

**AGENDA of the
Portfolio Committee : Municipal Public Safety
18 August 2026
(Also the agenda for the Mayoral Committee Meeting : 25 August 2026)**

**5.
OPERATION CLEAN MY BACKYARD**

**D Adonis
14 July 2026**

Director: Municipal Public Safety

(028) 313 8054

1. Executive Summary

Operation Clean My Back Yard is a coordinated multi-agency compliance and enforcement initiative aimed at improving regulatory compliance, public health, public safety, and lawful business operations within the municipality.

The operation focuses primarily on spaza shops and formal and informal retail businesses that have been identified through complaints, intelligence, risk assessments, or operational priorities as requiring compliance inspections.

The initiative will bring together Municipal Law Enforcement, the South African Police Service (SAPS), the Department of Home Affairs, District Environmental Health Services, Town Planning, Building Control, Fire and Rescue Services, Traffic Services and other relevant stakeholders to conduct integrated inspections.

The operation will be implemented in accordance with the Constitution and applicable legislation and will be conducted fairly, lawfully, and without discrimination. Inspections will be based solely on compliance risks and legislative requirements and not on nationality, race, ethnicity, religion or any other prohibited ground of discrimination.

Approval is sought for the implementation of Operation Clean My Back Yard and the establishment of a Joint Operational Committee (JOC) to coordinate the initiative.

2. Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan - IGNITE

Directorate: Municipal Public Safety

3. Compliance with Strategic Priorities

Provision of democratic, accountable and ethical governance

Provision and maintenance of municipal services

Creation and maintenance of a safe and healthy environment

The encouragement of structured community participation in the matters of the municipality

Promotion of tourism, economic and social development

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4. Delegated Authority

Executive Mayor

5. Legal Requirements

Municipal Systems Act, 2000

Municipal Structures Act, 1998

Municipal by-laws

Applicable delegations adopted by Council

6. Background/Discussion/Evaluation/Conclusion

Background

The Municipality continues to receive complaints regarding non-compliant business operations, particularly within spaza shops and certain formal and informal retail establishments.

Common concerns include:

- Operating without the required business licences.
- Poor food hygiene practices.
- Lack of Certificates of Acceptability.
- Illegal land use.
- Building regulation contraventions.
- Fire safety deficiencies.
- Immigration-related non-compliance.
- Illegal business activities.

These challenges require a coordinated multi-agency response.

Discussion

Operation Clean My Back Yard establishes an integrated inspection and enforcement model involving all relevant regulatory authorities.

The Joint Operational Committee (JOC) will coordinate planning, deployment, inspections, enforcement and reporting.

Participating departments include:

- Municipal Law Enforcement
- South African Police Service
- Department of Home Affairs
- District Environmental Health Services

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- Town Planning
- Building Control
- Fire and Rescue Services
- Traffic Services
- Economic Development
- Municipal Communications
- Other stakeholders where necessary

Inspections will focus on:

- Business licensing compliance.
- Food safety.
- Environmental health.
- Immigration documentation.
- Zoning compliance.
- Building compliance.
- Fire safety.
- Municipal by-law compliance.

Where non-compliance is identified, appropriate enforcement action may include:

- Compliance notices.
- Administrative fines.
- Confiscation of prohibited or unsafe goods where legislation permits.
- Temporary closure recommendations.
- Legal proceedings.
- Referrals to relevant authorities.
- Follow-up inspections.

Evaluation

The operation is expected to achieve:

- Improved compliance among business operators.
- Improved public health.
- Safer food handling practices.
- Increased compliance with planning and building legislation.
- Reduction in illegal business activities.
- Improved community confidence.
- Enhanced cooperation between government departments.

Progress will be monitored through daily operational reports, weekly operational reports, monthly performance reports and quarterly evaluations.

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Conclusion

Operation Clean My Back Yard provides the Municipality with a coordinated, lawful and proactive mechanism to improve compliance, protect public health and safety, and strengthen enforcement of municipal legislation. The implementation of the operation will contribute significantly to improved governance and service delivery.

7. Financial Implications

The operation will primarily utilise existing municipal resources and operational budgets of participating departments.

Where additional operational costs arise, these will be accommodated within approved departmental budgets where possible, or be addressed through future budget adjustment processes, subject to Council approval.

8. Staff Implications

The operation requires the coordinated deployment of existing officials from participating departments.

The Joint Operational Committee will coordinate operational planning, resource allocation and scheduling to minimise disruption to normal municipal operations.

No additional permanent staff appointments are anticipated at this stage.

9. Comments from other Departments, Divisions and Administrations:

None

10. Annexures:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

1. that the content of the report **be noted**;
2. that the implementation of Operation Clean My Back Yard as a coordinated multi-agency compliance and enforcement initiative, **be supported**;

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3. that the Municipal Manager be authorised to coordinate participation by all relevant municipal departments and external government stakeholders;
4. that the implementation of integrated compliance inspections in accordance with applicable legislation and municipal by-laws **be supported**; and
5. that the establishment of the Joint Operational Committee to coordinate planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the operation, **be supported**.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL :

D ADONIS

TARGET DATE FOR IMPLEMENTATION :

1 SEPTEMBER 2026

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**THIS MATTER SERVED BEFORE THE JOINT PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON
18 AUGUST 2026, WHICH COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

RECOMMENDATION:

that the item **be referred back**.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL:

D ADONIS

TARGET DATE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

1 SEPTEMBER 2026