



# AMAHLATHI QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER





# **AMAHLATHI QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

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## AMAHLATHI UNQUALIFIED AUDIT OPINION

Amahlathi Local Municipality has achieved an unqualified audit opinion from the Auditor-General for the 2023/24 financial year, marking a significant improvement following the regression in 2022/23. This milestone reflects the dedication and resilience of the municipality's administration.

Speaking on the achievement, Municipality Manager Dr Zamuxolo Shasha said, "There were challenges faced along the way but the commitment and dedication from our administration produced great results".

Shasha added that, their aim as the municipality is to have an audit action plan in place in order to achieve a clean audit in the near future.

An unqualified audit opinion signifies that a municipality's financial statements are free from material misstatements and comply with the relevant financial reporting framework.

To achieve an unqualified audit report, the following requirements must be met:

- Accurate Financial Records
- Compliance with Legislation
- Effective Internal Controls
- Sound Governance
- Timely Submission
- Proper Asset and Liability Management
- Transparent Financial Reporting
- Budget Alignment
- Clean Audit of Previous Year (Preferable)

By fulfilling these requirements a municipality demonstrates accountability, sound financial management, and the ability to deliver services effectively which contribute to obtaining an unqualified audit opinion.

Acknowledgment was extended to communities and stakeholders for their unwavering support throughout the journey. The municipality re-affirmed its commitment to collaboration, emphasizing the importance of unity in building and growing Amahlathi together



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## 45 FAMILIES RECEIVED NEW HOMES IN GASELA



A long wait for safe and dignified housing has finally ended for 45 families in Gasela, under the Amahlathi Local Municipality.

In a heartfelt ceremony, the Department of Human Settlements, in collaboration with the Amahlathi Local Municipality handed over new homes. This is marking a significant milestone in the ongoing Gasela Housing Project.

The project aimed at delivering 75 homes, has brought hope to 45 families, with the remaining 30 homes set for completion soon. The handover ceremony was an emotional moment for the community, highlighting the triumphs and the sacrifices made along the way.

One of the recipients Anesipho Nyokana accepted the keys to her new home on behalf of her late mother, a tireless advocate for the project who tragically passed away before witnessing its success.

"This home is more than just bricks and mortar; it is a symbol of my mother's resilience and dedication to ensuring a better life for us. Her dream was to see us living in a safe and dignified home and today that dream has become a reality", said Anesipho Nyokana.

Amahlathi Local Municipality Mayor Cllr Nomakhosazana Nongqayi commended the community for their patience and resilience. She alluded in her speech that, "The housing situation in Amahlathi is critical with many homes made from sticks and mud making them vulnerable during natural disasters".

"Today, we fulfill a long-awaited promise. There were many challenges including a tragic incident where a community member, Anesipho's mother passed away during a meeting while advocating for better housing. We honor her memory today by delivering this home to her children.

"No one can replace their parents, but by providing shelter, we restore their hope and dignity. We also encourage Anesipho to return to school and the government will assist her in reaching her personal goals," concluded Nongqayi.

A visibly emotional, Anesipho shared her gratitude, "I am overwhelmed with joy and gratitude. We are all still young and would not have been able to live in our old house. This new home means everything to us. On behalf of the Nyokana family, I want to thank the government for giving us this new start."

The Department of Human Settlements reiterated its commitment to addressing the housing backlog in rural areas like Gasela, recognizing housing as a fundamental human right.

The Gasela Housing Project stands as a beacon of hope and a reminder of the power of community resilience and government support in improving lives. For many families the keys they received signify more than shelter, they represent a future filled with hope, dignity, and opportunity.





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## KEISKAMMAHOEK FEMICIDE AND 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

### Standing Against Femicide in Keiskammahoek During the 16 Days of Activism

As we observe the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children, we are compelled to confront the harsh reality of Gender Based Violence (GBV) that continues to plague our communities.

In the Amahlathi Local Municipality, we recently experienced the devastating loss of three women including 85 year old Nosidima Manase from Keiskammahoek. Her tragic death along with the loss of two other women, serves as a painful reminder of the violence that too often claims the lives of women in our country.

These senseless killings are not isolated incidents they are part of a larger epidemic of GBV that demands urgent attention. Femicide, the most extreme form of GBV, is rooted in a culture of patriarchy, inequality, and systemic discrimination against women. From physical violence to emotional abuse, this crisis leaves countless women vulnerable in their homes, workplaces, and communities.

Our Mayor, Cllr Nomakhosazana Nongqayi, a staunch advocate for women's rights, expressed her deep concern over these tragic events:

"Every woman, regardless of her age, deserves to live without fear of violence. We cannot remain silent while these horrific acts continue. We must unite to protect, empower, and respect the women in our communities."

The 16 Days of Activism is a time not only for mourning but for action. It is a call to confront the root causes of femicide and GBV and work tirelessly to eradicate them. Raising awareness is crucial, but awareness alone is not enough. We need tangible steps, policies, and community efforts to ensure lasting change.

We urge all citizens to take a stand not just by speaking out against violence but by challenging the normalization of abuse in all its forms. Whether in our families, workplaces, or social circles, we each have a role to play in dismantling the culture that allows GBV to persist.

As we reflect on these tragedies, let us commit to building a future where women and girls can live free from fear and violence. Now is the time for action, the time for change, and the time to stand together against femicide.

Together, we can create a safer, more just society for all.





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## COMMEMORATION OF WORLD AIDS DAY

During the week of World Aids Day, November 27, 2024, The Amahlathi Local Municipality Mayor Cllr Nomakhosazana Nongqayi organised a massive exhibit of AIDS memorial quilt at Mgwali Village in Stutterheim in collaboration with Kusile Mzantsi Community.

This year's theme, "TAKE THE RIGHT PATH: MY HEALTH, MY RIGHT", focuses on the ability to ensure that everyone has access to HIV prevention, testing, treatment, and care.

As part of the initiative, Mayor Cllr Nomakhosazana Nongqayi and representatives from the Department of Health, Education, Social Development, and SAPS discussed the ongoing battle against HIV combating disinformation and promoting health, well-being, and social connectedness.


Through the event's participatory activities, they encouraged community members-young people in particular, to get tested and know their HIV status.

#TogetherForProsperity  
#TakeTheRightPath:MyhealthMyRight  
#PutpeopleFirst



 AMAHLATHI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

 [WWW.AMAHLATHI.GOV.ZA](http://WWW.AMAHLATHI.GOV.ZA)

 043 683 5000





# AMAHLATHI QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

## SPAZA SHOP CAPACITATION PROGRAM IN AMAHLATHI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



Amahlathi Local Municipality in partnership with Amathole District Municipality (ADM), Home Affairs, SAPS and the Community Police Forum has launched a Spaza Shop Capacitation program to support shop owners and improve the township economy.

This program is an initiative designed to address challenges posed by illegal shop owners following the recent raids. This program seeks to ensure compliance with food safety regulations, balance economic development and community health.



This follows a recent spaza shop raid aimed at addressing food related illnesses, ensuring compliance with health and safety regulations.

To further these efforts, capacitation sessions were held at the Mzwandile Fanti Recreational Centre. The sessions focused on equipping spaza shop owners with knowledge of new bylaws and special development legislation that govern their businesses.



The primary objectives of the capacitation program was to ensure that spaza shops understand and comply with environmental standards, licensing requirements and other regulations essential for their operation within the township economy.





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## AMAHLATHI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY EMBARKS ON AMBITIOUS ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

The Amahlathi Local Municipality has unveiled its plans to upgrade and maintain its road network, with a focus on disaster relief projects and future infrastructure

The municipality's area of jurisdiction boasts a total road network of 2,134.37 kilometers, with 540 kilometers under its direct responsibility. This includes 485 kilometers of gravel roads and 55 kilometers of surfaced roads. The South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL) is responsible for 162.37 kilometers, while the Department of Transport oversees 1,432 kilometers.

In June 2024, the municipality received a third allocation of R19,145,000.00 (R19.1 million) from the Municipal Disaster Relief Grant (MDRG). This funding will be utilized to implement various disaster relief projects aimed at rehabilitating and maintaining the municipality's road

Seven disaster relief projects have been identified for implementation, with a total budget of R19,145,000.00. These projects include:

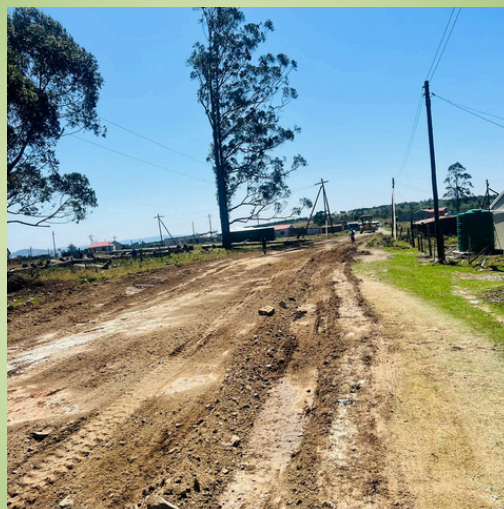
1. Stutterheim - Cenyulands Village Roads and Stormwater: R3,500,000.00
2. Road from Town to Sophumelela & Ngxondorheni Village: R3,500,000.00
3. Pumlani Village, Bumbane & Kom internal Road: R4,000,000.00
4. Kubusie road from area 5 to Mahanjane & Ohlson farm road: R525,000.00 (shortfall)
5. Road between Peer to Nxawe & Matsa to Nxawe: R3,200,000.00
6. Gosheen Road: R2,970,000.00
7. Emagcumeni Road: R1,450,000.00

In addition to the disaster relief projects, the municipality has also allocated R13,323,850.00 (R13.32 million) for the Xholorha Paving Project.

The municipality has also outlined its plans for future road infrastructure projects, which include:

1. Stutterheim Town Streets Paving: R14,287,100.00 (R14.28 million) for 2025/26 and 2026/27
2. Ngqeqe Internal Roads: R1,605,242.00 (R1.6 million) for 2024/25
3. Amabele Paving: R4,000,000.00 (R4 million) for 2025/26 and 2026/27
4. Keilands Roads: R3,000,000.00 (R3 million) for 2025/26
5. Keiskammahoeck Town Paving: R13,500,000.00 (R13.5 million) for 2025/26 and 2026/27

These projects demonstrate the municipality's commitment to improving its road infrastructure and promoting economic development in the region.







# AMAHLATHI QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

## AMAHLATHI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY RECEIVES A NEW TRUCK FROM HON MEC XOLILE NQATHA

Amahlathi Mayor Cllr Nomakhosazana Nongqayi received a truck from the Eastern Cape Department of Transport. This valuable addition will enhance our municipality's ability to improve infrastructure, waste management, and road maintenance, benefiting in our community. We thank MEC Xolile Nqatha and the Department for their continued support.





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## AMAHLATHI LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSIST SMMEs WITH FUNDING APPLICATIONS

The Local Economic Development Unit has assisted Small, Medium and Micro Enterprise (SMME's) of Amahlathi community to apply for a funding support from Wholesale and Retail SETA with assistance from Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA).

Funding for 29 applications was successfully approved from Amahlathi area of which 15 were from Cathcart Cluster and 14 were from Stutterheim and King Kei Cluster. 14 SMME's received their stock as part of the funding support worth R4500 for each SMME. The funding included training and purchasing of stock for SMME's.





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## MUNICIPAL PERFORMANCE

SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE OF THE AMAHLATHI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



The Amahlathi Local Municipality has released its quarterly performance report for the first quarter of the 2024/2025 financial year, revealing an overall score of 90% in its institutional performance.

The municipality's performance is evaluated based on its Service Delivery Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP) scorecard, which comprises five Key Performance Areas.

These areas are aligned with the Local Government's Strategic Agenda and the municipality's Integrated Development Plan (IDP) objectives.

Here are the five Key Performance Areas and their corresponding scores:

Basic Service Delivery and Infrastructure Development: 80%

Municipal Financial Viability :90%

Good Governance and Public Participation: 100%

Local Economic Development: 100%

Municipal Transformation and Governance: 85.71%

Amahlathi Local Municipality received an exceptionally outstanding overall score, the municipality's performance increased by 2,16% compared to the fourth quarter of the previous financial year.

The Amahlathi Local Municipality is committed to transparency, accountability as evident in its annual reports and performance updates .

The municipality's efforts to improve its performance and address areas of concern are ongoing, with a focus on delivering quality services to its communities.