

EMADLANGENI MUNICIPALITY OVERSIGHT REPORT 2022/23

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) assigns specific oversight responsibilities to Council in regards to the Annual Report and the preparation of an Oversight Report.

Given the processes required by Council to effectively undertake its oversight role, the establishment of an Oversight Committee of Council would provide the appropriate mechanism in which Council could fulfil its oversight responsibilities.

The Oversight Committee's primary role will be to consider the Annual Report, receive input from the various role players and to prepare an Oversight Report for consideration by Council.

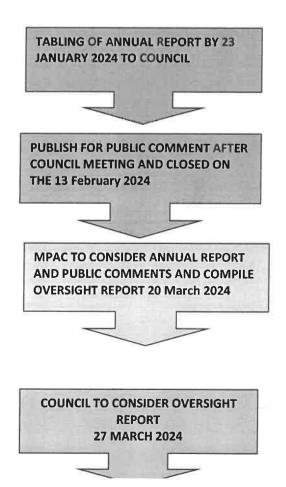
2. BACKGROUND

The oversight role of Council is an important component of the financial reforms and it is achieved through the separation of roles and responsibilities between Council, (Mayor and Executive Committee) and Administration. Good governance, effective accountability, and oversight can only be achieved if there is a clear distinction between the functions performed by the different role players.

Non-executive Councillors are required to maintain oversight on the performance of specific responsibilities and delegated powers that they have given to the Mayor/Executive Committee. In other words, in exchange for the powers in which Council have delegated to the Executive, Council retains a monitoring and oversight role ensuring that there is accountability for the performance or non-performance of the municipality.

The Municipal Finance Management Act, No.56 of 2003 (MFMA) vests in Council specific powers of approval and oversight.

- ✓ Approval of budgets;
- ✓ Approval of Budget related Policies; and
- Review of the Annual Report and adoption of the Oversight Report.



COUNCIL ADOPTS ANNUAL REPORT

It is also important to highlight that a notice was given in terms of Section 21 of the Municipal Systems Act, No. 32 of 2000 read with Section 127(5) of the Municipal Finance Management Act that the Annual Report was open for comments and/or inputs by the community and stakeholders until the 13 February 2024. The Annual report was available at all municipal offices, library and the municipal website www.emadlangeni.gov.za.

After the closing date for submission of comments and inputs on the annual report, the municipality did not receive any comments from the members of the public for consideration by the Management and Municipal Public Accounts Committee as an oversight body.

3. FUNCTIONS OF THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The functions of the Oversight Committee are as follows:

- ✓ Undertake a review and analysis of the Annual Report.
- ✓ Invite, receive, and consider inputs from Councilors and Portfolio Committees, on the Annual Report.
- ✓ Consider written comments received on the Annual Report from the public consultation process.
- ✓ Conduct Public Hearing(s) to allow the local community or any organs of state to make representations on the Annual Report.
- ✓ Receive and consider Council's Audit Committee views and comments on the annual financial statements and the performance report.
- ✓ Preparation of the draft Oversight Report, taking into consideration, the views and inputs of the public, representative(s) of the Auditor-General, organs of state, Council's Audit Committee and Councilors.

4. COMPOSITION OF OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

4.1 MEMBERSHIP

The Oversight Committee is a committee of Council established under section 79 of the Municipal Structures Act, 1998. Section 79, allows for the co-option of advisory members to a Committee of Council, who are not members of the Council.

Due to the separation of roles and responsibilities, between Council, Mayor and Executive Committee) it is <u>not</u> appropriate that members of the Executive Committee be members of the Oversight Committee.

4.2 **AUTHORITY & POWER**

The Oversight Committee is delegated the responsibility to conduct meetings and to hold public hearings to receive and hear public submissions on the Annual Report, on behalf of Council.

Timely notice of all meetings should be given and all meetings held by the Oversight Committee must be open to the public and minutes of the meetings must be submitted to Council meetings.

4.3 MEETING SCHEDULE

The Draft Annual Report submitted to Council on the 23 January 2024 meeting, was referred to the Oversight Committee. The community was advised through the print media of the availability of the Annual Report and was invited to submit representations on the report.

The Annual Report was available at municipal library, eMadlangeni Local Municipality Main Office and Municipal website. The Draft Annual Report was submitted to the Auditor-General, Provincial Treasury and the Department of Local Government and Traditional Affairs.

At the closing date for public submissions of 13 February 2024, no submissions were received.

5. THE OVERSIGHT REPORT

This Oversight Report is for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 and addresses 2022/23 Annual Report. The said Annual Report must at least address the following:

a) Introduction and Overview -

Overview of the Municipal Area

b) Human Resource and Organizational Management -

Municipal Services; and Political and Administration Structures

c) Performance Highlights and Challenges -

Service delivery highlights for the year under review and possible interventions to improve performance where challenges were encountered.

d) Financial Information -

Annual Financial Statements; Audit Committee Report; Report from the Auditor General; and Management Responses to the Audit Report.

6. ANNUAL REPORT CHECKLIST

INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE INCLUDED IN ANNUAL REPORTS	COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS AND QUESTIONS	RESPONSES/ COMMENTS	
1. Financial Matters – Annual Financial Statements - Section 121 (3) MFMA	Financial reporting matters to be considered	Yes	
121 (3)(a) The Annual Financial Statements (AFS) for the municipality and, if applicable, consolidated statements (with all entities) as submitted to the Auditor- General.	The AFS are to be in the form as required by the applicable accounting standards. MFMA Circular 18 with annexures, 23 June 2005, provides guidelines on the accounting standards for municipalities. Have the required standards been met?	Yes. Refer to Chapter 5: Financial Performance, page 147.	
121 (3)(a) 121 (4) 121 (4)(b)	The above applies also to the AFS of municipal entities.	Yes, however it is not applicable to eMadlangeni Local Municipality. There are no municipal entities.	

Information		
REQUIRED TO BE INCLUDED IN ANNUAL REPORTS	COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS AND QUESTIONS	RESPONSES/ COMMENTS
121(3)(e) An assessment by the accounting officer on any arrears on municipal taxes and service charges, including municipal entities.	Has an adequate assessment been included? Is there sufficient explanation of the causes of the arrears and of actions to be taken to remedy the situation? Is any other action required to be taken?	Yes. Refer to page 11-13 of the 2022/23 Annual Report.
121 (3)(g) Particulars of any corrective action taken or to be taken in response to issues raised in the audit reports.	The conclusions of the annual audit are: ✓ an unqualified audit opinion with or without management issues, which means that the financial statements are acceptable; ✓ The objective of the municipality should be to achieve an unqualified audit opinion. ✓ Taking into account the audit report, audit opinion and the views of the audit committee, council considered: • To what extent does the report indicate serious or minor financial issues? • To what extent are the same issues repeated from previous audits? • Is the action proposed considered to be adequate to effectively address the issues raised in the audit report? • Has a schedule of action to be taken been included in the annual report, with appropriate due dates?	Yes. Refer to Chapter 6: Auditor General (pages 1 of 3 of the Audit Action Plan) of the 2022/23 Annual Report.

INFORMATION		
REQUIRED TO BE INCLUDED IN ANNUAL REPORTS	COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS AND QUESTIONS	RESPONSES/ COMMENTS
	Note that actions taken on audit issues are to be reported to the provincial legislature, the MEC for Cooperative Government & Traditional Affairs to report on any omissions by municipalities in addressing issues. Council should confirm that the audit report has been forwarded to the MEC.	Yes
121 (3)(f)	The budget of the municipality must contain	Yes.
An assessment by the	measurable performance objectives for	Refer to the Overall Organizational
municipality's	revenue from each source and for each vote	Performance Scorecard 2022/23 in
accounting officer of	in the budget, taking into account the IDP	page 79-104 of the Annual Report
the municipality's	(MFMA S17(3)(b)). The accounting officer	
performance against	must include these objectives in the annual	
measurable	report and report on performance	
performance	accordingly.	
objectives for revenue	Has the performance met the expectations of	
collection from each	council and the community?	
revenue source and	Have the objectives been met?	
for each vote in the	What explanations have been provided for	
approved budget.	any non-achievement?	
	What was the impact on the service delivery	
	and expenditure objectives in the budget?	

INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE INCLUDED IN ANNUAL REPORTS	COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS AND QUESTIONS	RESPONSES/ COMMENTS
121 (3) (i) (k) Any information as determined by the municipality, the entity or its parent municipality.	Review any other information that has been included in this regard to the AFS.	Not applicable.
121 (3)(j) and 121 (4)(g) Recommendations of the audit committee in relation to the AFS and audit reports of the municipality and its entities.	Have the recommendations of the audit committee with regard to the AFS been adequately addressed by the municipality and/or the entity? What actions need to be taken in terms of these recommendations? Conclusions on these recommendations and the actions required should be incorporated in the oversight report.	Yes. Refer to page 38-39 of the 2022/23 Annual Report where the meeting convened by the MPAC to deliberate on the 2022/23 Annual Performance Report and Annual Financial Statement matters.
2. Disclosures - Allocations received and made - Section 123-125 MFMA	Considerations	Refer to Chapter 5: Financial Performance (page 68 of the Annual Financial Statements) in the 2022/23 Annual Report
123 (1)(a) Allocations received by and made to the municipality.	The report should disclose: ✓ Details of allocations received from another organ of state in the national or provincial sphere. ✓ Details of allocations received from a municipal, entity or another municipality.	Yes. Refer to chapter 5 of the 2021/22 Annual Report

INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE INCLUDED IN ANNUAL REPORTS	COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS AND QUESTIONS	RESPONSES/ COMMENTS
	 ✓ Details of allocations made to any other organ of state, another municipality, or a municipal entity. ✓ Any other allocation made to the municipality under Section 214(1) (c) of the Constitution. Have these allocations been received and made? Does the audit report confirm the correctness of the allocations received in terms of DORA and provincial budgets? Does the audit report or the audit committee recommend any action? 	

INFORMATION			
REQUIRED TO BE INCLUDED IN	COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS AND QUESTIONS	RESPONSES/ COMMENTS	
ANNUAL REPORTS			
125 (1)	Municipalities and entities are reminded of the	Yes	
Information in relation	requirement to include, in their annual		
to outstanding	financial statements, amounts owed to them	Refer to Chapter 5: Financia	
debtors and creditors	and persistently delayed beyond 30 days, by	Performance (page 45-46 of the	
of the municipality	national or provincial departments and public	Annual Financial Statements) in the	
and entities.	entities.	2022/23 Annual Report.	
	It is also a requirement to report on whether		
	the municipality or entity has met its statutory		
	commitments, including the payment of taxes,		
	audit fees, and contributions for pension and		
	medical aid funds.		
	Council should be satisfied that –		
	\checkmark the information has been properly		
	disclosed;		
	\checkmark conditions of allocations have been met;		
	and		
	\checkmark that any explanations provided are		
	acceptable.		
123 (1)(c)	Section 123 of the MFMA and MFMA guidance	Refer to Chapter 5: Financia	
Information in relation	circular 11, require that the municipality	Performance (page 52-53 of the	
to the use of	provide information per allocation received per	Annual Financial Statements) in the	
allocations received.	vote and include:	2022/23 Annual Report.	
	\checkmark The current year and details of spending on		
	all previous conditional grants, for the		
	previous two financial years. Information is		
	to be provided per vote. (For example,		
	municipalities must report on all transfers		
	received from provincial housing		
	departments for housing subsidy grants for		
	three financial years, and indicate how		
	such funds were spent, and for what		

INFORMATION		
REQUIRED TO BE		RESPONSES/ COMMENTS
ANNUAL REPORTS		
	projects. ✓ Information stating whether the municipality has complied with the conditions of the grants, allocations in terms of section 214(1)(c) of the Constitution and allocations received from other than another organ of state. Where	
	there is non-compliance, details of the reasons for non-compliance are to be provided. ✓ Information on whether allocations under	
	the DORA were delayed or withheld and the reasons advanced for this.	
	This information is required on all allocations	
	excluding the municipality's portion of the	
	equitable share and where prescribed otherwise by the nature of the allocation.	
	The Auditor-General will ensure that the audit	
	process includes a proper assessment (and	
	reconciliation) on all national grants received	
	by a municipality. Council should consider this	
	aspect of the audit report and comments by	
	the audit committee on the use of allocations	
	received.	
	Council should be satisfied that –	
	✓ the information has been properly disclosed;	

✓ conditions of allocations have been met;

and

INFORMATION REQUIRED TO B INCLUDED IN	CONSTRUCTIONS AND	RESPONSES/ COMMENTS
	✓ that any explanations provided are acceptable. The comments of the Auditor-General and the views of the audit committee should be used to determine the accuracy and appropriateness of this information.	
3. Disclosures in notes to AFS	Considerations relating to Section 124	
Information relating to	Information on the following items is to be	Yes.
benefits paid by	included in the notes to the annual report and	Refer to Chapter 5: Financial
municipality and	AFS:	Performance (page 54-56 of the
entity to Councillors, Directors and officials.	✓ salaries, allowances and benefits of political office bearers, Councillors and boards of directors, whether financial or in kind;	Annual Financial Statements) in the 2022/23 Annual Report
	✓ any arrears owed by individual Councillors	·
	to the municipality or entity for rates and	
	services, which at any time were	
	outstanding for more than 90 days,	
	including the names of Councillors;	
	✓ salaries allowances and benefits of the	
	municipal manager, CEO of a municipal	
	entity, CFO and every senior manager;	
	✓ contributions for pensions and medical aid;	
	√ travel, motor car, accommodation,	
	subsistence and other allowances;	
	√ housing benefits and allowances;	

INFORMATION REQUIRED TO INCLUDED ANNUAL REPORTS	BE COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS AND IN QUESTIONS	RESPONSES/ COMMENTS
	 ✓ overtime payments; ✓ loans and advances, and; ✓ any other type of benefit or allowance related to staff. Council should be satisfied that — ✓ the information has been properly disclosed; ✓ conditions of allocations have been met; and ✓ any explanations provided are acceptable. 	
	The comments of the Auditor-General and the views of the Audit Committee should be used to determine the accuracy and appropriateness of this information.	
4. Municipal Performance	Consideratio	ns
The annual performance reports of the municipality and entities.	performance with the second	Yes Refer to Chapter 3: Service Delivery Performance, pages 37-77 of the 2022/23 Annual Report.

INFORMATION REQUIRED TO	BE COUNCIL	Considerations	And	
INCLUDED ANNUAL REPORTS	IN QUESTIONS			RESPONSES/ COMMENTS
	budgets, S been includ Does the pannual report with targets SDBIP appro In terms of key each performed? sanitation, and eare the refuse constatistics etc.? To what extered targets set by Is the comperformance in the results aligned consultation. What actions have to improve performance in the results aligned to improve performance. Is the council improve performance in the results aligned to improve performance. Is the council improve performance in the results aligned to improve performance. Is the council improve performance in the results aligned to improve performance.	uncil satisfied with evels achieved? mmunity satisfied Has a customer satisfact andertaken and, if so, how and with the annual regat were the outcomes tion and public hearings? ave been taken and plant formance? satisfied with actions mance? set in the budgets, SDB me targets set in the fintracts of the municip	in the mance ts and? w has vater, What usage eved the with tion of the document of the docume	

	BE COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS AND RESPONSES/ COMMENTS
	 ✓ Does the report evaluate the efficiency of mechanisms applied to deliver the performance outcomes? ✓ Taking into account the audit report and opinion and the views of the audit committee, is performance considered to be efficient and effective? ✓ To what extent have actions planned for the previous year been carried over to the financial year reported upon? ✓ Have any actions planned in the reported year been carried over to the current or future years? If so are any explanations been provided by the municipal manager and are these satisfactory?
Audit reports on	Council should comment and draw conclusions on information and explanations provided.
Audit reports on performance.	Section 45, MSA requires that the Auditor- General must audit the results of performance measurements, as part of the internal auditing processes and annually. Have the recommendations of internal audit been acted on during the financial year? Have recommendations by internal audit and/or the auditor-general been included in action plans to improve performance in the following year?
Performance of municipal entities and municipal service providers.	The annual report of the municipality should yes. provide an assessment of the performance of the municipal entities and all contracted Refer to Chapter 3: Service Delivery service providers. This is in addition to the Performance, pages 136-143 (Table

	BE COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS AND IN QUESTIONS	RESPONSES/ COMMENTS
	separate annual reports of the entities.	10.3 Assessment of External Service
	The report should evaluate the effectiveness of these services and whether alternative mechanisms should be considered.	Providers 2022/23 Financial Year) of the 2022/23 Annual Report.
	Is the council satisfied with the evaluation and conclusions of the municipality?	
	What other actions are considered necessary to	
	be taken by the accounting officer?	
5. General information	The following general information is required to	be disclosed in the annual report.
Relevant information	The municipality should disclose all information	Not applicable. There are no
on municipal entities.	relating to the municipal entities under the sole	municipal entities.
	or effective control of the municipality.	
	Information to be disclosed includes names and	
	types of entities, members of the board,	
	addresses, and contact details for entities, the	
1	purpose of the entity, the functions, and	
	services provided the type and term of service	
	level agreements with the entities.	
ne use of any donor	What donor funding has the municipality N	Not Applicable. No donor funding
nding support.	received?	vas received.
	✓ Have the purposes and the management	
	agreements for the funding been properly	
	agreed upon?	
1,	Have the funds been used in accordance	
	with agreements?	
	Have the objectives been achieved?	
-	Has the use of funds been effective in	
	improving services to the community?	

INFORMATION REQUIRED TO INCLUDED ANNUAL REPORTS	BE COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS AND IN QUESTIONS	RESPONSES/ COMMENTS
	✓ What actions need to be taken to improve utilization of the funds?	
Agreements, contract and projects und Private-Public-Partnerships.	and to the details of municipal	with Uitkomst Colliery to build a
Service deliver performance on ke services provided.	. I addition	Refer to Chapter 3: Service Delivery Performance, pages 40-77 of the 2022/23 Annual Report.
Information on long- term contracts.	Details of all long town	Not applicable
nformation sechnology and systems purchases and the effectiveness of these systems in the delivery of	Details of significant IT activities should be outlined indicating the effectiveness of the IT projects and the quality of IT services. Council should consider how effectively the IT services support and facilitate performance of the municipality and whether value for money	 The ICT systems purchased SAGE for daily accounting transactions and PayDay for delivering Payroll and HR activities. For protecting the ICT System

	BE COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS AND IN QUESTIONS	RESPONSES/ COMMENTS
services and for ensuring compliance with statutor obligations.	, at the proposals should be	
Three year capital plan for addressing infrastructure backlogs in terms of the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) framework.	how these address the backlogs of services in the municipality should be provided. This should include details of types and scale of backlogs, projected cost implications, strategies to address the backlogs and plans proposed and/or approved. The summary here should cross reference to the performance reports in the annual report and also will be highlighted in the coming budgets. Council should consider whether the plans appropriately address the backlogs and are consistent with the strategic policy directions of council and needs of the community.	Only the year under review appearing on the SDBIP the 3 year capital plans are scrutinized by the municipality to be included in the 2024/25 IDP and 2023/24 Annual report.

INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE INCLUDED IN ANNUAL REPORTS Timing of reports. Oversight committee	AND AND	RESPONSES/ COMMENTS Yes
or other mechanism.	prepare the oversight report? Has a schedule for its completion and tabling been adopted?	The schedule was adopted
	Refer to Section 57 MSA as amended. Bonuses based on performance may be awarded to a municipal manager or a manager directly accountable to the municipal manager after the end of the financial year and only after an evaluation of performance and approval of such evaluation by the municipal council. Preferably such evaluation should be considered along with the annual report. The basis upon which performance is evaluated for payment of bonuses should be reconciled with the municipal performance reported in the annual report. Have bonuses been paid based on achievements of agreed outputs and after consideration of the annual report by council? If so has a proper evaluation of performance been undertaken? Was the evaluation approved by council? Does the performance evaluation align and reconcile with the performance reported in the annual report? If not, what reasons	Performance Bonuses were not paid to any Section 57 Managers due to the Municipal financial constraints.

INFORMATION REQUIRED TO INCLUDED ANNUAL REPORTS	N QUESTIONS	ND RESPONSES/ COMMENTS
APR	have been given for non-reporting of the basis of evaluation in the annual report? Are the payments justified in terms performance reported in the annual report? Reported achievement not supported be sufficient appropriate evidence, not valid accurate or complete.	of al Refer to Chapter 6: Auditor General

7. CONCLUSION

EMandlangeni Local Municipality

EMadlangeni Local Municipality attained an Unqualified Audit Outcome in the 2022/23 Financial Year. The MPAC has had the pleasure of seeing first-hand the efforts being put in by the Municipal administrative officials led by the Municipal Manager to produce a document that talks to the work being done by the Municipality. Local Government provides a dynamic environment for both the political and administrative officials and our Municipality is fortunate to be enjoying a period which shows the balance being struck between providing service delivery and ensuring compliance is maintained at the same time. The hard work of the Municipal Manager and her dedicated management team is clearly evident and it deserves much appreciation. Also mention must be given to council, the executive committee and members of the MPAC for the oversight role they played which ensured good governance was maintained.

Having performed the following tasks:

- Reviewed and analysed of the Annual Report;
- ✓ Invited, received, and considered inputs from Councilors and Portfolio Committees, on the Annual Report;
- ✓ Considered that no written comments were received on the Annual Report from the public consultation process;
- ✓ Received and considered Council's Audit Committee views and comments on the annual financial statements and the performance report; and
- Prepared the Draft Oversight Report, taking into consideration, the views and inputs of the public, representatives of the Auditor-General, organs of state, Council's Audit Committee, Councilors and CoGTA;

The Oversight Committee has pleasure in presenting the Oversight Report to Council to consider one of the following resolutions and then to be forwarded to the relevant Departments and Provincial Legislature:

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council having fully considered the Draft Annual Report of the eMadlangeni Local Municipality for the 2022/23 Financial Year, adopts the Oversight Report for the 2022/23 Financial Year with the following reservations:

- 1. That the Oversight report for 2022/23 be adopted by Council.
- 2. That the Oversight Report be made public in accordance with Section 129(3) of the Municipal Finance Management Act 56 of 2003.
- That the Oversight Report be submitted to the Provincial Legislature, National and Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs in accordance with Section 132(2) of the Municipal Finance Management Act 56 of 2003.