



LANGEBERG MUNICIPALITY
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
2012 - 2016

DRAFT
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Youth Development Strategy is the culmination of hard work and commitment by many people:

The efforts of past and present Councillors, Municipal Manager, Directors and staff are greatly appreciated.

Finally, the Youth Development Strategy would not have been possible without the cooperation and collaboration of the youth of the Langeberg Municipality who gave freely of their time and effort. It is hoped that this Strategy will go a long way to express and address their challenges, experiences and aspirations. It should be use as a guiding tool to assist young people in become active and responsible citizens.

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ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
EU	European Union
FAMSA	Family Association of South Africa
FBO	Faith-Based Organisation
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
IEC	Information, Education, Communication
KAP	Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices
LED	Local Economic Development
LM	Langeberg Municipality
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PLHA	People Living with HIV and AIDS
SANCO	South African National Civic Organisation

SETA	Sector Education Training Authority
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNAID	United Nations Aid Funding
USAID	United States Aids Funding
NYP	National Youth Policy
NYDA	National Youth Development Agency
VCT	Voluntary Counselling and Testing

1. OVERVIEW

Our **vision** is to create a stable living environment and sustainable living conditions for all citizens.

We **aim** to achieve this by placing our people at the centre of development. In striving to achieve this vision, the Langeberg Municipality (LM) is committed to engaging with the youth to work towards the implementation of this strategy.

The aims of the Youth Development Strategy are:

1. To enable and encourage the youth to play a meaningful and participatory role in government and civic affairs.
2. To create an enabling environment for the youth to become economically viable and engage in their own and their communities' upliftment.
3. To reduce the rate of, and the impact of new HIV/Aids infections, amongst the youth.
4. To reduce the level of drug and alcohol abuse amongst the youth.
5. To restore cultural pride and indigenous knowledge systems within a human rights based framework.
6. To establish partnerships that will allow for the delivery of a comprehensive range of interventions.

The overall vision for youth development in the Langeberg area is: **Fully empowered and united youth involved in socio-economic development and in the provision of sustainable youth-friendly services in partnership with relevant stakeholders, resulting in a healthy society, decreased levels of HIV and AIDS, crime and abuse.**

2. PROBLEM STATEMENT

South Africa has a young population, 39% of the population are between the ages of 14 and 35, who face many challenges. These challenges facing youth across South Africa, including LM, include the following:

- Susceptibility to social ills such as HIV/Aids, crime, gangsterism, teenage pregnancy and substance abuse.
- Unemployment and lack of employment opportunities
- School drop outs
- Apathy and lack of engagement with government with respect to development
- Lack of focus on youth issues by government, due to a need to prioritise scarce resources.

LM has acknowledged this problem by including Youth Development as an integral part of the Strategic Plan 2012 - 2016. Strategic Objective 7 – Social and Community Development

- **Facilitate educational and outreach programmes for the youth**
- **Implement career guidance, raising of HIV/Aids awareness, educational and exhibition programmes**
- **Disseminate of bursary and job creation information**
- **Record keeping system of workshops, assistance, enquiries and number of projects implemented**

3. BACKGROUND

The purpose of this strategy is to provide a guiding framework for youth development in LM as both a service provider and a catalyst for change. This document has been drafted in alignment with the Integrated Youth Development Strategy for South Africa, the National Youth Development Policy Framework (2002 – 2007), and the National Youth Policy (2009 - 2014).

3.1 Youth in South Africa

This Youth Development Strategy is directed towards young males and females between the ages of 14 and 35 years. This age group is determined by The National Youth Commission Act (1996).

In South Africa as a whole, according to Census 2001, 40.8 percent of youth were unemployed (33 percent male and 49.4 percent female), which remained about the same as in 1996 (40.9 percent). The highest unemployment rates were recorded for youth classified as African females, both in urban and rural areas.

United Nation World Program of Action for Youth (2000 and beyond): The United Nation World Program of Action for Youth is aimed at ensuring the well being of young women and men and their full and active participation in the society in which they live. Its principle and purpose have helped to inform the National Youth Policy at many levels.

3.2 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (2000)

South Africa, as a member of the United Nation, has pledge to ensure delivery of the United Nations Millennium Goals. The Millennium Goals have specific targets to be attained by 2015. These are:

1. Eradicate hunger and poverty;
2. Achieve universal primary education;
3. Promote gender equity and empower woman;
4. Reduce child mortality;
5. Improve maternal health;
6. Combat HIV and AIDS, malaria and other disease;
7. Ensure environmental stability; and
8. Develop global partnership for development.

3.3 Commonwealth Youth Charter (2005)

The commonwealth Youth Charter provides guidelines for the development of national youth policies in all Commonwealth countries towards creating societies where young women and men are empowered to develop their creativity, skills and potential as productive and dynamic members. It promotes the full participation of young women and men at every level of decision-making and development, individually and collectively).

It recognizes the following principles and values for youth development:

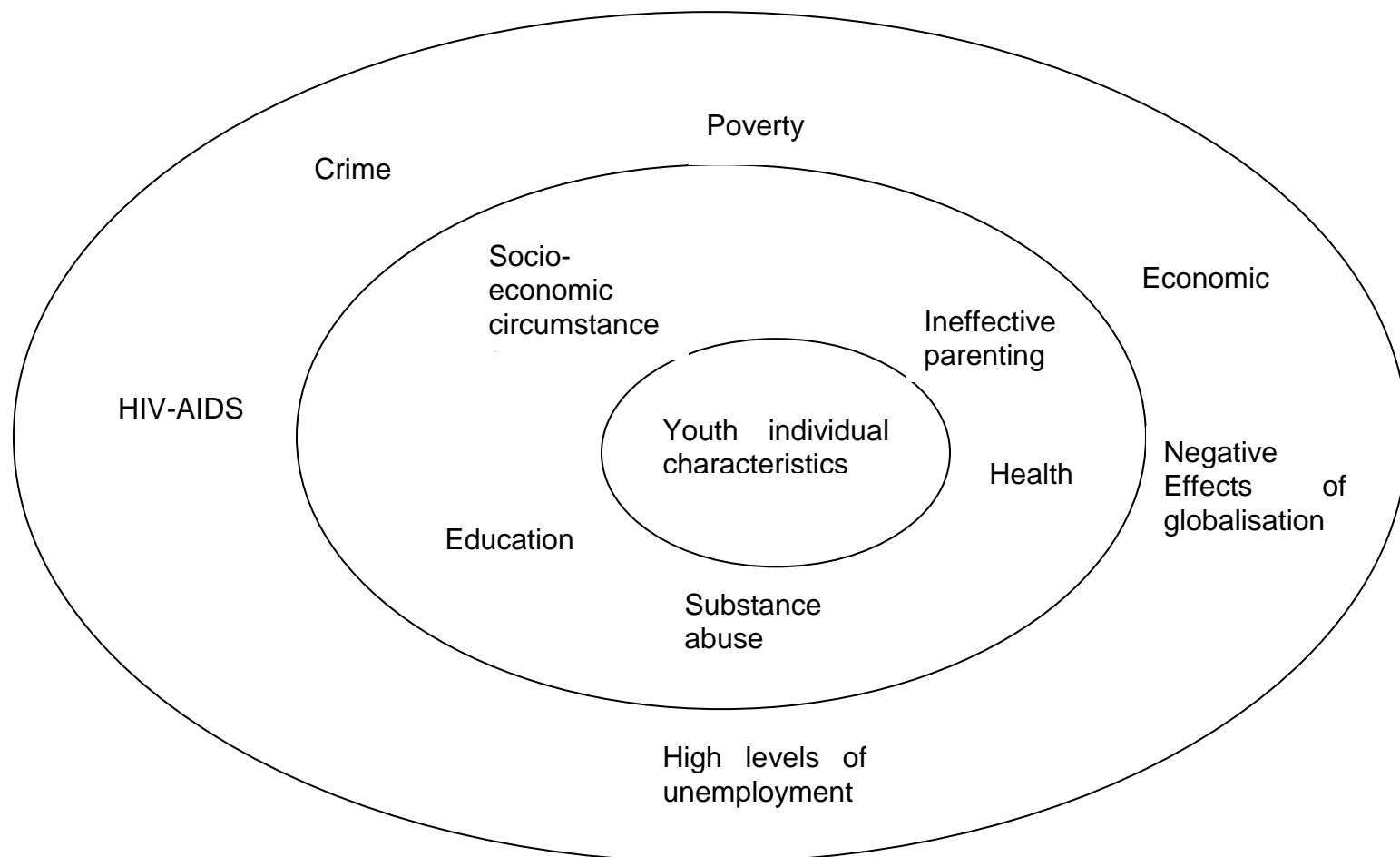
1. Gender inclusively: a commitment to implement the 1995 Commonwealth Plan of Action on Gender and Development, which focuses on increasing women participation as well as integrating gender concerns in all activities;
2. Empowerment: a commitment to equity and access to resources in achieving equality and participation in decision making and action for all youth, regardless of gender, geographic location, social, cultural or economic circumstances;
3. Human rights: a commitment to extending the benefits of development within a framework of respect for human rights
4. Sustainability: a commitment to sustainable development and the alleviation of poverty through philosophies and actions espoused in the Harare Declaration (1991)
5. Integration: a commitment to the integration of the concerns, issues and aspiration of young women and men into the mainstream of all local, provincial, national and international activities.

Emanating from the Commonwealth Youth Charter is the Commonwealth Plan of Action for Youth Empowering (PAYE); 2007-2015. This Plan of Action targets three strategic programme areas for youth:

1. Youth Enterprise and Sustainable Livelihoods: an integrated package of micro-credit, enterprise training and business support targeted at young women and men with potential for self-employment;
2. Youth Work, Education and Training: a programme dedicated to professionalizing youth work, building a body of specialist knowledge for youth development work
3. Governance, Development and Youth Networks: a programme aimed at promoting youth participation in policy making.

3.4 African Youth Charter (2005)

The Charter draws from various international agreements and commitments. The Charter commits African governments to ensuring that issues affecting youth in the areas of employment, sustainable livelihood, peace, security, law enforcement, education, health, youth participation, national youth policy, and youth with disabilities, among others, are adequately addressed within the framework of national youth policy and youth development programming initiatives.



The issues and challenges relating specifically to the marginalisation of youth are represented graphically in diagram 1 and described in more detail below.

1. Personal, individual or psychological factors such as self-esteem and confidence
2. Disempowered, uninvolved, demotivated and unqualified parents.
3. Political factors such as race, which is evident in the fact that White, Coloured, Asian and Black African youth, have different burning issues.
4. Educational and social factors, for example, young people's experience that the education system does not equip them adequately for a post, modern technocratic world and global economy.
5. A dysfunctional community structure such as gangsterism which offers a sense of belonging and alternative family support structure and perpetuates a culture of crime as an alternative to legitimate means of economic participation.
6. Rising levels of violence and crime resulting in the incarceration of potential economic participants. It is even more difficult for those with a criminal record to enter the job market and to reintegrate into society.
7. Pervasive impact of the illegal drug trade. In the case of the Western Cape, the Tik pandemic is widespread. Drug dependence affects the youth physically and psychologically and impedes their capacity for learning and contributing to society.
8. High and rising levels of unemployment, contributing to the persistently high levels of poverty which further affect education, morale, and culture.
9. Negative effects of globalisation and the widening gap between rich and poor nations. In South Africa, socio-economic disparity reinforces inequality.
10. HIV-AIDS affects the labour force in terms of both confidence and investment. The pandemic also affects education in that the AIDS pandemic has accelerated attrition rate of teachers. In 2005, 12,7% of teachers were HIV positive.

These challenges were confirmed and added in focussed group discussions:
(See Figure 2: Challenges faced by the Youth)

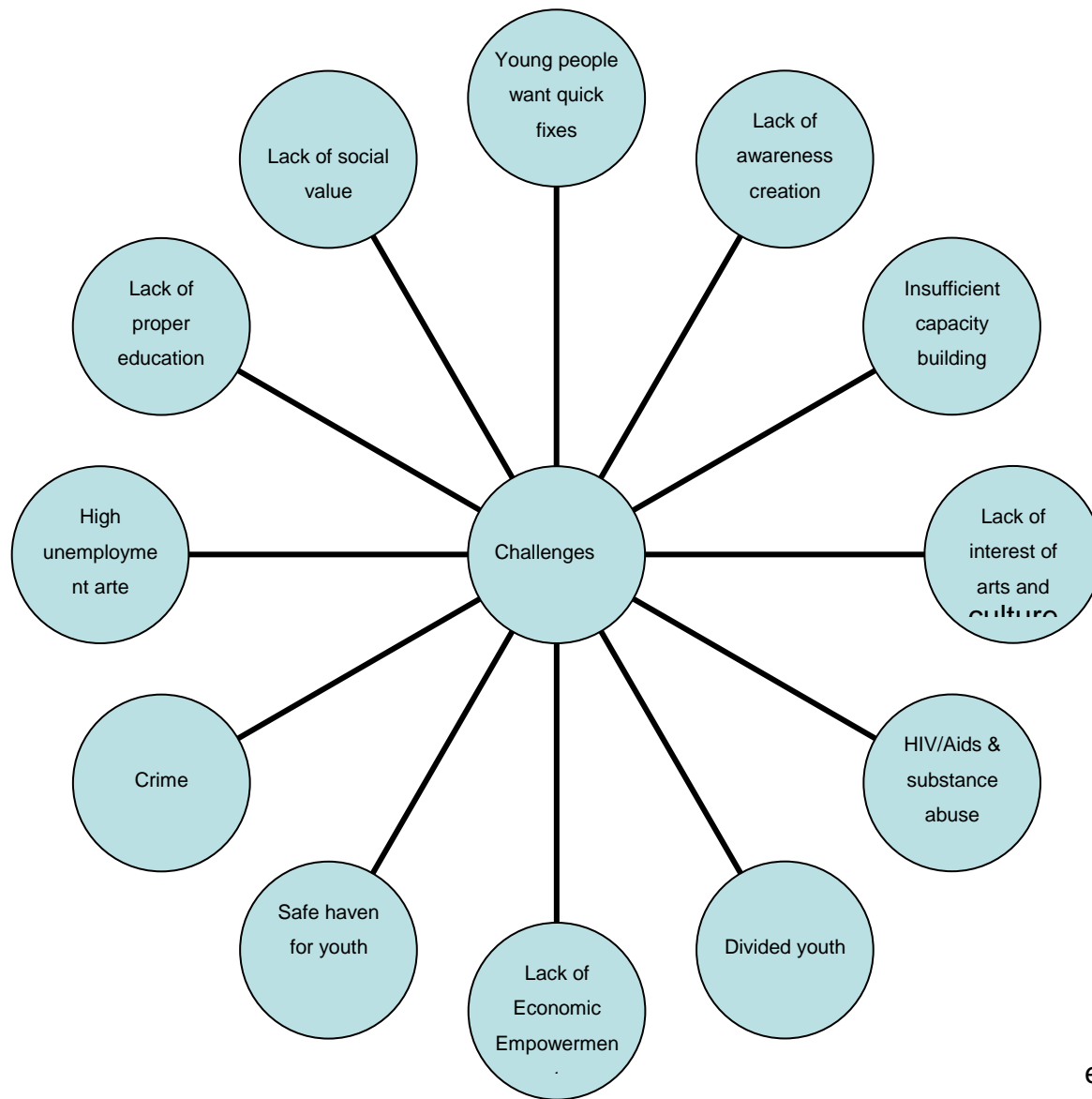


Figure 1 Challenges

3.5 Approaches to Youth Development

3.5.1. A Positive Approach

The attitude towards youth and youthfulness should be more positive, in terms of the opportunities and resources young people present, as opposed to viewing youth as a problem: (Young people's aspiration, energy, enthusiasm, skills and knowledge are part of South Africa's greatest national asset)

Programmes addressing youth development, when viewed through this lens, will view solutions in terms of facilitating capacity, as opposed to neutralising a threat.

3.5.2 A Holistic Approach

Youth development should be viewed holistically. The aim should be to create a driving force that forges youth empowerment in youth's every environment. It should not be seen merely in terms of narrowly defined projects, programmes and initiatives. Youth development should be approached as part of the development of the whole society, and should not be seen in isolation.

3.5.3 A PRIORITISED APPROACH

There should be a strong and specific representation of the youth agenda within the arena of economic development. Also calls for an integrated youth development approach. Although it is part of an entire development strategy and a holistic approach should be adopted, there is a need to prioritise youth as a target group, or it will be swallowed.

3.5.4 A Coherent Approach

Youth development programmes should operate with a spirit of co-operation and cohesion. It is important to consolidate, mobilise and build on the strength of the youth development sector. This will be achieved by aiming for coherence in the roles, institutions and capacities needed for youth development. The youth development landscape in general should be scoped. Areas of success and failure should be documented and the experience and network of existing youth structures across programme and departments should be built on.

3.5.5 A Diversity-Sensitive Approach

The diversity of youth must be factored into the policy and practice related to youth development. Marginalised groups within the youth population must be identified and assisted. Even within the targeted group of youth, there exist areas of discrimination and marginalisation.

The youth is not a homogenous category. There are minority subgroups within the youth such as females, disabled, rural and black youth of lower socio-economic status. These subgroups are subject to unequal power relationships that could hamper effect on their economic participation. For example, an issue that was identified as needing addressing was that young women must be empowered to become economically active and to succeed in conventionally male careers. Youth need to be aware of their own attitudes and behaviours towards these subgroups.

3.5.6 An Empowerment-Based Approach

The goal should be that Young people are empowered when they have and can create choices, make an informed decision freely, take action based on that decision and accept responsibility for the consequences of that action (Commonwealth plan for action, 2005, in Charles, 2006). This approach is favoured above the less sustainable social security solution. While social security helped relieve poverty, it was not sustainable and there was the real issue that it did not help people exit a life of poverty. In fact it would pass on poverty to the next generation.

3.6 HIV and AIDS in South Africa

Sub-Saharan Africa faces the brunt of the AIDS pandemic. South Africa is one of the hardest hit countries. Youth are particularly vulnerable to HIV and AIDS. As the most sexually active group, youth have become the fastest growing HIV infected population.^[2] Young women are particularly vulnerable due to physiological and other reasons such as abuse and exploitation. Even if they are not infected, young people are often affected by HIV and AIDS as parents and caregivers get sick and die.

HIV and AIDS has been projected to undermine a number of development gains that have been made in South Africa. For example, average life expectancy in South Africa is projected to fall from about 60 to 40 years. It is projected that by 2010 there will be 2.3 million orphans who have lost either one or both parents to AIDS.^[3]

3.7 Youth in Langeberg Municipality

LM is experiencing a number of youth related problems including HIV and AIDS; gangsterism, vandalism and crime; teenage pregnancy; alcohol and substance abuse; and young people not completing their schooling.

3.8 Local Government Mandate on Youth

3.8.1 National Legislation and Policy

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa lays the foundation for the governance of South Africa. The Preamble and Bill of Rights make it clear that South Africa is to, focus on the principles of human rights and deal with the inequalities of the past. While it does not speak to youth specifically, the Bill of Rights must guide all development programmes.

The mandate of local government comes from various legislation and policy. The White Paper on Local Government, the Municipal Structures Act and the Municipal Systems Act all call for active citizen participation in the functioning of local government. In addition, all three spheres of government - national, provincial and local - are to work together to ensure a better life for all people. Since the last phase of municipal transformation in December 2000, all people live in municipalities; as such, local government is the sphere of government closest to the people, where most development policies can be implemented to make a difference in communities, including youth.

The National Youth Development Agency Act recognises the need *“to redress the imbalances of the past and a national youth policy has been finalised, aimed at empowering the youth and allowing them to realise their full potential through optimum access to opportunities.”*

The objectives of the National Youth Development Agency include, amongst others, to:

- To develop principles and guidelines and make recommendations to the government regarding such principles and guidelines, for the implementation of an integrated national youth policy;
- To coordinate, direct and monitor the implementation of such principles and guidelines as a matter of priority; and
- To promote a uniformity of approach by all organs of state, including provincial government, to matters relating to or involving the youth.

The vision of the National Youth Policy is: **“Integrated, holistic and sustainable youth development, conscious of the historical imbalances and current imbalances and current realities, to build a non-sexist, non-racist, democratic south Africa in which young people and their organisation not only enjoy and contribute to their full potential in the social, economic and political spheres of life but also recognise and develop their responsibilities to build a better life for all .”**

The National Youth Policy 2009-2014 states that: “The National Youth Policy is an essential planning tool guiding the country on its approach to youth development. The Youth Policy appeals to youth to mobilise resources and participate in national development objectives. It places their needs and aspirations at the centre of national development.

The National Youth Development Policy Framework 2002-2007 articulates a cross-section of policy guidelines and strategic interventions. The Framework states that “youth development is part of building of non-sexist, non-racist, democratic South Africa and it should be approached in a similar manner and with similar vigour as other crucial areas in need of transformation.”

3.8.2 Provincial Legislation and Policy

The functions of the Western Cape Youth Commission are to represent the interests of youth in the province; promote youth development; and assist in coordination of youth development activities. Thus, the provincial Youth Commission and municipalities are to work together to address youth issues in the province.

3.8.3 Integrated Development Plan

LM Integrated Development Plan (IDP) sets out the future direction for the Municipality. Development in compliance with the Municipal Systems Act, the strategies in the IDP crosses departmental divisions by linking all components of planning and development with a management and implementation structures. Further, the IDP integrates the Municipality's future direction with different spheres of government as well as service providers and residents. The IDP is therefore a management tool for the municipality's administration and for the development of partnership and strategic alliances on different levels.

4 LANGEBERG MUNICIPALITY STRATEGIC RESPONSES

4.1 Challenges and Opportunities

Several key factors were identified as presenting challenges to the successful implementation a Youth Development Strategy, as well as opportunities to overcome some of these challenges. These include the following:

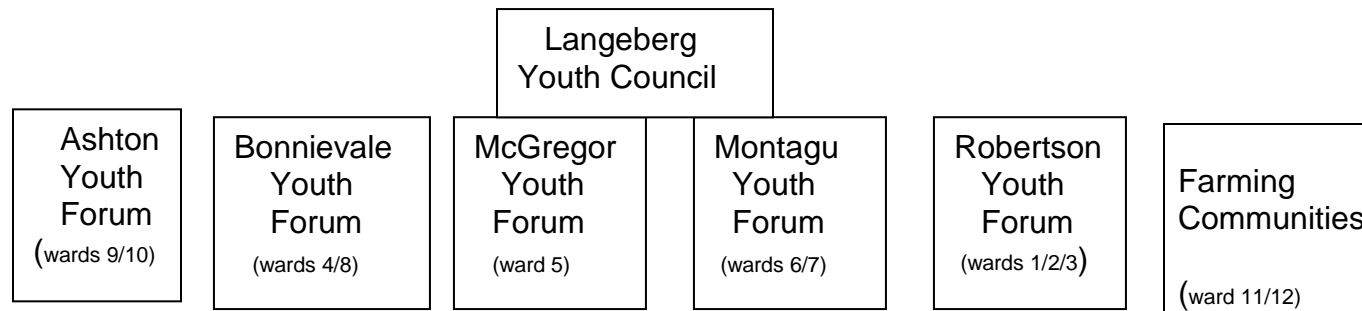
1. Strong political leadership and commitment has been shown to be crucial to success. The commitment to youth has already been shown by the Mayor and Municipal Manager of Langeberg Municipality . This commitment needs

to continue, and importantly, a budget needs to be made available to ensure that youth issues are firmly placed on the Municipality's agenda.

2. There is clearly a lack of understanding of roles, responsibilities, mandates and functions at local, district, provincial and national government levels. This results in frustration by many youth and community members as they believe that the Municipality is not delivering. It is crucial that the Municipality provide information, wherever and whenever possible, on the spheres and mandates of government as stated in various pieces of subordinate legislation.
3. There is a need to move away from an "entitlement mentality" whereby people demand and wait for those things to which they feel they are entitled, without being willing to get involved in their own development or pay for the services being delivered.
4. There is a need to involve multi-racial youth in all activities. This has been a challenge in the past and will need to be addressed in order that all youth take "ownership" of the process and the strategy.
5. There is a need to focus on the specific needs of rural youth, young women and disabled youth and the particular vulnerabilities that they are face with. The activities may need to be adapted to take into account these young people. At the same time, this provides an opportunity for the LM rural youth, young women and disabled youth who are better resourced who can mentor youth from other municipalities.
6. There is an opportunity in LM to establish a well organised and capacitated youth movement that is able to engage with the Municipality and participate in its own development. In addition, there is potential to formulate a fully functioning youth council that articulate the needs of youth in LM. The youth in LM can use their relative advantage to mentor youth in other organisations and municipalities.
7. Some of the goals have, through community consultation, identified activities that are overlapping and therefore can be used by the Municipality to achieve different objectives. For example, the promotion of sport can be used as a means to raise awareness on HIV and AIDS, on drugs and alcoholism and to disseminate information about the Municipality and its roles and functions.

5 Formal Youth Structure for Langeberg Municipality

To establish Youth Forums in all the different Wards in the Langeberg Municipality. The structure should take the following format:



Youth Forums must consist of representatives from the following spheres of society: Education, Sport, Youth in Business, Social Welfare, Faith Based Organizations, Arts and Culture, NGO Structures, Government Departments, Safety and Security, Local Government.

Two representatives from each Youth Forum will have representavity on the Youth Council. The Youth Council will be structured as follows:

Chairperson, Deputy Chair, General Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer and five(5) additional members.

5 LANGE BERG MUNICIPALITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Vision and Strategy

The long-term vision of the Youth Development Strategy is:

Fully empowered and united youth involved in socio-economic development and in the provision of sustainable youth-friendly services in partnership with relevant stakeholders, resulting in a healthy society, decreased levels of HIV and AIDS, crime and abuse.

The aims of the Youth Development Strategy are:

1. To enable and encourage the youth to play a meaningful and participatory role in government and civic affairs.
2. To create an enabling environment for the youth to become economically viable and engage in their own and their communities' upliftment.
3. To reduce the rate of, and the impact of new HIV/Aids infections, amongst the youth.
4. To reduce the level of drug and alcohol abuse amongst the youth.
5. To restore cultural pride and indigenous knowledge systems within a human rights based framework.
6. To establish partnerships that will allow for the delivery of a comprehensive range of interventions.

LM commits itself to developing and implementing a range of strategies in partnership with other organisations/institutions in order to ensure youth are empowered in the Municipality. In order to achieve these aims and the long-term vision, specific goals are as follows:

Goal 1: Comprehensive youth economic development by focusing on skills development and accessibility to resources .

Goal 2: Partnerships with youth organizations are established to bridge the communication gap between youth, communities and the Municipality about their respective roles, responsibilities and services.

Goal 3: Existing health services are improved and new and innovative programmes especially on HIV and AIDS.

Goal 4: Effective life skills programmes for youth to encourage health seeking behaviour.

Goal 5: Mechanisms for cultural preservation and cultural diversity are promoted.

The strategic priorities are aligned with the Provincial Youth Development Strategy, the National Youth Development Strategy and Framework and as well as the Cape Winelands Youth Strategy taking into accounts the specificities and issues requiring focus in LM, including the urban and peri-urban nature of the Municipality.

While the strategic plans that follow indicate broadly what is to be done, details of how this will be achieved, targets and the detailed budget considerations will be developed in the next phase of planning and consultation in the Municipality, taking into consideration the priorities in the IDP and also the need for extra-budgetary resources. It is crucial that the next phase, that of developing a Plan of Action, is undertaken as soon as possible in an effort to build on the existing momentum.

Statistics

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF YOUTH IN THE LANGEORG AREA - BASED ON CENSUS 2001

FEMALE

	<u>15-19</u>	<u>20-24</u>	<u>25-29</u>	<u>30-34</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>BLACK</u>	569	610	704	546	2 429
<u>COLOURED</u>	2 859	2 460	2 537	2 759	10 615
<u>ASIAN/INDIAN</u>	0	0	0	6	6
<u>WHITE</u>	425	220	325	341	1 311
<u>TOTAL</u>	3 853	3 290	3 566	3 652	14 361

MALE

	<u>15-19</u>	<u>20-24</u>	<u>25-29</u>	<u>30-34</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>BLACK</u>	540	610	653	531	2 334
<u>COLOURED</u>	2 685	2 130	2 269	2 446	9 530
<u>ASIAN/INDIAN</u>	0	0	0	5	5
<u>WHITE</u>	338	239	307	343	1 227
<u>TOTAL</u>	3 563	2 979	3 229	3 325	13 096

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF YOUTH IN THE LANGEBERG AREA - BASED ON CENSUS 2001

MALE AND FEMALE

	<u>15-19</u>	<u>20-24</u>	<u>25-29</u>	<u>30-34</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>BLACK</u>	1 109	1 220	1 357	1 077	4 763
<u>COLOURED</u>	5 544	4 590	4 806	5 205	20 145
<u>ASIAN/INDIAN</u>	0	0	0	11	11
<u>WHITE</u>	763	459	632	684	2 538
<u>TOTAL</u>	7 416	6 269	6 795	6 977	27 457

PERCENTAGE OF YOUTH PER POPULATION GROUP IN THE LANGEBERG AREA - BASED ON CENSUS 2001

MALE AND FEMALE

BLACK	17.42
COLOURED	73.31
ASIAN/INDIAN	0.04
WHITE	9.23
TOTAL	100.00

Implementation

The LM Council needs to take the lead in creating partnerships, supporting multi-sectoral initiatives, facilitating buy-in from all concerned and securing the resources needed to achieve the goals.

Internally, the Strategy must be housed and driven from the Office of the Director: Strategy and Social Development and the Portfolio Head. The ultimate goal is to mainstream youth issues and thus the Youth Development Strategy into all Directorates within LM, and embrace and nurture multi-sectoral initiatives and partnerships.

6 SOURCES CONSULTED

Cape Winelands District Municipality Youth Development Strategy 2008

National Youth policy 2009-2014

Statistics South Africa, 2001, *The Youth of South Africa*

UNAIDS, 2004, *Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic*

Integrated Development Plan of LM

National Youth Development Policy Framework 2002-2007

Legislation

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, No. 108 of 1996

The National Youth Commission Act, No. 19 of 1996

The Municipal Structures Act, No. 117 of 1998

The Municipal Systems Act, No. 32 of 2000