

UPHUHLISO



CHRIS HANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY NEWSLETTER

CHRIS HANI
DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY
SUSTAINING GROWTH
THROUGH OUR PEOPLE

VOLUME 36



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DEBT REHABILITATION PROGRAMME EXTENDED TO 31 DECEMBER 2022

CHDM Council initially took a decision to implement a debt payment incentive programme to help financially disadvantaged customers. Under the programme, customers had until June 30, 2022, to make payment arrangements on up to 50% of their outstanding debt, after which up to 50% of the balance will be written off.

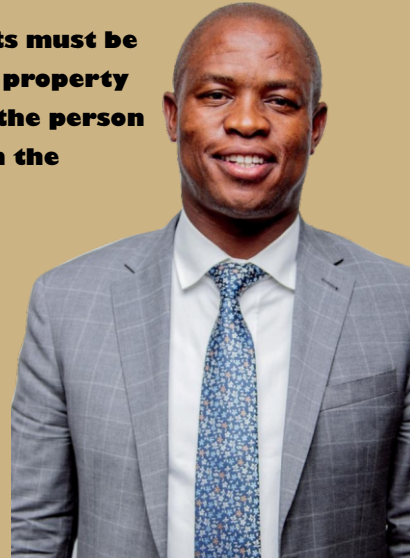
However, due to slow response from Customers, Council, in a meeting held on 29 June 2022, resolved to extend this to 31 December 2022.

Executive Mayor, Cllr Wongama Gela addressing the media and stakeholders, clearly articulated on the criteria, indicating that "Applicants must be registered property owners or the person residing on the property. Write-Offs are only available to residential account holders, small businesses, churches, and non-profit organizations". Adding that the scheme which Council has introduced is mainly intended for specific categories of consumers to encourage payment of outstanding debt whilst reducing the burden of debt too. This is a once off payment arrangement which affords customers an opportunity to pay a percentage of their outstanding debt with the corresponding percentage being written off.

Specific categories of customers that are eligible to participate in the scheme are domestic, non-profit organisations (Churches and NGOs) and indigent households. Both domestic households and Non-profit organizations are eligible for a maximum of 50% discount while Indigent households who have exceeded the 10Kl consumption will be afforded a once off 100% discount.

Council emphasized on the rationale for the debt incentive scheme stating that the arrangement is primarily intended to encourage customers to settle all their outstanding debt, whilst it is also a measure of providing some form of relief during the trying economic period.

"Applicants must be registered property owners or the person residing on the property"



**Executive Mayor
Cllr Wongama Gela**

Consumers are encouraged to take advantage of the scheme which will run until end of December 2022 and more information can be obtained from our revenue offices throughout the district, alternatively call :

- Brenda Van Heerden (045 8084709) bvanheerden@chrishanidm.gov.za
- Sonneke Kriel (045 8084664) sdeysel@chrishaidm.gov.za
- Thobela Nyengane (045 8084725) tnyengane@chrishanidm.gov.za.

The debt rehabilitation scheme is one element of the CHDM Revenue Enhancement Strategy which seeks to facilitate methods of revenue collection as the municipality collection rate has been under scrutiny by the office of the Auditor General.

Customers are urged to take advantage of the debt rehabilitation scheme whilst it is still in force.

How to Apply for their Water and Sanitation Account Debt?

- 1. OBTAIN AN APPLICATION FORM BY VISIT ANY OF THE CHDM REVENUE OFFICES SITUATED ACROSS THE DISTRICT
- 2. SEND AN E-MAIL TO: DEBTREHAB@CHRISHANIDM.GOV.ZA TO REQUEST FOR AN APPLICATION FORM AND FRAMEWORK TO GUIDE ON CRITERIA
- 3. ACCESS THE APPLICATION FORM AND FRAMEWORK ON THE CHRIS HANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY WEBSITE WWW.CHRISHANIDM.GOV.ZA
- 4. SUBMIT ALL COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS TOGETHER WITH ALL THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION TO DEBTREHAB@CHRISHANIDM.GOV.ZA
- 5. DROP OFF YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS AND DOCUMENTATION AT ANY OF THE CHDM REVENUE OFFICES SITUATED ACROSS THE DISTRICT (IN ALL LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES)

HLOPHEKAZI WATER RETICULATION TO CHANGE LIVES IN 7 VILLAGES OF ENGCOBO



Portfolio Head for Infrastructure, Cllr Bongeka Nobuntu responding to the questions from one of the community members, Mr Xolile Madolo during contractor handover for Water Reticulation Project

Dr AB Xuma Local Municipality ward 19 residents welcomed the contractor for Hlophekazi Reticulation-Water Supply Project (Cluster 6 Water Backlog). This project in the end will benefit 7 villages and it is expected to create more than 100 job opportunities – which mostly include youth. The duration of the project is 32 months as it commenced in June 2022, expected completion being December 2024.

The project is aimed at providing rural communities and households in the identified areas with a reliable bulk potable water supply as there is currently limited and rudimentary supply infrastructure. The water reticulation project comprises the design, operation, and maintenance of water distribution, stormwater, pumping systems, and access chambers in addition to the building and maintenance of pipelines. Households in the area will access water supply through the bulk pipeline after water networks and connections to taps are completed.

Portfolio Head for Infrastructure, Cllr Bongeka Nobuntu, urged the contractor to be well-disciplined, putting forth the people's need for a basic service,

whilst developing strong positive relationships with the villages during the construction of the pipeline for the smooth running of the project. She emphasised on the need to work together and collectively rally behind the project to minimise unnecessary delays.

Cllr Nobuntu unequivocally cautioned the community against tempering with the water infrastructure in any way including connecting illegally as these have a negative impact on the provision of water supply. The district municipality has, overtime, experienced excessive damage to its water and sanitation infrastructure due to vandalism and theft.

A community representative Mr Xolile Madolo, who spoke on behalf of the community expressed great appreciation to the district municipality for the initiative. "We are glad that the municipality has intervened and discovered a solution to our water difficulties and that this project has produced work possibilities," he said.



BULK WATER SUPPLY CONSTRUCTION FOR 16 VILLAGES IN WARD 21, ENOCH MGJIMA LM

The community of ward 21, Shiloh in Enoch Mgijima Local Municipality was delighted to welcome a contractor for Bulk Water Supply Project recently. The project will run over 15 Months - June 2022 -September 2023.

50 Job opportunities will be created for local people including material suppliers. The water pipeline includes a multi-megalitre reservoir which will benefit about 16 villages and some fall outside the jurisdiction of Shiloh area.

The introduction of the contractor involved, Councillor Bongeka Nobuntu, addressing the community, explaining how critical it is for them to play a role, working with the established structure to ensure smooth employment of local people and safeguarding the equipment that will be used. She further elaborated on the identification of villages that will benefit, project duration and the scope of work were some of the key issues that were addressed during the engagements. About 50 local people including youth and women are expected to be employed.

This water reticulation project will not only cover

the construction and maintenance of the pipeline but will include the design, operation, and maintenance of water distribution, stormwater, pumping system and access chambers. Water networks for the community to access tap water supply will be connected immediately after these. The project will take 12 months to complete.

Cllr Nobuntu urged contractors to fully commit to the project and work closely with project beneficiaries. "As the district, we are aware of the plight of this community and we are committed to serving our communities within available resources. To safeguard this infrastructure and in ensuring its optimal performance, avoid tampering with the system and illegal connections as this has a bearing on the provision of services. Communities are affected the most when services are interrupted and this is a costly exercise for the municipality as well", she added.

Ms Qhawekazi Tom, a community representative commended the much-needed intervention by the district municipality for the project.

214 VIP TOILETS FOR WARD 1- ENOCH MGIJIMA VILLAGES



Portfolio Head for Infrastructure in EMLM, Cllr Siyabulela Mangcotywa explaining the details of the project during contractor handover to the beneficiaries

Ward 1 community in Enoch Mgiijima Local Municipality has welcomed the arrival of a contractor for Sanitation Project that will see 214 VIP toilets erected. This project will benefit 6 villages namely; Esigxeni, Mkhonjane, Bolothwa, Dlakavu, Esicabheni & Elalini. This project created more than 60 jobs opportunities including the appointment of 5 local contractors.

Employment of local people; identification of villages that will benefit, project duration and the scope of work were some of the key issues that were addressed during the engagements with the community.

This is a labour intensive project and about 60 local people including youth and women are expected to be employed. The scope of work for the project will include the delivery of materials to different points, the digging of holes, erection of structures and painting. The project will take 6 months to complete.

Cllr Siyabulela Mangcotywa Portfolio Head for Infrastructure in Enoch Mgiijima Local Municipality pleaded with contractors to fully commit to the project and work closely with project beneficiaries. "As the district, we are aware of the plight of this

community and we are committed to serving our communities within available resources", he said.

"To safeguard this infrastructure and in ensuring its optimal performance, avoid tampering with the system and vandalization of infrastructure is fashionable now, he added, pleading with the community.

One of the beneficiaries Mr Zakhele Mandlakazi expressed his appreciation for the service, concurring with Councillor Mangcotywa on vandalism of infrastructure, he indicated that "communities are affected the most when services are interrupted, and this is a costly exercise for the municipality as well".



THREE TRADITIONAL LEADERS JOIN CHDM COUNCIL



Chief Nkosinathi Jezile
CHAIRPERSON OF CHLHTL



Chief Vuyani Dyolo



Chief Sizwe Zulu

Traditional leaders, Chief Vuyani Dyolo and Chief Sizwe Zulu were elected to the Chris Hani District Municipal Council during the Inauguration of the Chris Hani Local House of Traditional Leaders (CHLHTL) at CHDM Council Chambers in Komani. The provincial and all municipal representatives were elected at the same day.

The new traditional leaders were sworn in for a 5-year term to serve in the district council on Wednesday, 01 June 2022. The elected chiefs are part of the CHLHTL's 32 chiefs. CHLHTL has also elected its new executive, with Chief Nkosinathi Jezile re-elected as chairperson. The following were elected in the leadership:

Deputy Chair - Chief Sivuyile Hebe

Leader - Chief Siseko Ngcongolo

Additional Member - Chief Nkosinathi Mthikrakra

By virtue of being the chairperson of Chris Hani Local House of Traditional Leaders, Chief Jezile joined the

two chiefs elected for municipal council to make it three.

Among provincial representatives that were also elected in the meeting were Former Western Thembuland Regent, Chief Gwazinamba Mathanzima, and Nkwenkwzi Sabatha.

CHDM welcomed the new members joining the council and wished them all the best during their term.



CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT FOR A BETTER TOMORROW



Six schools from Tsomo, Intsika Yethu LM, participated in a clean up campaign to highlight environmental awareness as part of World Environmental Day celebrations. The campaign included cleaning of Tsomo town ; donation and planting of 50 trees to the six schools; and donation of recycling bins.

CHDM Portfolio Head for Health and Community Services, Cllr Sinomtha Lali, who led the campaign, stated the objectives of this initiative as to stimulate more concern about the environment - creating awareness on mitigating the dire effects of climate change ; and attract more partnerships to bring innovations and programs that will involve the public as critical partners in the process . She further indicated that “the day serves as a reminder for people to keep the environment clean, healthy and protected, adding that, “the planting of trees is vital as amongst many benefits, it protects our households

from adverse weather conditions.

The formal programme of the day focused on this year's theme, “Only One Earth”, which calls for transformative changes to policies and choices to enable cleaner, greener, and sustainable living in harmony with nature.

The World Environment Day is a United Nations (UN) Environment-led global event that is the single largest celebration of our environment. Each year on the 5th June, communities worldwide celebrate a United Nations' flagship day for promoting awareness and action to protect the environment.

The day is recognised as one where everyone around the world takes ownership of their environment and to actively engage in the safeguarding of our Earth.



**WORLD
ENVIRONMENT
DAY**



SPECIAL PROGRAMMES UNIT IN ACTION

CRADOCK LEARNERS BENEFIT FROM 200 PAIRS OF SCHOOL SHOES



Cllr Thembisile Bobo handing over school shoes



The pupils of Macembe, Kude Kwalapha and Solomon Akena Primary Schools from needy households were beneficiaries of 200 pairs of school shoes. The donation was facilitated by Chris Hani DM, Special Programs Unit to coincide with an awareness program which sought to address issues of bullying, drug use, suicide and abuse.

The initiative took place during the Child Protection Week under the national umbrella theme “ **Let us all Protect Children during Covid-19 and Beyond**”

The objectives of the initiative amongst others, included :

To create a positive and inspirational learning environment throughout the schools; To improve awareness on challenges faces by children at schools (bullying, suicide etc); To establish reporting mechanisms of early dictated signs of children in distress and to implement an appropriate steps on perpetrators of these unethical behaviours.;To instil students with intrinsic motivation and inspiration to learn and be their best.

Speaking at the event, Portfolio Head of Special Programmes Unit (SPU), Cllr Thembisile Bobo, stressed the urgent need to protect our children from harm, especially during the week dedicated to the safety and well-being of children in South Africa. He encouraged learners to be activists against bullying and drug abuse “as the future of this country is the youth of today”.

The awareness program involved participation of key stakeholders such as Dept of Education and Social Development; Social Development; South African Police Service ; Department of Correctional Services and Inxuba Yethemba LM



CHDM CONDUCTED LGBTQI+ AWARENESS CAMPAIGN



The Chris Hani District Municipality's Special Programmes Unit (SPU) held a LGBTQI+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex) programme that aimed to conceptualise the roll out of the LGBTQI+ students in institutions of higher learning, namely Walter Sisulu University (WSU), Ikhala TVET College, MSC College and Boston College.

The programme was hosted in partnership with CHDM and the Office of the Premier (OTP) and drew various stakeholders such as the Departments of Social Development, Health and the SAPS to work on the issues faced by the minority community.

LGBTQI+ South Africans, particularly in underdeveloped areas, continue to face challenges including homophobia, targeted violence (corrective rape) and high rates of HIV/AIDS infection. People in the LGBTQI+ are more likely to be attacked and the programme, therefore, sought to symbolically link Gender Based Violence against women and children, as well as assisting the community to understand and accept themselves.

Furthermore, the objections included creating awareness of LGBTQI+ rights, engage in dialogue on the challenges experienced by the members and improve relations between sector and government departments to increase access to service.

Athule Duna, a 19-year-old WSU Accounting student, shared her thoughts on the programme, remarking that "it is rare to see government programmes that focus on the LGBTQI+ community in Komani. It's refreshing to see CHDM and the OTP bring key information about the community to the people."





0800 100 100 CHDM Customer Care Line



Speak Up, report unethical behaviour
0800 553 559



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