



**MANGAUNG**  
METRO MUNICIPALITY  
METRO MUNISIPALITEIT  
LEKGOTLA LA MOTSE

**DIRECTORATE  
ENGINEERING SERVICES**

Directorate Engineering Services

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*Our Ref:*

*Your Ref:*

*Email:*

Date: 22 May 2018

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**The Speaker**

**Cllr. Mxolisi Siyonzana**

**COUNCIL ITEM: UNFORESEEN AND UNAVOIDABLE EXPENDITURE REPORT:  
MUNICIPAL FINANCE MANAGEMENT ACT (2003).**

**1. Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval of unforeseen and unavoidable expenditure in the implementation of emergency vacuuming programme for Ventilated Pit Latrine (VIP) Toilets.

**2. Background**

Access to adequate and basic sanitation is fundamental to personal dignity and security, social and psychological well-being of our citizens and public health. The Local Government: Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000 (Municipal Systems Act) outlines the responsibilities of municipalities and it is clear that basic sanitation forms part of the "right to basic municipal services" outlined in section 73 of the Act.

Mangaung Metro Municipality has committed itself to eradicate the sanitation backlog, which includes the eradication of all bucket and Ventilate Improved Pit Latrine (VIP) toilets. A sanitation service level survey in 2015 indicated that approximately 58 650 sites still needs to be provided with waterborne sanitation. The programme requires a parallel process of incremental increase of bulk capacity to accommodate the additional connections by extending the current Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTWs).

| Area/ Region                            | Bucket Backlog | VIP Backlogs |
|---|----------------|--------------|
| Botshabelo                              | 867            | 27 000       |
| Bloemfontein                            | 339            | 3 000        |
| Thaba Nchu                              |                | 17 000       |
| Soutpan                                 | 60             |              |
| Detwesdorp, Van Stadensrus and Wepener. | 140            | 200          |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>1406</b>    | <b>47020</b> |

**Table 1: Ventilated Pit Latrines Backlogs**

The largest constraint of this programme is the availability of funding given the large financial requirements.

Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality has over the years implemented the basic sanitation programme that is aimed at the eradication of bucket and VIP toilet and expansion of Waste Water Treatment Works. There are a number of Ventilated Pit Latrines (VIPs) within Mangaung Metro Municipality (MMM) especially in Thaba Nchu and Botshabelo. In the past the Free State Provincial Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) assisted MMM with the provision of honey sucking services by procuring the services of providers and paying for the rendered services. This intergovernmental arrangement was unfortunately terminate and the city had to internally provide the service.

### **3. Discussion and Motivation**

A Ventilated Improved Pit Latrine (VIP) is a dry on-site sanitation system consisting of a well ventilated top-structure (with a ventilation pipe and fly screen) built over a pit in which organic material decomposes and requires regular maintenance to avoid hygienic and safety challenges. The operation and maintenance of the VIP sanitation system requires dispatch of so-called "honey sucking" trucks to empty the toilets at regular interval. Due to limited internal fleet and ever- increasing maintenance backlog, the Engineering Services experience serious limitation to keep up with the VIP servicing backlogs in the last quarter of 2017, in particular in Thaba Nchu and Botshabelo. The situation was exacerbated by the fact that we were entering the festive season period and the unhygienic and unsafe conditions created by the lack of suction of the VIPs has created an emergency at the affected areas. Furthermore, the city experienced heavy rainfall during the said period, which aggravated the situation on the ground and led a need for emergency vacuuming commencing from the 22 December 2017 (on the eve of the Christmas break). The emergency and health hazards posed to the community



necessitated an urgent intervention and deviation aimed at avoiding a potentially catastrophic situation on the ground and within our locality.

To fast-track, the vacuuming of VIPs in Thaba Nchu and Botshabelo the services of the following service providers *Ithuteng Consultancy, Shitolo Waste Management, Kathabo Group and Down Touch Investments* were enlisted. As a result, the municipality implemented an emergency programme to ensure the VIP vacuuming service during and immediately after the festive season to ensure that basic human right to adequate sanitation is observed but more importantly that the unhygienic and unsafe VIP risks are eliminated. It must be noted that the tariffs that have been used by contractors was because of builders' holiday as the services were procured during December. The City Manager has since attempted to renegotiate a favourable rate with the said service providers to reduce the rate to a reduced global amount but the attempts were unsuccessful.

The Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) no. 56 of 2003, Section 29 "Unforeseen and unavoidable expenditure" stipulates that:

29. (1) *The mayor of a municipality may in emergency or other exceptional circumstances authorise unforeseeable and unavoidable expenditure for which no provision was made in an approved budget.*
- (2) *Any such expenditure—*
- (a) must be in accordance with any framework that may be prescribed;*
  - (b) may not exceed a prescribed percentage of the approved annual budget;*
  - (c) must be reported by the mayor to the municipal council at its next meeting; and*
  - (d) must be appropriated in an adjustments budget.*

- (3) *If such adjustments budget is not passed within 60 days after the expenditure was incurred, the expenditure is unauthorised and section 32 applies."*

Based on the implementation of this emergency VIP programme, a total of 21625 VIPs were serviced as per the table below:

| SERVICE PROVIDER                  | QTY OF VIPs EMPTIED | AMOUNT               |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Kathabo Group                     | 6492                | 7 141 200.00         |
| Ithuteng Consulting               | 2194                | 2 413 400.00         |
| Down Touch Investment             | 8939                | 9 832 900.00         |
| Shitolo Waste Management Services | 4000                | 4 400 000.00         |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>21625</b>        | <b>23 787 500.00</b> |

**Table 2: Quantities of Emergency VIP Vacuuming Services**


The provision of emptying of VIP Toilet is sufficiently budgeted for under Engineering Services, Contracted Services (Empty VIP Toilets) vote number: 7507228541021PPAZZ11. The current budgeted amount for the 2017/18 services is a total of R 35 646 392.00.

### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that:

- a) Council takes note of the report on the unforeseen and unavoidable expenditure in terms of Section 29 of the MFMA, and
- b) Council takes note and approve the expenditure that will be funded from the Engineering Services Maintenance budget, Vote number: 7507228541021PPAZZ11 from the 2017/18 financial year budget to the amount of R 23 787 500.00.

Submitted by

 25/05/2018

**Mr. Mlondolazi Ndlovu**

**HOD: Engineering Services**

*Approved*  
~~Supported/ Not Supported~~

  
**Adv. Tankiso Mea**

**City Manager** 25/05/2018