

OCTOBER 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

ENVISIONING LEAFY, LITTER-FREE TOWNS



Overstrand's Executive Mayor Archie Klaas, Overberg District Municipality's Speaker Lindile Ntsabo and Minister De Lille had every reason to be pleased with their haul. Unfortunately for them, that did not spell the end of a day's hard labour. Their brooms and scoops were promptly exchanged for shovels so that they could personally take care of planting ten indigenous trees (*Dombeya rotundifolia*) at the Zwelihle sports grounds in honour of Arbour Week.



September turned out to be a rather "labour-intensive" month for the Overstrand which saw one and all, including quite a number of dignitaries, exchanging their usual attire for coveralls and sturdy gloves before getting down and dirty, so to speak.

It so happened that Arbour Week coincided with a televised visit the Minister of Tourism Patricia de Lille paid Hermanus on the 6th of September – not to celebrate Tourism Month but to cover the extension of Deputy President Paul Mashatile's Clean Cities and Towns Campaign to this neck of the woods.

This campaign aims to promote cleaner, greener urban and rural environments by encouraging active community participation in cleaning activities across cities, towns and villages to not only cultivate a sense of community spirit and pride but to foster socio-economic opportunities.

As Minister De Lille pointed out: "It is a given that no-one wants to visit or invest in a place strewn with litter where illegal dumping poses a serious health hazard.

"One of the reasons why Overstrand is such a popular tourist destination is because it is clean – a distinction earned due to the exemplary waste-management practices you have adhered to for many, many years.

"Thank you for setting such a good example and for your willingness to share the lessons you have learnt," she added.

For his part, Executive Mayor Archie Klaas welcomed the Deputy President's national campaign since it will most definitely strengthen the local initiative going under the name "Street Cleanup Wednesday" where he personally joins hands with local communities to help spruce up neighbourhoods."

On the subject of greening Overstrand's neighbourhoods, Mayor Klaas said: "It is our intention

to plant another one thousand trees throughout the Overstrand by the end of the year, but it will be up to our communities to take ownership of and to care for each and every tree.

"This is a partnership, and that's why I find it so heart warming that Whale Coast Conservation, the Paddavlei Eco-Group and some 120 learners attending Hawston Primary stepped in to plant twenty-eight Milkwood trees in the Paddavlei area. As our Senior Field Ranger Marco Cornelius pointed out, this excursion wasn't just about getting dirty – it was about celebrating nature, learning new skills and making our environment better."

PASSPORT REQUIRED?

Some of us would rather steer well clear of tourism "hot-spots" over weekends, but it is not to say we have to miss out on the fun.

Sad but true, many a local resident seemingly miss out on some great events being staged right next door simply because they forgot to check out <https://www.overstrand.gov.za/top-things-to-do-this-weekend/>

From local markets and live music to nature adventures and interesting talks, this link and the more comprehensive Overstrand Event Calendar available on Cape Whale Coast's website (www.whalecoast.info) is the key to planning a fun weekend in those little nooks and crannies others have yet to discover.

Don't let Overstrand's delights pass you by. It's there for everyone to enjoy.

Do you know in which ward you live?

Overstrand's municipal area has been demarcated in 14 wards. Knowing in which one you live is rather important, not only for the purpose of partaking in local and national elections but to know who you should turn to if you want to bring a matter to Council's attention.

Nowadays, with the aid of an interactive map on our spruced-up official website, you can find your ward in a jiffy: To view the map, simply go to www.overstrand.gov.za > About Us > Know your Council.

This map not only makes it easy to view ward boundaries but is also your portal to key information relevant to your ward. By scrolling down, you'll find the name and contact details of your ward councillor as well as the names of those who serve on the ward committee and who they represent.

Most importantly, this is where you can see at a glance which projects have been prioritised in your ward, complete with details about budgeted capital projects and an indication of envisaged spatial development in your ward.

Remember, local government can only be effective if it is a two-way street: As much as we as a municipality can do our best to meet your needs, we are at a loss if we don't know what those needs are. So, go check out the map today and be sure to attend ward committee meetings so that your voice can be heard.

ADDRESSING THE DIRE NEED FOR HOUSING

THIS IS **WHERE WE STAND**■ **Upgrading of Informal Settlements**

Rather than relocating residents, Overstrand Municipality prefers upgrading existing settlements in situ where ever possible. In doing so, community networks and livelihoods are preserved while a phased process is followed to move towards more formal housing and permanent services.

Commonly referred to as UISP, this human settlements programme aims to improve living conditions in informal settlements by providing basic services (water, sanitation, electricity) and, in the long run, land tenure security. In the Overstrand, UISP projects have been completed or are underway in the following informal settlements:

MASAKHANE, GANSBAAI

- By end October this year, civil services would have been installed and roads constructed to service a total of 1 184 sites.
- To date, wetcores (i.e. a toilet, tap and wash-through) have been installed on 973 completed serviced sites.

ZWELIHLE, HERMANUS

- In March 2024, the Department of Infrastructure granted pre-planning approval for 4 000 UISP sites in Dubai (formerly known as Schulphoek).
- ASLA Construction has been appointed as the implementing agent, and the project steering committee is currently engaged in an extensive public-participation process with a view to finalising a conceptual plan.
- On finalisation of that plan, the requisite environmental impact assessments will be submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEADP) for consideration.
- Once the DEADP has given the go-ahead, the process to seek formal approval in terms of the Land Use Planning Act will commence.

OVERHILLS, KLEINMOND

- In July 2025, the Department of Infrastructure granted approval for the funding that will be necessary to plan the envisaged upgrade of this informal settlement.
- Since this UISP project might involve the relocation of the waste transfer station in Kleinmond, a rather protracted process that involves seeking town planning approvals as well as a go-ahead from the DEADP is bound to follow.
- Currently, environmental impact assessments are underway.

■ **Integrated Residential Developments**

Aimed at creating compact, functional and inclusive communities rather than isolated "islands" of subsidised housing, this programme (commonly referred to as IRDP) is intended to create integrated, sustainable and well-planned residential developments that provide a mix of housing options for a whole array of income groups.

Typically, these housing options include top structures (so-called Breaking New Ground [BNG] houses) and infill serviced sites for beneficiaries who qualify for first-home financing.

At the time of going to press, details regarding IRDP projects either completed or underway in the Overstrand reflected the following:

BLOMPARK, GANSBAAI

- Out of the 539 planned BNG top structures, 400 have already been handed over and the remainder (i.e. 139 units) is under construction. The intended completion date for the latter is March 2026.

STANFORD

- A total of 621 erven were earmarked for this development. With the exclusion of the 48 erven set aside for first-home financing beneficiaries, BNG top structures have been erected on the remainder (i.e. 573 sites) and handed over.

MOUNT PLEASANT, HERMANUS

- Of the 300 earmarked infill sites, 283 have already been provided with civil infrastructure, and it is envisaged that the remaining 17 sites will be fully serviced by the end of the 2025/2026 fiscal year.

ERVEN 6936 & 6862, KLEINMOND

- Following on approval in terms of the Land Use Planning Act for the development of 37 serviced sites on the subject erven, a funding application has been submitted to the Department of Infrastructure. On approval of that application, the installation of civil services will commence.

**PRIORITY HUMAN SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT AREAS**

With a view to creating sustainable, economically vibrant and well-connected communities through comprehensive development plans that guide public and private investment in housing, infrastructure and social services, certain government-designated areas (commonly referred to as PHSDAs) can qualify for targeted resource allocation and funding. In Overstrand, one such area encompasses various portions of land stretching from Fisherhaven to Hermanus.

**GREATER HERMANUS (WEST) PHSDA**

- Following on approval of an application to include the subject portions of land in a PHSDA, a funding application to develop a conceptual development plan encompassing the entire area was approved by the Western Cape Government in March 2024.
- Shortly thereafter, consultants along with a dedicated professional team were appointed to fine-tune said plan, which was then made public as part of the IDP process for comment. This process also involved several ward meetings to ensure that those residing in Hawston and Fisherhaven were kept abreast of developments throughout.
- Going forward, the potential projects identified in said conceptual development plan will serve as the basis for planning funding applications submitted to the Department of Infrastructure.

Do note that Overstrand Municipality merely acts as an implementing agent for new housing projects on behalf of the Western Cape Department of Human Settlements. To apply for housing in Overstrand, applicants must register on the Western Cape Housing Demand Database. Most importantly, applicants already on the database must remember to update their contact details. Whenever such a change occurs, be sure to visit the Housing Office at your nearest municipal office in person without delay to ensure that your contact details are updated.