

Bulletin

#overstrand4all

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

#C4ourself

WHEELIE BINS ROLLED OUT IN THE INTEREST OF A CLEANER, HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT



Executive Mayor Annelie Rabie, Cllr Ronald Nutt, Ald Elnora Gillion, Cllr Arnie Africa and Cllr Clinton Lerm pictured with the solid waste team responsible for coordinating the roll out of wheelie bins in Hawston Heights.

In an attempt to combat the issue of illegal dumping, households in new IRDP housing projects will be provided with 240 l wheelie bins free of charge.

On handing out the first of these bins to residents of Hawston Heights, Executive Mayor, Dr. Annelie Rabie, remarked: "Even though these bins do not come cheap, cleaning up illegally dumped waste is far more expensive than emptying waste from wheelie bins."

"As much as Overstrand Municipality is doing its utmost to create a clean and healthy environment for all, we must urge all recipients to use these bins for the purpose they were intended for: They are intended for **household waste only** and are **not** to be used to cart wood or other items from one place to the next," she cautioned.

Bins will only be handed out to registered home owners who can provide proof of identity and, to avoid pilfering, each bin is marked with a unique serial number allocated to a specific home owner. Nevertheless, as an additional precaution, residents are advised to mark their bins clearly with their address since this would help to recover bins should they be stolen.

Wheelie bins will be emptied on a weekly basis, as per the regular refuse collection schedule, and should be placed out on the morning of collection only.

2023/24 VALUATION ROLL DISPUTES

In response to the publication of Overstrand Municipality's latest valuation roll, several individuals took it upon themselves to spread unfounded rumours that the latest general property valuations will result in exorbitant increases in rates and taxes.

This is simply not true since Council still needs to resolve the actual rate to be charged against the new valuations as part of the 2023/24 budget process. Any premature speculations or assumptions are thus, quite frankly, deceitful with the intention to mislead.

Generally, in accordance with the Municipal Property Rates Act, valuation rolls are valid for four years with the option to extend for one year.

Due to Covid-19, Overstrand Municipality had no option but to exercise the latter option.

Here it ought to be noted that valuations are market-driven. Judging by sales and prices fetched, property values undoubtedly increased considerably since the last general valuation conducted in 2015.

Ratepayers are urged to check their valuations and, if necessary, to lodge an appeal should they be of the opinion that the valuation does not reflect reality.

Appeals must be submitted to the Municipal Manager on or before **3 April 2023** and will be adjudicated by an independent Valuation Appeals Board appointed by the provincial MEC for local government, Mr Anton Bredell.

The valuation roll is available on the municipal website www.overstrand.gov.za (click on documents, strategic documents, property-valuation). It is also open for inspection at all municipal offices and libraries in the Overstrand.

OVERBERG MAYORS AND MUNICIPAL MANAGERS UNITE TO ADDRESS ENERGY CRISIS ⚡

At a special combined Overberg District Coordinating and Technical Forum meeting hosted in Hermanus, it was resolved that the efforts of all municipalities in the district (i.e. Cape Agulhas, Overstrand, Swellendam, Theewaterskloof and the Overberg District Municipality) to address the current energy crises shall be coordinated by the Overberg District Coordinating Forum.

This will allow for economies of scale and reduce the risk appetite as municipalities are currently inundated with service providers wanting to provide energy services.

Each municipality will establish an energy council chaired by the mayor who will be supported by the respective municipal managers and technical directors, since the latter will ultimately be responsible for the implementation of proposed projects.

Mr Graham Paulse, HOD for Local Government, also attended the meeting and indicated that the Western Cape Government will put R1 billion at the disposal of municipalities over the next three years to address the energy crisis. Municipalities must, however, ensure that all their plans are in place if they want to qualify for funding, he cautioned.

At the time of the meeting, Overstrand's Executive Mayor, Dr Annelie Rabie, said that appropriately skilled public volunteers will soon be invited by way of an advertisement to serve on the Overstrand's energy council.

She also used this opportunity to express her concerns regarding Eskom's inability to address consistent outages in the Overstrand area: "There are no local maintenance teams, no local plant and equipment, and no local presence to address complaints. These issues need to be addressed sooner rather than later if a crisis is to be avoided," she cautioned.



Attending the special combined Overberg District Coordinating and Technical Forum meeting were Graham Paulse, HOD for Local Government; Swellendam Mayor, Francois du Randt; Theewaterskloof Mayor, Kallie Papier; Overstrand Mayor, Dr Annelie Rabie; Cape Agulhas Mayor, Paul Swart; and Overberg District Municipality Mayor, Sakkie Franken

MEASLES VACCINE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 15 SAFE AND EFFECTIVE

Measles

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF MEASLES

- High fever
- Cough
- Runny nose, sneezing
- Red, watery eyes and a sore throat
- Measles rash develops in 3-5 days after symptoms onset



A long and healthy life for all South Africans



Measles is extremely contagious and is one of the most easily spread viruses that infects humans. It is a preventable disease, but to be protected against measles, two doses of the measles vaccine are required.

"Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, too many children under 15 years of age have been left without protection against measles and other vaccine-preventable diseases. Consequently, the risk of large outbreaks in the country has increased. Now more than ever, ensuring that children are up to date with their routine immunisations will help limit the risk of measles for them and others," Sonia Botha, the Western Cape coordinator of the Expanded Programme on Immunisation said.

The vaccine provides lifelong protection against measles and is available free of charge at public health facilities and through integrated school vaccination programme. The measles-mumps-rubella vaccine (MMR) is also available, at cost, in private sector clinics and is equally effective and safe.

Signs and symptoms

- Unvaccinated young children
- Unvaccinated pregnant women
- Any immune-compromised person who has not been vaccinated or was vaccinated but did not develop immunity

Treatment

- No specific antiviral treatment exists for the measles virus.
- Severe complications from measles can be avoided through supportive care which includes good nutrition, adequate fluid intake and treatment of dehydration with an oral rehydration solution to replace fluids and other essential elements that are lost through diarrhoea or vomiting.
- Paracetamol and warm water sponging are recommended for treatment of fever.
- Antibiotics may be prescribed to treat eye and ear infections, or pneumonia.

Prevention

- Routine measles vaccination for children is a key public health strategy to reduce measles deaths.
- The measles vaccine has been in use for over 50 years. It is safe, effective, and inexpensive.



FIRST OF MANY NEW HOMES IN MASAKHANE DELIVERED



Nonthunzi Mjodo had been on the housing waiting list since 2006. On 10 March 2023, she was finally handed the key to her very own home – an occasion she celebrated in the company of Tertuis Simmers (MEC for Infrastructure), Dr Annelie Rabie (Overstrand Executive Mayor), Ward 2 Councillor (Ald. Theodora Nqinata) and several other dignitaries including Councillors Steven Fourie, Clinton Lerm, Msa Nomatiti and Andrew Komani as well as Acting Director: Community Services (Jason Solomons), Senior Manager: Engineering Services (Dennis Hendriks) and Abail Jacobs (Manager: Housing Planning & Project Management).



Having been on the waiting list for 16 years, Hilda Ngqoshana (63) can now look forward to spending her retirement years in the comfort of her own home – an occasion that is definitely deserving of a huge hug by Cllr Msa Nomatiti.

For five beneficiaries of the Masakhane Integrated Residential Development Programme, Friday, 10 March 2023 will go down in history as the day on which they were, at long last, handed the keys to their very own homes.

In total, this residential programme is comprised of 296 erven: One-hundred-and-fifty of which have been developed as housing units, with the remainder intended for GAP housing and/or use as serviced erven.

At a cost of R98 million, this project is jointly undertaken under the auspices of the implementing agent Power/Lutcon Construction.

Tertuis Simmers, MEC for Infrastructure in the Western Cape, and Dr Annelie Rabie, Overstrand's Executive Mayor, officiated at the handover.

A delighted Ward 2 Councillor, Theodora Nqinata, reiterated MEC Simmers' commendation of all involved who understood the urgency of the housing need and went full out to deliver 150 housing units within 18 months from turning the first sod.

"Keep in mind that the 'paper work' preceding a development of this nature can be rather tedious", she said.

"First, a pre-planning funding application had to be submitted (2012) which eventually led to town planning approval in March 2018.

"This meant that the installation of civil infrastructure could only commence in February 2019, and then it was discovered that 42 of the sites were occupied by informal settlers. Eventually, these settlers were relocated which allowed for the installation of civil infrastructure on the 42 remaining erven.

"Finally, in September 2021, approval for the construction of top structures was granted, which brings us to this happy day.

"Undoubtedly, the housing planning and project management section resorting under the Directorate Infrastructure and Development is most deserving of our gratitude for persevering to make so many dreams come true, no matter what."

It is anticipated that the handover of the remaining 145 housing units will be finalised in the course of April 2023.

TAP WATER SAFE TO DRINK

Rumour has it that, due to power outages caused by load shedding, tap water must be boiled before consumption so as to avoid an onset of diarrhoea.

This is fake news.

Overstrand Municipality wishes to reassure its residents that the drinking water supplied to all its towns is perfectly safe.

Treated water is sampled and tested regularly at all treatment plants and in all reticulation networks in the Overstrand by an accredited external laboratory to ensure that it complies with SANS 0241 (the national standards for drinking water).

Thus, there is really no need to boil tap water before you drink it, unless you plan on having a cuppa...

