

## **FOREWORD BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR**

It is my privilege to issue the Langeberg Municipality's Annual Report for 2009/10 financial year.

The Langeberg Municipality has made a commitment to all its residents to improve the living standards in the municipal area. The political and administrative leadership identified the following aspects/areas to strengthen our commitment to the public:

1. Housing;
2. Economic development in order to create jobs and eradicate poverty;
3. Access to basic services, especially tarred roads, sanitation and potable water;
4. Communicating with our communities with regards to our policies, service delivery programs and achievements.

We acknowledge the fact that the Municipality is still faced with major challenges such as fighting poverty, unemployment, housing shortages, substance abuse and HIV/AIDS. All of these challenges are interrelated as they find their root causes in the socio-economic deprivation that the disadvantaged communities suffer in this region. Consequently, our priorities remain unchanged and are directed at addressing the root causes of these challenges.

I hereby wish to take this opportunity to thank the community for their involvement and continuous support. Without your input, our development initiatives would fail to address the challenges that we are facing. Although the Langeberg Municipality is faced with numerous challenges that need to be managed against the growing expectations of the community for improved service delivery, we will continue to strive to align and address these expectations through the successful implementation and management of our annual service delivery budget implementation plan.

My appreciation and acknowledgement goes out to all councillors for their dedication, significant input and valuable contributions. I also want to thank the Municipal Manager, Executive Management Team and dedicated officials who have contributed by preparing this report and for rendering a quality and effective service to our community.

It is an honor to present to you the Langeberg Municipality's Annual Report for the 2009/10 financial year as required in the terms of section 46 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 and section 121 of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003.

This annual report will provide you with an overview of the progress made in realizing our strategic objectives, the people who drove our efforts and the challenges and opportunities we have faced during the past financial year.

I thank you.

## **STATEMENT BY THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER:**

This annual report serves as a platform to account for the administrative performance of Langeberg Municipality.

This report encapsulates and reflects key successes, challenges and future plans towards creating a sustainable municipality and society that we can all be proud of.

Through this report, we highlight the high-level performance and report on Langeberg Municipality with respect to the programs and priorities outlined in the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and Service Delivery Budget and Implementation Plan (SDBIP). Moreover, it reports on the diligent steps we have taken towards the achievement of national imperatives, inter alia, Millennium Development Goals, Local Government Turn-Around Strategy priorities and Local Government Key Performance Areas.

Some of the corporate governance successes have included the compilation of financial statements using GRAPP standards, the establishment of the Oversight Committee, the effective functioning of the Internal Audit Committee and improved public participation through Imbizos and Ward Based Planning. The Auditor General has given the Municipality an unqualified audit opinion.

The municipality maintained a clean record for infrastructure development inter alia, through the tarring of 4617 meters of roads compared to 2078 in the previous year and the repair of approximately 5302 potholes throughout the municipality. To guarantee the sustainable provision of water, 7842,50 water networks were upgraded. A record of 100% basic service provision including water, electricity, sewage and solid waste remained unchanged and now there are no bucket toilets in the Municipality. Housing delivery has progressed with 211 subsidised low cost RDP houses built and Additional 377 houses are under construction.. This is a remarkable improvement from the 84 houses built during 2008/09.

Numerous strategies were implemented toward poverty alleviation and job creation through EPWP and Local Economic Development. There was an increase in the number of jobs created through the EPWP during the 2009/10 financial year with a total of 1254 job opportunities created compared to 376 in 2008/09

The current financial health of the organization remains sound, with 99.78% of the capital and 101.75% of the operation budget spent recorded. Moreover, the revenue collection against billing was 99.69%, which is slightly short of the 100% target.

Capacity and skills development remains paramount and fundamental in service delivery. The vacancy rate has decreased in the last FY to 5.7% with Langeberg Municipality retaining its full staff complement at Section 57 management level. Our focus has always been the recruitment and development of staff. The municipal budget spent on implementing workplace skills plans has improved, moving from 88% in 2008/09 to 93% in 2009/10.

The responsibility of risk management is shared by the Executive Management Team and the necessary steps are taken to ensure that risks are identify and addressed timely. Internal audit as well as the audit committee are key role-players in applying risk management in the municipality. A successful workshop regarding fraud prevention and anti-corruption were also held which was attended by all Directors and Managers.

The Municipality has maintained a positive service delivery record and I believe the 2010 World Cup legacy will further strengthen our efforts to provide infrastructure, basic service delivery and sustainable economic growth.

## **Vision**

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

## **Mission**

### **The 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

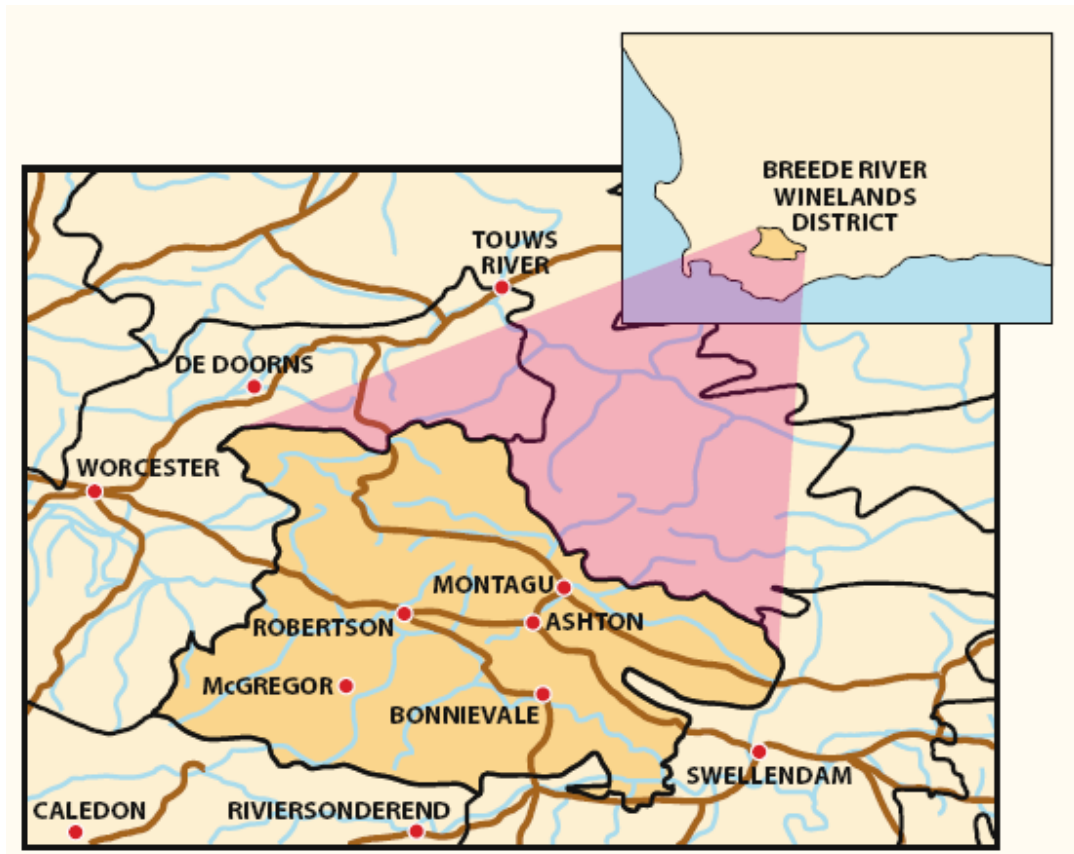
## **The Value System**

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 about 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 the 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.

## OVERVIEW OF THE TOWNS OF THE LANGEBERG MUNICIPALITY

“The municipal area consist of 3 334 52 km2 which includes the towns Ashton, Bonnievale, McGregor, Montagu, Robertson and the surrounding rural areas.”



### McGregor

The village of McGregor was built in 1861. At that time the population totaled 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 honor 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. Shortly afterwards it was renamed Ashton, in honor of Job Ashton, director and railway engineer of the New Cape Central Railways (Ltd). For several years the settlement only consisted of a railway station, warehouse, hotel, post office, butchers, 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. The 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 which was named '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.

## **Montagu**

Montagu, once known as 'Agter Cogman's Kloof', lies between the Keisie and Klingna 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 realized 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, strange-flavored water, found it wonderfully refreshing and traced its course through the Kloof 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.

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-peak 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.

## Robertson

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

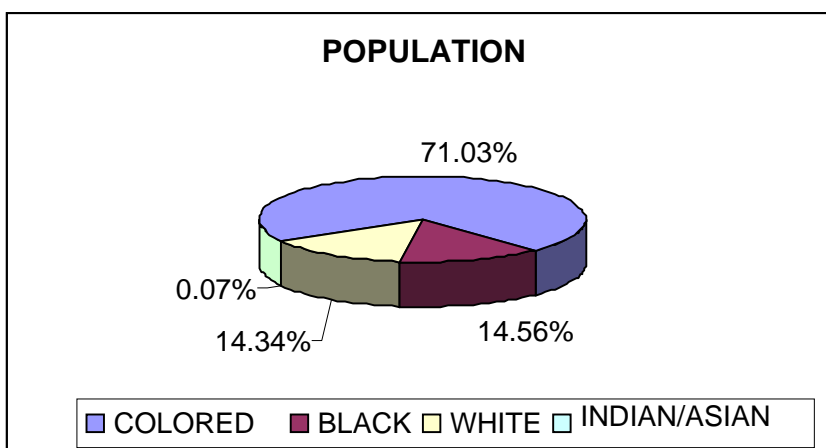
Robertson is one of the largest wine-producing regions in the Republic: its most famous product is dry white table wine. Because of the area's relatively low rainfall, there is intensive irrigation. About 25 km of irrigation canals, leading from the Langeberg Municipality, carry water that is pumped by electricity as far as Montagu. Robertson is South Africa's first irrigation district. Although the rural area is much larger than the urban areas, the majority of the population resides in urban areas. As the agriculture sector is currently experiencing economic difficulties, it is envisaged that more people will move to 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 characterized by low rainfall and therefore water is a fairly scarce commodity. Currently, rural and urban uses compete for this commodity.

### 1.2 Demographic Profile

#### Information on individuals

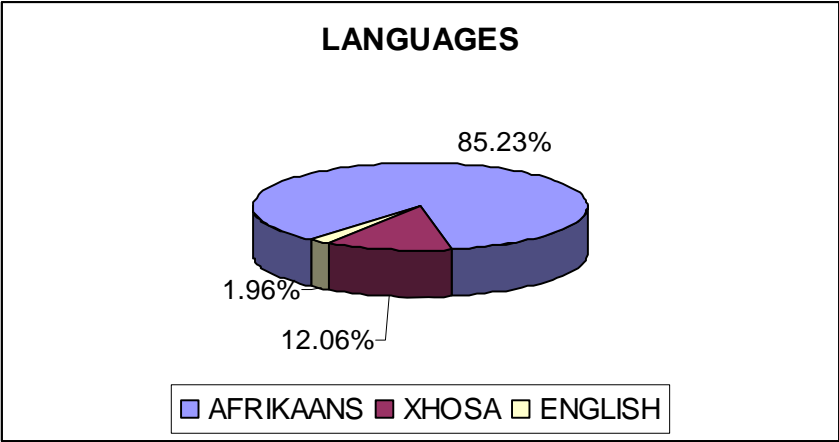
Population (2001 census survey):

The demographic profile of the Langeberg Municipal Area:



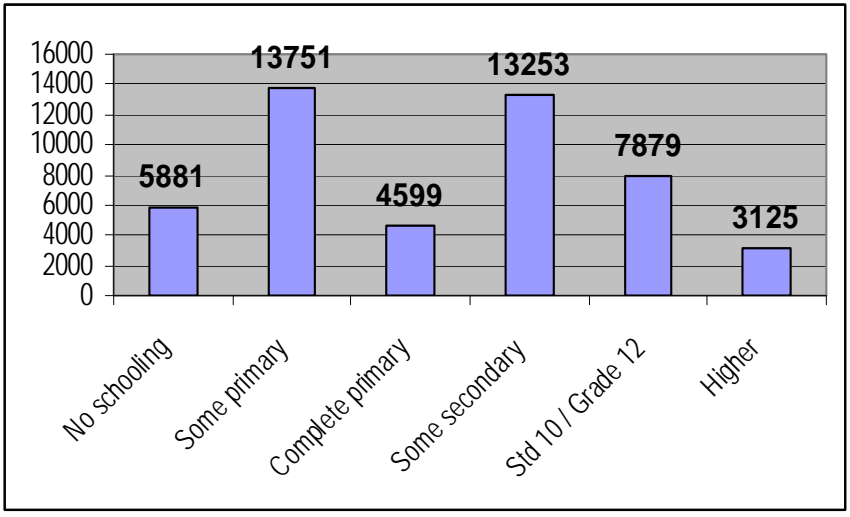
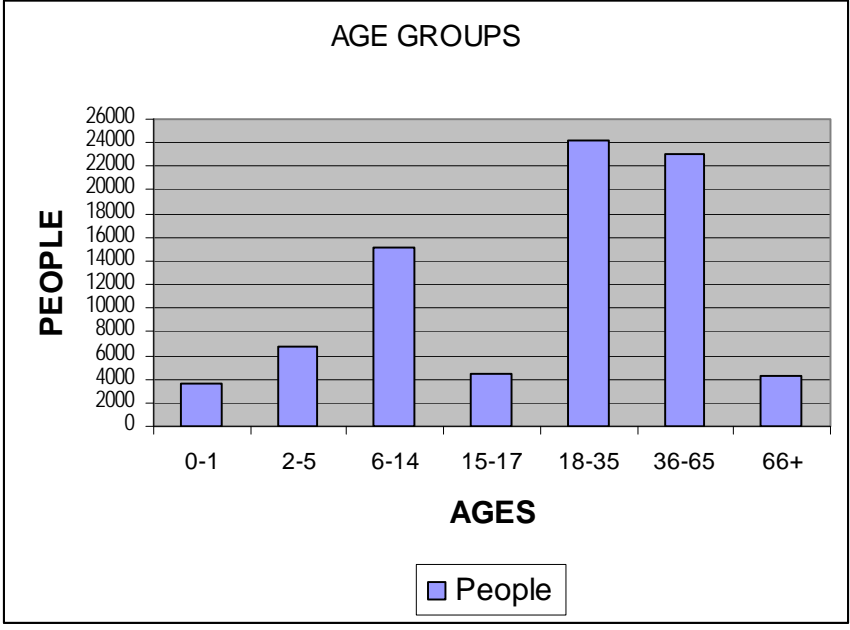
#### Ethnic groups

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| Colored      | 57 730        |
| Black        | 11 829        |
| White        | 11 655        |
| Indian/Asian | 57            |
| <u>Total</u> | <u>81 271</u> |



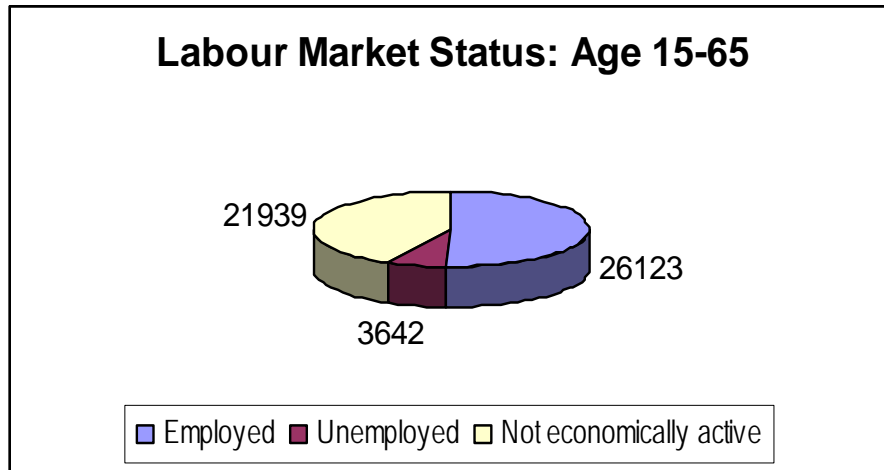
**Languages**

|           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| Afrikaans | 85,23% |
| Xhosa     | 12,06% |
| English   | 1,96%  |





|              |              |                  |                |                 |        |
|--------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------|
| No schooling | Some primary | Complete primary | Some secondary | Std 10/Grade 12 | Higher |
| 5881         | 13751        | 4599             | 13253          | 7879            | 3125   |



|   |          |            |                         |
|---|----------|------------|-------------------------|
| Labor market status of those aged 15-65 years | Employed | Unemployed | Not economically active |
|   | 26123    | 3642       | 21939                   |