

JUNE 2025

Hermanus 028 313 8000  
 Gansbaai-Stanford 028 384 8300  
 Kleinmond 028 271 8400  
 Collab Citizen App

**24/7 Municipal Emergencies:**  
 Basic Services 028 313 8111  
 Fire & Rescue 028 312 2400

# Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality



## OVERSTRAND WELCOMES NEW MAYOR

Cllr Archie Klaas, a Zwelihle-born leader and Hawston Secondary alumnus, was elected Executive Mayor on 12 May 2025. He graduated in Marketing at CPUT in 2003 and brings nearly a decade of local government experience, most recently as Speaker of the Overberg District Municipality.

Acting Mayor Lindile Ntsabo has returned to his role as Deputy Mayor. Until further notice, Ald Grant Cohen will continue to serve as Speaker, and the current Mayoral Committee comprised of Ald Arnie Africa, Cllr Ronald Nutt, Ald Lindile Ntsabo and Cllr Stephen Williams will remain in place.

## DON'T DELAY

### Safeguard your property against heavy rains now!

With winter and the rainy season fast approaching, Overstrand Municipality is calling on residents to do their bit to help prevent localised flooding and water damage.

Homeowners are encouraged to inspect and clean their gutters, downpipes and storm-water drains to ensure proper water flow during heavy rains.

Keep in mind that blocked systems could not only cause unnecessary damage to your home but will also add pressure to municipal infrastructure.

For its part, the municipality will be rolling out its annual winter maintenance programme which involves clearing storm-water systems and unblocking drains as well as ensuring that key infrastructure is ready to cope with seasonal demands.

Residents are reminded that all service delivery matters can be reported around the clock to the municipal services emergency line at **028 313 8111** or via the **Overstrand Collab Citizen App**.

For general municipal enquiries, please contact the switchboard on **028 313 8000** or email **enquiries@overstrand.gov.za**.

In case of fire or rescue emergencies, please call **028 312 2400**.



## FOREIGN FACT-FINDING MISSIONS ENLIGHTENING

In recent months, Overstrand Municipality had the privilege of welcoming delegates from far and wide that came here specifically because they wanted to learn more about what lies at the heart of this local government's success and why, despite several seemingly insurmountable challenges, the municipality still manages to balance its books.

### DANISH DELEGATION IMPRESSED BY WARD-COMMITTEE SYSTEM

Early in May, the mayor of Lemvig, Erik Flyvholm, and a representative of the Danish Tax Agency, Ole Sørensen (both members of Venstre, Denmark's liberal party) paid a visit to Overstrand.

Given that Overstrand Municipality is widely recognised as "a municipality that works", they were particularly interested in learning more about how Council sets its agenda and decides on the budget.

The delegation was welcomed by Overstrand's Acting Executive Mayor, Ald. Lindile Ntsabo, Speaker Grant Cohen, and Ward 10 Councillor, Theresa Els, who all went to great lengths to explain how ward committees function and the crucial role they fulfil in making it possible for community members to have a direct say in decision-making processes.

In short, all who enjoy representation on a ward committee can raise issues through their ward councillor. Those issues are then passed on to the relevant Portfolio Committee that, after due consideration, will refer the matter to the Mayoral Committee for deliberation and possible tabling before Council.

As an added bonus, since she also serves as Overstrand Municipality's representative on the Council of the Overberg District Municipality, Councillor Els made use of this opportunity to also explain how the relationship between Overstrand Municipality and the district municipality works in practice and the benefits both derive from this cooperative arrangement.



*Apart from treating the Danish delegation to a whistle-stop tour of Hermanus' attractions, they had the opportunity to visit the Preekstoel water treatment works. This facility, the first of its kind in South Africa, makes use of a specialised bio-filtration process to treat a blend of water extracted from boreholes and the De Bos dam.*

### EXCHANGING INSIGHTS AND SHARING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ACROSS AFRICA

In the course of April, a delegation from the Ethiopian government and representatives of the World Bank paid a visit to Overstrand as part of a knowledge-exchange tour.

Acting Overstrand Executive Mayor, Ald. Lindile Ntsabo, used this opportunity to highlight the complexities of managing local government in South Africa.

"One of the major challenges we face is the highly regulated nature of local government. Unlike businesses, we cannot run local government as a business entity, particularly in the financial sector. We are governed by strict regulations and rules, which are designed to protect us from corruption. Sadly, though, corruption remains one of our biggest challenges."

He also touched on the struggles of foreign nationals who come to South Africa in the belief that they would be safe and could make a living here. "Even if you are a foreigner, if you can provide proof of your legal status in the country, nothing should prevent you from opening a spaza shop or starting a business. Rather than standing in your way, we should do our best to assist you as a brother from Africa," he said.

"At the end of the day," Ntsabo concluded, "we should support one another and share best practices since we, as fellow Africans, have an obligation to strengthen and build the African continent."

### ... Dispose of injectable medication safely

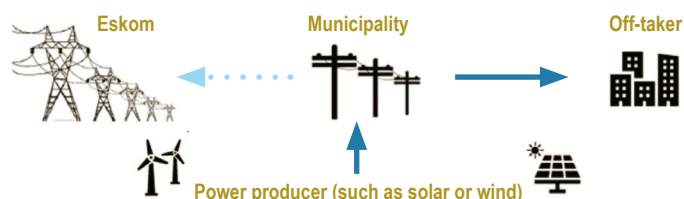
Used medical items like needles are not recyclable and pose a serious health risk to waste and recycling workers. Residents who use injectable medication (e.g. for diabetes) are kindly reminded that medical waste should not be disposed of as general waste (i.e. in a black bag), nor as recyclable items in a clear bag.



#### How to safely dispose of used syringes:

- ✓ Return used needles to the clinic or pharmacy that dispensed them since they would have a container suitable for the safe disposal of so-called "sharps".
- ✓ Alternatively, drop them off at your nearest hospital for safe disposal.

### ... Wheeling Policy



To illustrate Overstrand's commitment to a greener, cleaner and more resilient energy system that benefits the community, Council approved a wheeling policy that enables local consumers to buy renewable energy (such as solar or wind) directly from independent producers via the municipal grid.

This is a significant step towards moving away from fossil fuels and diversifying Overstrand's energy supply which will, simultaneously, help to reduce our reliance on Eskom.

*The Wheeling Policy can be found on [www.overstrand.gov.za](http://www.overstrand.gov.za) > Policies.*

## "UNLIMITED" OVERSTRAND SHINES AT TOURISM SHOW

**AFRICA'S TRAVEL INDABA** is an iconic leisure trade show hosted by South African Tourism in May each year. This year, 1 300 exhibitors and 400 small business from 27 African countries strutted their stuff for the around 1 000 top travel buyers from all over the world who attended the indaba.

Inspired by the theme "Africa Unlimited", Overstrand Tourism and several local operators in the hospitality and tourism industry made use of this opportunity to showcase the rich cultural heritage and diverse offerings this jewel along the south-western Cape's whale coast has to offer.

An extra bonus is that, as the name suggests, this annual event extends well beyond the mere "showcasing" of African leisure tourism products: Before the three-day show opens, exhibitors and tourism operators are afforded a whole day to "network" – an invaluable opportunity to not only get to grips with global trends but to also exchange knowledge and insights on a local level.



*Every picture tells a story: Clearly, Dr Ivan Meyer (Western Cape Minister of Agriculture and guest speaker at the indaba) thoroughly enjoyed a rare opportunity to rub shoulders with Hermanus' iconic Whale Crier, Silize Kuka. Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to making Overstrand's presence felt at the trade show. Pictured here are but a couple of our stars: Thys Geyer (Romansbaai Collection), Leoni McFarlane and Madeleine Smuts (Windsor Hotel, Hermanus), Cari Roets (Marine Dynamics) and Adinda Jantjies (Overstrand Tourism). Thanks, too, to Lee Matwa of White Shark Projects [inset] who captured the moment.*

## PROGRESS REPORT

## ELECTRICITY METER AUDIT

The comprehensive audit of all electricity meters in certain municipal areas (i.e. Greater Hermanus and Kleinmond) is still underway and is scheduled to continue until 30 June 2026.

This audit covers all prepaid and conventional electricity meters supplied by Overstrand Municipality as well as automatic geyser-control (ACD) units **but excludes meters supplied by Eskom.**

**To date, audits have already been completed in the following areas:**

- ❖ Hawston
- ❖ Zwelihle
- ❖ Certain areas of Mount Pleasant
- ❖ Certain areas of Hermanus

**During these inspections, a number of tampered meters were identified and resolved according to municipal procedures.**

### Authorised inspectors/field technicians

Spectrum Utility Management (SUM) is the sole service provider appointed by the municipality to carry out these meter audits. Not too long ago, SUM played a key role in assisting the municipality with the successful upgrade of all municipal prepaid electricity meters ahead of the token-identifier (TID) rollover deadline. In addition, SUM also supported the municipality with meter downgrades for households whose indigent status applications had been approved.

SIMSON KGOMO	GOODWILL TSHANDU	JIMMY TSOAGONG	MASIXOLE MAJARANA	LUVO TUTU	LUTHO SIYANDIBA	HERMAN BEKKER

Herman Bekker (Meter Audit & Credit Control) serves as the overall supervisor of the two teams deployed in Hermanus and Kleinmond respectively. The team in Hermanus is comprised of Bakhe Simson Kgomo, Goodwill Lwandile Tshandu, Jimmy Ramotsokai Tsoagong, Masixole Majarana and Luvo Tutu while Simson Kgomo, assisted by Lutho Siyandiba, is handling the audits in the Kleinmond area.

**Under municipal by-laws, all authorised inspectors/field technicians have the right to access properties and to inspect electricity meters.**

### Security reminder: Always keep this in mind when granting access

Residents are reminded to only grant access to authorised technicians and inspectors who present official identification issued by Overstrand Municipality.

If you have any doubts regarding an inspector's identity, please call us on 028 313 8000 or call the Electricity Department directly on 028 316 5600 for verification.

Note, too, that inspectors are **not** permitted to accept payments under any circumstances, neither are they allowed to carry out private work for residents.

