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# VISION

Together we strive for a unified, prosperous community where people are at the centre of development.

# MISSION

Council will achieve its vision to:

- establish a good and transparent Local Government
- provide equal, sustainable and affordable services to all
- enhance cooperation between all relevant stakeholders through community participation processes
- establish and improve social and economic development for all
- enhance sustainable environmental development



BREEDERIVER WINELANDS MUNICIPALITY

# THE VALUE SYSTEM

The eight *Batho Pele* Principles include:

- **Consultation** – the public should be consulted about the level and quality of public services they receive and, where possible, should be given a choice about the services offered.
- **Service Standards** – the public should be informed what level and quality of public service they will receive, so that they are aware of what they can expect.
- **Courtesy** – the public should always be treated with courtesy and consideration.
- **Access** – all members of the public should have equal access to services they are entitled to.
- **Information** – the public should have accurate information about the services they are entitled to receive.
- **Openness and Transparency** – the public should be told how administrations are run, how much they cost and who is in charge.
- **Redress** – if the promised service is not delivered the public should be offered an apology, a full explanation, and a speedy and effective remedy; when complaints are made, the public should receive a sympathetic and positive response.
- **Value for money** – public services should be provided economically and efficiently, in order to give the public the best possible value for money.



## BREEDERIVER WINELANDS MUNICIPALITY

### FOREWORD BY THE EXECUTIVE MAJOR



With the inception of the local government in 2006, the ANC promised the people of the Breede River Winelands/Langeberg municipal area an improvement of community services.

Yet housing still remains the biggest challenge in achieving the goal of a better life for all. Nevertheless, looking back two years down the line, greater strides have been made in addressing this problem. I am satisfied that each and every household now has running water, as well as sanitation in the municipal land. While we experience economic meltdown, certain towns such as Robertson is experiencing a boom in development and therefore also an increase in job opportunities.

Transformation was inevitable for the municipality as an organization in 2006 to meet the ever changing needs

of the inhabitants. I am therefore satisfied that we have almost achieving this goal. The unqualified audit opinion received from the Auditor-General in the last fiscal year made us proud and confident of our financial controls and management.

During the elections of 2009, the ANC promised to work together with the people and in doing so, it believes, a lot can be achieved. To this end we restructured and realigned our ward committees to reflect the constituency. Together with the ward councilors they champion the IDP processes and the PR Councilor substitute ward councilors as chairs of the ward committees. As an ongoing strategy to touch base, Mayoral Imbizos, Munithetha and radio interviews are a few of the initiatives, the municipality embarks upon, to communicate with the communities.

Councillor John Ngonyama  
Executive Major





The 2008/9 financial year was yet another outstanding year for the Breede River Winelands Municipality (BRWM) with many great achievements and successes. The Municipality achieved high standards of quality service delivery resulting to service excellence awards being awarded to the Breede River Winelands Municipality BRWM.

The BRWM was presented with the Cleanest Town in the Western Cape award and was automatically entered into the national competition to compete with the winners in other provinces. In this competition we won the title of the Cleanest Town in South Africa. The prize money was R 1 000 000, which will be utilised to buy equipment for the recently built state of the art recycling plant in Zolani and the other waste minimisation initiatives that have been implemented by the municipality.

As stated previously, service delivery is the municipality's main focus, as we want to ensure that we create a better life for all our citizens. There are huge service delivery challenges but we are determined to deal with them with a well-orchestrated service delivery plan. The following are some of the service delivery projects that have already been undertaken:

#### 1. Upgrade of Water Supply in Ashton

It is common knowledge that the quality of the water supply in the Ashton area was less than desirable, although it was safe for human consumption. During financial year under review this was upgraded and the quality of the water supply has substantially improved. This is only the first of a number of improvement projects that will be undertaken throughout the municipal area. We have a programme to upgrade the quality of the water supply in all towns within the jurisdiction of our municipal area.

#### 2. Building of Reservoirs

We all know that certain areas of Montagu and Mc Gregor have been experiencing water problems. It is with this in mind that we have built two new reservoirs; one in Montagu and another in Mc Gregor in order to improve the supply of water in the affected areas.

#### 3. Tarring of Roads

There are a high number of gravel roads in our municipal area, which results in inequity in service delivery. The municipal council decided that an annual allocation should be put aside in order to begin to deal with this challenge. During the reporting financial year we have tarred 2.078km

of gravel roads as opposed to the 1.6km we tarred in the previous financial year.

#### 4. Electricity Upgrades

In order to ensure that the municipality meets with the demands of economic growth, it has awarded a R 18 000 000 contract to upgrade the main feeder in the Robertson area. A further allocation has been made to upgrade the Maximum Notified Demand with Escom in order to provide more capacity to factories that have applied to expand their production capacity.

#### 5. Housing Delivery

After a long deliberation, the Provincial government has approved all our housing projects in Bonnivale, Zolani, Montagu, Robertson North and Nkqubela. These projects are now underway but we experienced problems with the contractor that was appointed to deliver the housing projects in Robertson North and Nkqubela. This necessitated us to cancel the contract and make use of small contractors within our municipal area. Whilst this approach is developmental and provides job opportunities for local contractors, it has its own challenges in many respects. Nevertheless, I am pleased to report that our intensive programme to provide housing opportunities for all is well underway.

#### 6. Municipal Viability

It is important to report that the Auditor-General has just completed his audit of our financial statements and records. He has given us an unqualified audit opinion. Furthermore, despite the bad economic times we find ourselves in, our revenue collection has increased from 94.8% in 2007/8 to 97.5% during the 2008/9 financial year. Our cost coverage ratio has increased from 4.05 to 4.59 and the ratio of outstanding debtors in relation to the revenue has decreased from 14.18 to 10.7.

#### Integrated Development Plan (IDP)

The IDP is the municipality's key development strategy. It guides both the community and staff with regards to resource allocation in line with the developmental needs of each ward. The IDP will guide us all in effective planning and implementation of service delivery in such a way that the BRWM will be a unified and prosperous community where people will be at the centre of (the) development(s).

We are extremely proud of our achievements in 2008/9 and we will continue to grow from strength to strength in the coming years.

S.A. Mokweni  
Municipal Manager

# Chapter One

Overview of towns of the Breede River Municipality  
Demographic Profile

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## CHAPTER ONE

### OVERVIEW OF THE TOWNS OF THE BREEDE RIVER WINELANDS MUNICIPALITY



“The municipal area consist of 3 334,52 km<sup>2</sup> which includes the towns, Ashton, Bonnievale, McGregor, Montagu, Robertson and surrounding rural areas”

#### **MCGREGOR**

The village of McGregor was laid out in 1861, the population then totaling 50. In 1894 a village management board was established and in 1907 the village became a municipality. McGregor was originally known as Lady Grey, but the name was changed in 1905, to avoid confusion with Lady Grey near Aliwal North. It was renamed in honour of the Rev Andrew McGregor, who had been the Dutch Reformed Church minister of the Robertson District for forty years.

#### **ASHTON**

With the completion of the railway line from Worcester to the coastal regions in 1887, the trading post, Roodewal,

became a railway station, and shortly afterwards was renamed Ashton, in honour of Job Ashton, director and railway engineer of the New Cape Central Railways (Ltd). For several years the settlement consisted of only a railway station, warehouse, hotel, post office, butchery, a little school, one shop and a few houses. During 1939 and 1940 extraordinary growth took place with the opening of the Langeberg Co-operative, resulting in the farmland being divided into plots. Development received a further boost with the establishment of a second canning factory in 1949. In 1956 Ashton gained municipal status.

#### **BONNIEVALE**

In 1902 a railway halt was constructed between Robertson and Swellendam and was called ‘Vale’. In 1917 the halt received full status as a railway station and was then called Bonnievale. In 1922 a village management board was elected. The town received full municipal status in April 1953.



**BREEDE RIVER WINELANDS MUNICIPALITY**

#### MONTAGU

Montagu, once known as 'Agter Cogman's Kloof', lies between the Keisie and Klngna Rivers. The only exit to the west was through Cogman's Kloof, and strong teams of horses or oxen were needed for the journey. John Montagu, the British Secretary of the Cape Colony based in Cape Town in the 1850s, envisaged the potential of the Cape Colony, but realised that it could never develop without efficient transport and communications. Montagu was aided by pioneering road engineers to create passes through the mountain barriers. Through his efforts, the country could be developed agriculturally and he became a popular figure. In Tribute to him the village was officially named Montagu in 1851 and he traveled there to 'baptize' the town.

It is not known when the springs were discovered, but early trekkers followed the course of rivers and some camped in the vicinity of present-day Montagu. They drank the clear, strangely-flavoured water, found it wonderfully refreshing and traced its course through the kloof to where they discovered the hot springs. News of the healing waters spread quickly and many visitors began to visit the area. The springs form part of the now popular Montagu Baths.

#### ROBERTSON

Robertson was founded in 1853 and named after Dr Robertson, then pastor at Swellendam.

Robertson is one of the largest wine-producing regions in the Republic: its most famous product is dry white table wine. At the local KWV distillery there are 128 stills, which must make it the largest in the world. Another important Industry is the factory of Food and Nutritional Products (Pty) Ltd., which manufactures condensed milk, among other products.

Because of the area's relatively low rainfall, there is intensive irrigation. About 25 km of irrigation canals, leading from the Breede River, carry water that is pumped by electricity as far as Montagu. Robertson is South Africa's first irrigation district.

Although the rural area is in extent much larger than the urban areas, the majority of the population reside in urban areas. As the agriculture sector is currently experiencing economic difficulties, it is envisaged that more people will move to 'be urban areas to seek employment. The spatial implication of this is that the residential need in the towns will increase with subsequent pressure on resources such as water and energy.

Land needs to be identified for small-scale farmers. The area is characterised by low rainfall and therefore water is a fairly scarce commodity. Currently, rural and urban uses compete for this commodity.

The Keisie is currently a major fruit-producing valley. However, the rural community is amongst the poorest in the region. Another challenge for the valley is sufficient water supplies to support any further development. Because the economy of the area depends largely on agriculture people are subject to seasonal income. Living standards are lowered to a large extent during the off-season. Problems within agriculture, such as the closure of production plants and factories, as well as surpluses in the wine industry, contribute to the poverty situation. The region's potential for tourism is well known and recent studies have highlighted various options for development in this regard. It forms part of the well-known Route 62.



## CHAPTER ONE

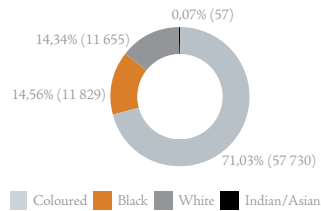
### OVERVIEW OF THE TOWNS OF THE BREEDE RIVER WINELANDS MUNICIPALITY

#### DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

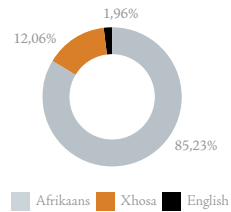
Population (2001 Census survey):

The demographic profile of the Breede River/Winlands Municipal Area:

##### POPULATION



##### LANGUAGE



##### LABOUR MARKET STATUS – 15 - 65

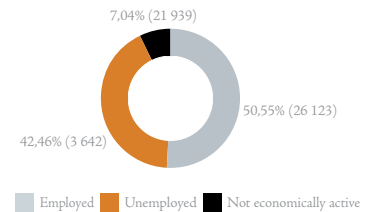


FIGURE 1 POPULATION

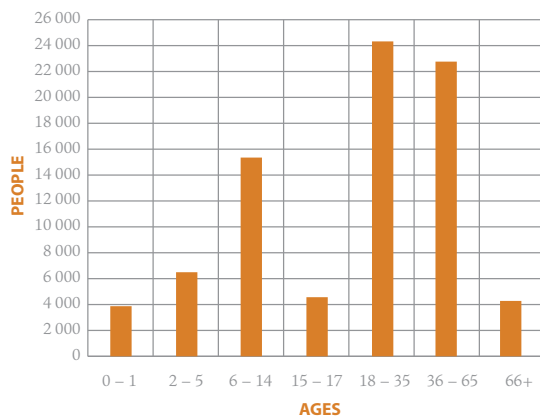


FIGURE 2 EDUCATION

