



OVERBERG

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY • DISTRIKSMUNISIPALITEIT • UMASIPALA WESITHILI

Season's Greetings from the Executive Mayor

ODM regains, and retains, clean audit status

New Acting Municipal Manager for ODM

EXTERNAL NEWSLETTER | ISSUE 16 | DECEMBER 2021

In this issue...

New ODM Council
2021-2026 inaugurated

3

New Overberg
community projects
completed

3

Overberg Covid-19
vaccination update

4

Road safety awareness
for the Overberg
region

6

Overberg: How to
be wildfire ready this
holiday season

7



CONTACT US



Overberg District Municipality
26 Long Street
Private Bag X22
Bredasdorp
7280

Office Hours:
Tel: 028 425 1157
Fax: 028 425 1014

Emergencies - 24 hours:
Tel: 028 425 1690

Email:
info@odm.org.za

Website:
www.odm.org.za

Follow us on social media:

Facebook
/OverbergDM

Twitter
@OverbergDM

Instagram
@OverbergDM

CONTACT OUR LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES AT:



Cape Agulhas
028 425 5500



Overstrand
028 313 8000



Theewaterskloof
028 214 3300



Swellendam
028 514 8500

Developed by the
IDP & Communications
Department of the
Overberg District Municipality

Season's Greetings from the Executive Mayor

To our visitors to the Overberg, a warm welcome and I trust that you will enjoy your well-deserved holiday, in this, the most beautiful part of our country. Cherish the time together with your family and friends.

Along with wishing all the residents and visitors to the Overberg a joyful and blessed festive season, I cannot escape from emphasizing my firm appeal to each and everyone, to adhere to the continued protocol related to the Covid-19 pandemic: wear a mask, clean your hands, keep a safe distance. Be safe.

To our highly motivated and totally committed men and women in emergency services, I salute you and your loved ones who continue to provide the much-needed support in the Overberg.

Hartlike welkom aan al ons besoekers aan die Overberg, ons vertrou dat julle jul welverdiende vakansie sal geniet, in hierdie, die mooiste deel van ons land. Koester die tyd saam met jou familie en vriende.

Tesame met die wens van al die inwoners en besoekers aan die Overberg 'n vreugdevolle en



Executive Mayor, Ald Sakkie Franken

geseënde feesseisoen, ek kan nie nalaat om aan ieder en elk te beklemtoon om die voortgesette protokol met betrekking tot die Covid-19-pandemie na te kom nie: dra 'n masker, was jou hande, hou

'n veilige afstand. Wees veilig.

Aan ons hoogs gemotiveerde en totaal toegewyde manne en vroue in nooddienste, ek salueer jou en jou geliefdes wat steeds die broodnodige ondersteuning in die Overberg bied.

Kubavakashi bethu kwi Overberg yonke ndithi bamkelekile ndiyathemba bazozonwabela ezi holide zehlobo kwi ndawo eyake yantle emzantsi afrika bonwabe ne zihlobo zabo nabahlobo babo.

Ndikwanqwenelela abahlali nabavakatshi kulombandla we Overberg ulonwabo ne holide zehlobo ezigcwele amathamsanqa. Nakanjalo ndithi nihlale nilumkele lo bhuhane ayi Covid-19 niqhubeleke nenze imithetho ye covid 19 ningasondelelani nifake izifonyo (Mask) nihlambe nezandla nigcine umgama xa uthetha okanye uhleli nomnye umtu. Kumadoda namakhosikazi asebenza ngokuzimisela benikeza nenxaso enga gungqiyo nabe nkonzo zikaxakeka naba lingani babo ababesekayo nokuzinikela kwabo ndinothulela umqwazi ncedani niqhubeleke niyeseke I Overberg kangangoko ikudingayo. Enkosi

New Acting Municipal Manager for ODM



Acting Municipal Manager, Mr Nantes Kruger

Mr Nantes Kruger started his service at ODM in November 2019 when he assisted in the Budget Office as Temporary Head: Financial Services. Mr Kruger has over 40 years of Local Government Finance experience at various municipalities, amongst others the first CFO of Mbombela Local Municipality in Nelspruit. He also has foreign working experience, having worked in Tanzania and Nigeria for 6 years, and he was part of the team that developed mSCOA at National Treasury. After returning from Nigeria in 2018, he built a home in Struisbaai and intended to retire, but then duty called again...

When the former Chief Financial Officer, Mr Pikkie Hoffmann, resigned at the end of 2020, the ODM appointed Mr Kruger as Acting CFO from 1 January 2021. Mr Kruger then applied for the CFO position and was permanently appointed as from 1 July 2021.

After the former Municipal Manager's contract came to an end in October 2021, Council appointed Mr Kruger as the Acting Municipal Manager as from 1 November 2021 until the position of Municipal Manager is filled.

"My responsibility during this time would be to assist the Executive Mayor to stabilize and strengthen the structure of ODM, so that service delivery functions could be fulfilled to the fullest. Once a new Municipal Manager has been appointed, I can return to my position as Chief Financial Officer to perform by responsibilities of managing ODM's finances. I am looking forward to my next taste of retirement, but for now I still feel that I can contribute towards the development of the Overberg District."

Mr Kruger currently resides in Struisbaai with his wife Rina and has two children, Claudette and Riantes.

ODM regains, and retains, clean audit status

The Overberg District Municipality obtained its fourth consecutive clean audit outcome in 2019, following the 2017/18 audit process.

However, the municipality was issued an 'unqualified audit with findings' outcome for 2018/19. This result however did not dishearten the administration and leadership, who remained committed to the principles of good governance, as set out in its Strategic Goals, delivering high

quality services and adhering to its core values.

The ODM continued to adhere to sound financial procedures, practises, systems and a commitment to a clean and incorrupt administration.

Following the 2019/20 financial year audit process, the municipality initially received another unqualified audit opinion with findings.

Thanks to the commitment of the administration and support from Council, in appealing the

findings, the audit outcome review was finalized in September 2021 where the audit opinion for 2019/20 was changed from an unqualified opinion with findings to an unqualified opinion with NO findings, and with that the municipality regained its clean audit status.

In November 2021, the ODM received the good news that it once again obtained a clean audit outcome for the 2020/21 financial year.



New ODM Council 2021-2026 inaugurated

The Overberg District Municipality (ODM) held its Inaugural Council meeting on 6 December 2021, at the Glaskasteel Community Hall in Bredasdorp.

The ODM constituted its Council following the establishment of all four (4) local municipalities' Councils in the District (Overstrand, Cape Agulhas, Swellendam and Theewaterskloof).

The Councillors collectively took a binding oath to obey and respect the Constitution and the laws of South Africa and to perform their functions and duties as a Councillor to the best of their abilities.

Following the in-house election process, which was overseen by a representative of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) in the Overberg, the following leadership was elected:

- Ald Lincoln de Bruyn was elected as Speaker for a second term
- Ald Andries Franken was elected as Executive Mayor for a second term
- Cllr Helen Coetzee was elected as the new Deputy Mayor.

The Overberg District Municipality welcomes its new leadership and Councillors. The full list of Councillors who now form part of the ODM Council, includes:

- Andries Franken
- Helen Coetzee
- Lincoln de Bruyn
- Ntombizine Sapepa
- Archibald Klaas
- Ronald Brinkhuys
- Roland Olivier
- Melanie Du Plessis
- Martin Mathews
- Cuan Elgin
- Abraham Pokwas
- Theresa Els
- Steven Fourie
- Msa Nomatiti
- Silo Simphiwe
- Jacobus van Staden
- Mbongeni Nomkoko
- Bongwiwe Mkhwibiso
- Jennifer Mckenzie
- Petrus Stander
- Yvonne van Tonder
- Johannes Nieuwoudt
- Mlamleli Mokotwana



Joint District and Metro Approach (JDMA)

New Overberg community projects completed

Several critically important high mast lighting projects have been completed in five informal settlements in the Overberg region of the Western Cape. The new infrastructure will provide these areas with lighting to positively impact community safety and wellbeing. Some of the high mast lights are situated close to the N2 in the Grabouw region and lights up the road which contributes to safer road and pedestrian transport.

This project that cost R2.23 million was funded by the provincial Department of Local Government and contributes to the achievement of the Province's Strategic Priorities.

The Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Anton Bredell visited a number of catalytic projects across the Overberg District today. These projects form part of the Joint District and Metro Approach (JDMA) which is being coordinated by the Department of Local Government.

Following the Grabouw visit, the Minister also visited a new night shelter/safe house in Hermanus that is currently being completed.

"This key facility will support some of the most vulnerable people in this community and can now be completed thanks to an effective JDMA collaboration effort. This collaboration includes funding of R400 000 that was secured through the District Safety Forum from the Department of Community Safety with support from the SA Police Service and the Overstrand Municipality."

Bredell noted that once operational, the facility will be able to accommodate 34 homeless people and also serve as a facility for other SAPS prevention and support programmes.

The JDMA is a process that relies on greater collaboration between national government, provincial government, municipalities, NGO's and the private sector. It is a strategy that includes co-planning, co-budgeting and co-implementation between the various partners in order to positively impact the lives and livelihoods of residents.

"We are proud of the achievements and want to thank our partners in this endeavour for helping us to do more," said Bredell.



OVERBERG COVID-19 VACCINATION UPDATE

As at 21 December 2021, we have vaccinated 205 537 persons in the Overberg District, this includes healthcare workers (as part of the Sisonke trial) and educators.

Currently 82% of Health Care Workers who took part in the Sisonke Trial have received their booster shots. All Health Care Workers who have vouchers are still able to visit any of our vaccination shots to receive their booster shots.

With the new Omicron variant rapidly spreading, vaccination is more important than ever before to protect against severe illness and death. We once again appeal to those who have not yet been vaccinated to take up any of the many opportunities we are providing within their communities. Get vaccinated and be protected, especially as we are entering the fourth wave.

New COVID-19 Testing Criteria

With the fourth wave upon us, the Western Cape Government Health has adopted a new testing criteria. The only people who currently qualify for a COVID-19 test are those who have COVID-19 symptoms and:

- Are admitted to hospital; or
- Are over 50 years; or
- You are part of a cluster, as identified by health staff, in group settings such as old age/care homes, hospitals, schools, workplaces, hostels, prisons, etc; or
- Are obese or have diabetes, HIV, heart, lung or kidney disease, cancer or tuberculosis.

Assume you have COVID-19 if you develop flu-like symptoms. Covid-19 symptoms can include a cough, sore throat, loss of your sense of smell or



taste, or shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. If you feel sick, stay home. If you can't stay separate from others in your home, wear a mask and open doors and windows.

Go to the hospital or call an ambulance (10177) immediately if you have difficulty breathing, chest pain or pressure that won't go away, confusion, or can't wake up completely.

FOR MORE INFO CALL THE FREE HOTLINE **0800 029 999**
OR WALK INTO YOUR NEAREST VACCINATION SITE

MILLIONS OF SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE ALREADY VACCINATED. VACCINATE TODAY!



The outreach was also done in Caledon ward 4,

DID YOU KNOW?

Rip currents move faster

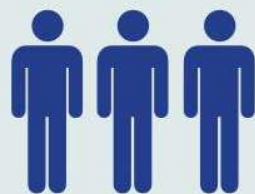
than an Olympic swimmer.



A person can drown in just **4cm of water.**



Males make up to 81% of drownings in the Western Cape.



4,4 Males drown fatally for every one female.



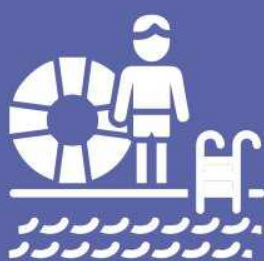
40% of fatal drownings tested for alcohol, tested positive.



WATER SAFELY PRACTICES



Always keep an eye on vulnerable swimmers. Never swim alone.



Swim where help is close by.



Know your limitations and capabilities.



Don't swim under the influence.

DROWNING IN PROGRESS?

SEE SOMEONE IN TROUBLE?



Alert the lifeguards or find help.



Have emergency numbers saved into your phone. (112 is a general and national emergency number)



Throw them something that floats (look out for Pink Rescue Buoys) or ask a surfer to paddle out with their board and help.



Don't put your own life in danger. Don't enter the water without taking something that floats with you.



Learn how to do compression only CPR.

HAVING TROUBLE IN THE WATER?



Don't panic raise your arm to attract the lifeguards' attention.



If you're caught in a rip current float on your back, remain calm, conserve energy.



Swim slowly parallel to the shoreline to escape the current. You can also tread water and let the current carry you out past the breakers where the strength of the current weakens.

#WATERSAFELY EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Save any of the following numbers to your phone or keep them close.

021 480 7700
for any and all emergencies

112
from any cell phone

087 094 9774
for a Sea Rescue emergency



Road safety awareness for the Overberg region

Swellendam Traffic Department in conjunction with SAPS and Overberg District Municipality Fire Department promoted road safety awareness on 15 December 2021 at the Ashton crossing between 06:00 and 08:00.

The #SafelyHome awareness campaign is a Western Cape Government initiative. Role players handed out flyers and disposable breathalyzers as well as doing traffic and vehicle compliance checks.

Seat Belts Save Lives

The law requires that all vehicle occupants wear an appropriate seat belt. Wearing seat belts reduces the risk of death in motor vehicle crashes by up to 45%. Seat belts prevent 99% of occupants being ejected in a crash

Don't Drink and Drive

- If you intend to drive, the safest option is not to drink
- If you have too much to drink, appoint a designated driver or make use of alternate Public Transport

Watch Out for Pedestrians

- How to be a Safer Pedestrian:
- Do not wear headphones or talk on your cell phone whilst crossing the road
 - Wear bright coloured clothing and reflective materials
 - Cross in a well-lit area at night
 - Be aware of other road users, especially at intersections
 - Always obey traffic signals

Stay Safe on the Road

Distracted driving is estimated to be a factor in 25% to 50% of all traffic crashes. Driving safely is not only beneficial to the driver but also to all other road users

Drive Safely around Cyclists

- Safety Tips for Cyclists:
- Make use of pedal cycle lanes where these are available
 - Keep as close as possible to the left edge of the roadway

- Obey the traffic signs and signals
 - Ride with traffic, not against it
 - Watch out for the opening of car doors in your path
 - Be visible. Wear bright coloured clothing at daytime. At night, wear reflective clothing
 - Use hand signals when turning or changing lanes
- Safety Tips for Drivers:**
- Yield to cyclists, especially at intersections
 - Leave a distance between the motor vehicle and the cyclist of at least one metre
 - Check your blind spots and look before opening the car door
 - Do not drive, stop or park in a bicycle lane

Drive Safely around Motorcycles

- Safety Tips for Motorcyclists:
- Wear an approved helmet that meets current safety standards.
 - Wear protective clothing
 - Wear a full face helmet that protects your eyes and face

- Be visible. Wear bright, reflective clothing
- Always keep the headlight on
- Ride in a position that promotes visibility on the road and leave enough room to move
- Be aware of hazardous road conditions

Safety Tips for Drivers of Other Vehicles:

- Be considerate and aware of motorcycles, especially at intersections
 - Maintain a safe following distance allowing sufficient space for motorcycles
 - Use signals to turn and be alert of oncoming motorcycles
- Give motorcycles a full lane of travel
- Check your blind spots when changing lanes
 - Turn signals are not self-cancelling on most motorcycles. Be sure you know what a motorcyclist is doing.
- 'Road Safety Tips' Source: <https://www.westerncape.gov.za/tpw/public-transport>



POSITIVE #CORONAVIRUS CASES

OVERBERG, SOUTH AFRICA



***PLEASE NOTE:** OUR NUMBERS DIFFER FROM THE WESTERN CAPE GOVERNMENT AS OUR FRONTLINE STAFF VERIFY WHETHER PATIENTS ARE CURRENTLY IN THE OVERBERG.

CAPE AGULHAS

3,397

THEEWATERSKLOOF

9,423

SWELLENDAM

3,831

OVERSTRAND

10,176

Recovered: 25,280

DECEMBER

Deaths: 867

TOTAL CASES

26,827

20

ACTIVE

680



Updated coronavirus PCR and antigen testing criteria during the fourth wave

The following categories will be eligible for Antigen and PCR testing, with Antigen testing encouraged as first line test as results are available immediately.

Note: If the Antigen test is negative, then a follow up PCR test MUST be done.

1. All those with coronavirus symptoms AND at least 1 of:

- Needing hospital admission
- At high risk of severe disease:
 - Age > 50 years
 - Diabetes
 - Obesity
 - Heart disease
 - Lung disease
 - Kidney disease
 - Cancer
 - Tuberculosis
 - HIV
- Clusters, as identified by health staff, in group settings such as old age/care homes, hospitals, schools, workplaces, hostels, prisons etc.
- Health care workers

The following should only be tested via PCR.

2. All those with no coronavirus symptoms BUT at least 1 of:

- Patients awaiting surgery - to test 3 days or less before operation.
- Exposed health care workers in quarantine with no symptoms at day 7 - to allow early return to work.

3. All natural deaths who had coronavirus symptoms.

Note: If previous positive test result for coronavirus, but with new coronavirus symptoms, only test (antigen or PCR) if ≥ 90 days after first test.

#FireSeason2021

Overberg: How to be wildfire ready this holiday season

Whether you live in a town or on a farm in the Overberg, or even if you're just visiting for the holidays, be wildfire ready this fire season. Fire season officially starts on 1 December 2021. This is the time when everyone should be hyper vigilant to the dangers of wildfires.

According to Louise Wessels, Manager of the Greater Overberg Fire Protection Association (goFPA), the changing climate is creating concerns for fire officials around the world.

"The effects of climate change are very evident globally. We've seen megafires burn in Europe and the Americas. And here in South Africa, more than 2 million hectares of veld burnt in the past year already."

In the Western Cape, we have already seen marked temperature increases, rainfall variation, and more importantly for us, an increased

frequency of severe weather events. These trends are projected to continue and worsen.

The goFPA has a number of tips for Overberg residents this summer.

1. Don't assume someone else has reported a fire.

If you see smoke or fire, please report it. Louise says that a quick response this fire season will be vital to bring wildfires under control quickly. "If you see smoke or flames, don't waste any time considering whether you should call. Rather please call immediately. And the more information you can provide, the better," she says.

2. Save these numbers to report fire.

Save the following numbers to your phone, so you can get in touch with the fire departments in the Overberg quickly: If you see a fire in the

Overstrand municipal region, please call: 028 312 2400. For anywhere else in the Overberg, please call: 028 425 1690. Also call your neighbours and inform the goFPA (063 690 7899).

3. Know which sources you can trust.

During a wildfire, many people may provide unverified or inaccurate updates, opinions and advice on the fire. Information that you can trust will be shared on the goFPA Facebook page, the Overberg District Municipality Facebook page and the Overstrand Facebook page.

Louise says, "Please don't share information that has not been verified. Inaccurate information can make it more difficult for our fire fighters to do their job."

The goFPA is currently hard at work training farmers and farm staff in basic wildfire

suppression and safety, with 500 people trained by the end of November. And from 1 December 2021, a helicopter and spotter plane based at Bredasdorp will be used in the rapid initial attack of wildfires.

They will be stationed there until the end of April 2022. Additional aerial resources will be available in rest of the Western Cape, of which Stellenbosch will be the Overberg's first call, should it be required.

Louise says, "We need everyone's help this fire season, to protect our Overberg environment, economy, and above all, lives!"

For more information on the fire season, tips to protect your property, what you can do on a red day, helpful evacuation advice and pet evacuation preparation, visit: www.overbergfpa.co.za





CLOSURE OF OFFICES

*for holiday season
2021*

Notice is hereby given that the Overberg District Municipality's offices will be closed over the 2021 holiday period as follows:

ODM Administrative Offices

The administrative offices will be closed for the period 27 December to 31 December 2021, and will re-open on 3 January 2022.

NB - The offices will close at 13h00 on 24 December.

ODM Roads Department

The Roads Department closes annually to coincide with the builders' holidays. The department closes on Friday, 17 December 2021 and re-opens again on Monday, 17 January 2022.

NB - All depots close at 11h00 on 17 December.



*Wishing all our
residents and
visitors a happy
and safe festive
season*

