EXTRACT FROM THE COUNCIL MINUTES HELD ON 26 OCTOBER 2026

Item A19. 26.10.2026

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION POLICY FOR OVERBERG DISTRICT MUNCIPALITY

GF Ruiters: Manager: IDP & Communications **(Ref.: 13/3/8/7 & 16/7)**

PURPOSE

The purpose of this item is to present to Council a new Public Participation Policy for the Overberg District Municipality.

BACKGROUND

Municipal public participation is governed by key legislative provisions such as Sections 151(1)(e), 152, and 195(e) of the Constitution that mandates municipalities to encourage and prioritise community involvement in local governance and policymaking.

The Municipal Systems Act mandates municipalities to develop a culture of participatory governance, specifically encouraging community involvement in the preparation, implementation, and review of IDPs.

The Overberg District Municipality adopted a District Framework and Process Plan for 2021-2026 on, 28 March 2022. The Framework and Process Plan were assessed by the Department of Local Government as part of the 2024 IDP assessment process, to identify areas for improvement considering the legal requirements and those established through legal philosophy. The Framework outlines the structures that will be utilized to drive the IDP public participation process within the District Municipality. One of its objectives is to ensure that the needs identified during public participation are addressed in the integrated planning processes of the various municipalities.

During the 2023 IDP Assessment its was found that the municipality makes use of the local municipalities' IDP public participation meetings to ensure various involvement of communities in the IDP process. During April 2022, the Municipality utilized the local municipalities' IDP public participation meetings to ensure community involvement. Part of the recommendations was that the ODM must reflect on the strategy it will use to facilitate public participation within the communities and or with its stakeholders.

PROGRESS

The IDP and Communications department developed a policy to outline mechanisms, processes and procedures that will be used by the municipality to facilitate effective and community centred public participation processes. A draft Public Participation Policy was circulated internally on 20 June 2024 for inputs and comments by all departments. Furthermore, it was disseminated to other stakeholders such as the local municipalities, DLG's Public Participation and IDP directorates for further inputs.

The Policy was tabled before the Strategic Portfolio Committee in November 2024 and subsequently presented to Council during the Council Strategic Session held in February 2025. However, the Policy was inadvertently not included for formal consideration and approval by Council. The Policy is therefore being resubmitted to Council for formal consideration and approval.

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

- Section 152(e), 195(1)(e) and 195(1)(g) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996)
- Section 16(1)(a), 16(b), 17(2), and 21(1) of the Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000
- The Municipal Structures Act of 1998, number 117
- Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The budgetary implications are limited. The necessary budgetary provisions will be identified and incorporated into the new budget cycle to facilitate the implementation of the Policy.

ATTACHMENT

Public Participation Policy

RESOLVED: (Proposed by Ald. H Coetzee and seconded by Cllr. N Mabulu)

1) Council adopts the Public Participation Policy for the Overberg District Municipality.

CERTIFIED A TRUE EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26 OCTOBER 2026.



R BOSMAN
MUNICIPAL MANAGER