campaign covered the importance of proper waste management, the dangers of littering, and its effects on the environment and human health. Such clean-up campaigns improve the town and instill a sense of responsibility in the community. Trash and debris littering across the town contribute significantly to pollution, which affects wildlife and human health, making campaigns like these essential for environmental

improvement.

The Harry Gwala District Municipal Health Services (MHS), Councillors of uMzimkhulu Local Municipality, and its Waste Unit joined forces to foster a cleaner and healthier environment by spearheading clean-up campaigns aimed at beautifying public spaces and serving as a platform for community members to come together and take ownership of their environment. As the municipality continues to implement initiatives promoting a cleaner and healthier environment, citizens are encouraged to join hands in maintaining momentum and working towards a brighter future for all.

"It's about time we took pride in our community," said a citizen. "These clean-up campaigns not only make our area clean, but they also bring us together as a community," added another.





Harry Gwala Volleyball and ladies' soccer team displays unity by winning overall games.

SAMWU SPARKS TEAM SPIRIT IN HARRY GWALA

THE Harry Gwala District Municipality hosted the much-anticipated SAMWU Work and Play Games, a dynamic event that blends sport, wellness, and team spirit. Municipal workers from local municipalities namely uMzimkhulu, Greater Kokstad, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, and Johannes Phumani Phungula Local Municipalities, came together for a day filled with energy, camaraderie, and friendly competition.

The Games featured exciting codes, like Soccer, Netball, Volleyball, Tug-of-War, Indigenous games, and other recreational activities, giving participants the chance to showcase their skills outside of the workplace. Laughter, cheering, and healthy rivalry filled the fields as teams battled it out for victory. More than just games, the event highlighted the importance of unity, wellness, and balance between work and recreation. Research consistently shows

motivated and engaged employees demonstrate higher levels of performance, productivity, and job satisfaction in the workplace.

SAMWU Deputy President Mluleki Mbhele extended appreciation to the entire team for their contribution towards working towards the success of the event. "We aim to see such games grow to a regional level in the future, let's continue to participate in numbers. I also want to extend special appreciation to all the sponsors for their valuable contributions, said Mbhele.

WINNERS RESULTS:

Volleyball

1. Harry Gwala District
2. Greater Kokstad Local

Netball

1. Johannes Phumani Phungula Local
2. Greater Kokstad Local

Ladies Soccer

1. Harry Gwala District
2. Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Local

Men's Soccer

1. Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Local
2. uMzimkhulu Local

At the closing session, outstanding teams and individuals were awarded trophies and medals, while all participants were celebrated for their spirit of teamwork and dedication through music, dancing, group photos, and a closing meal that brought everyone together in a festive atmosphere. The SAMWU work demonstrated that team-building activities outside the workplace foster meaningful connections, enhancing both organizational cohesion and community engagement.





Proud moment for Harry Gwala District, as Senior Citizens bring home 4th place position at the Provincial Games.

SENIOR CITIZENS GOLDEN GAMES 2025: HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY CELEBRATES ACTIVE AGEING WITH ITS SENIOR CITIZENS

THE Senior Citizens Golden Games 2025 held in Durban echoed with success, showcasing the province's commitment to promoting active ageing and the well-being of senior citizens. The event, which drew over 1,520 participants, including 1,320 senior citizens and 200 officials and guests, was a testament to the government's flagship initiative in promoting development, dignity, and the well-being of older persons.

The games provide a platform for senior citizens aged 60 and above to showcase their skills and talents in various sporting codes, including soccer, athletics, and fun events like Ring the Stick, Passing the Ball, and Duck Walk. The Harry Gwala District Municipality dominated the soccer tournament, winning 3-0 against King Cetshwayo, and excelled in the 800m Men Run for the 70+ category, taking fourth place as the District qualified them to compete in Cape Town for finals.

These games aim to encourage older persons to remain physically active, mentally stimulated, and socially engaged. The event's objectives align with the government's commitment to promoting active ageing and ensuring the well-being of senior citizens.

Honourable MEC for KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Sports, Arts, and Culture, Mntomuhle Khawula said "Senior Citizens have a wealth of knowledge, the elderly are very healthy and active, and these Golden Games show us that a healthy lifestyle is one of the greatest medicines for all illnesses".

The celebration, contributions and achievements of senior citizens in KwaZulu-Natal demonstrated that age is not a barrier to staying active, engaged, and to contributing to members of society. The event's success highlighted the importance of promoting active ageing and providing opportunities for senior citizens to participate in sports and recreational activities.





CUSTOMER CARE INFORMATION

1 HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY CALL CENTRE (0860103651/060570693)

It is a 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week, call centre that logs all customer complaints regarding all water, sanitation, billing, planned and unplanned water interruptions, burst pipes, sewer spillages, and faulty meters. The purpose of the Call Centre is to handle all customer

queries relating to municipal services and to ensure that at least 70% of queries received at first contact are resolved.

The Call Centre is designed for customers/residents who would rather communicate with the municipality by telephone and

designed for Customers/residents who would rather meet with a member of staff and discuss a query. Facebook is designed for Customers/residents who would rather communicate with the municipality using social media. The Facebook page is managed by the Communication team.

2 WHAT IS THE CALL CENTRE NUMBER? (0860103651/060570693)

WHY SHOULD CONSUMERS / CITIZENS USE THE CALL CENTRE?

It is important to encourage customers/citizens to report problems as early as possible, using the most appropriate channel. A reported water burst, unauthorised connection, sewer spillage, and vandalism of water infrastructure give the municipality, the opportunity to fix the problem, reduce the potential

loss and provide sustainable services to its communities.

AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

Customer Care has developed an ongoing program targeting public awareness campaigns. Public water conservation campaigns raise awareness at all levels of society about the importance of saving water to cope with its scarcity and

ensure sustainability. The aim is to change citizen attitudes and behaviour to improve water use efficiency. The content and themes of campaigns are reviewed to assess suitability and address current issues facing that specific community. Content targeted includes water conservation, health and hygiene, vandalism of water infrastructure, and sewer spillages.

3 WATER SAVING TIPS

- Fix leaking taps or report them immediately
- Report unauthorized water and sewerage connections.
- Make use of “grey water”. This is the water from your kitchen and bathroom that can be reused in the garden.
- Collect rainwater for irrigation from the roof in tanks or containers placed under roof gutters.
- Close the tap when brushing your teeth. Rather use water from a cup.



Physical Address: **40 Main Street, Ixopo, 3276**
Postal Address: **Private Bag X501, Ixopo, 3276**

Tel: (039) 834 8700 Fax: (039) 834 1701
Customer care number: 0860 103 651

 Harry Gwala District Municipality

 @harrygwala  @harrygwala

 www.harrygwalmunicipality.gov.za

