

SEPTEMBER 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

DATA-DRIVEN PARTNERSHIP WITH

THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL SPACE AGENCY (SANSA)

Overstrand Municipality has partnered with SANSA to explore data and technology projects that will benefit the region.

One of the initiatives currently being investigated is a Data Centre that will process, store and distribute data. Centres such as these are indispensable for the digital economy since they support online businesses and data-driven technologies.

Archie Klaas (Executive Mayor) and Clinton Lerm (Mayco Member for Infrastructure Services, who will spearhead this initiative) recently met with SANSA CEO and Executive Director: Space Science, Humbulani Mudau and Raoul Hodges, to discuss the way forward.



OVERSTRAND IN THE LIMELIGHT:

HOSTING SPACE20 AND THE P20



S20 SOUTH AFRICA 2025
 SCIENCE Climate Change and Well-being

Overstrand is excited to host two high-level G20 events. The Group of Twenty (G20) will bring international leaders to our region and will highlight Overstrand's growing role in global innovation. Quite fittingly, too, these events coincide with Tourism Month, affording us a unique opportunity to "market" Overstrand's natural beauty and world-class hospitality to an audience that comes from all over the world.

From 1 to 3 September 2025, the 6th Space Economy Leaders Meeting (SELM) will be held at the Arabella Hotel & Spa near Kleinmond. This event is part of the Space20 engagement group under South Africa's G20 presidency and is

coordinated by the South African National Space Agency (SANSA), hosting a series of meetings focused on using space technology to support inclusive and sustainable development.

Overstrand was selected not only for its capacity to host high-level international events but also for its strategic location at the heart of a future space hub. This hub includes SANSA's internationally recognised Space Science Facility in Hermanus, the only place in Africa where one will find a magnetically clean research environment and an accredited Space Weather Centre. The space hub also encompasses a rapidly growing space industry, primarily based in Stellenbosch and

Somerset West, that specialises in manufacturing satellite components. Furthermore, the Satellite Integration Facility near Grabouw is currently being upgraded, and the launch capability in Arniston has been earmarked for further expansion.

Later in September, the 11th G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P20) will also take place at Arabella. Delegates will engage in dialogue to promote inclusive growth, human rights and sustainable development — making this more than just a meeting, but a vital step toward a more equitable future. This summit will be preceded by the Meetings of Women and Young Parliamentarians.

OVERSTRAND TAKES TOP SPOT IN WASTE MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE



Proudly displaying the trophy and certificate as winners of the Municipal Waste Management Recognition Programme in the Western Cape are Deputy Mayor and Mayco Member for Planning & Development, Elnora Gillion, and Senior Engineer for Waste Management, Craig Mitchell, flanked by DEA&DP's Chief Director: Environmental Quality, Gottlieb Arendse, and Director: Waste Management, Saliem Haider. This recognition celebrates Overstrand's commitment to sustainable waste practices – a proud achievement for the team and community.

IMPROVED SEARCH FUNCTIONALITY ON www.overstrand.gov.za

Overstrand Municipality is pleased to share that the search function on its official website – www.overstrand.gov.za – has been improved significantly.

Search results are now neatly grouped under three categories: Documents, Notices/Advertisements, and Articles. This means users can find what they're looking for more easily, without needing to scroll through one long list of mixed results. A new tabbed layout also allows visitors to switch quickly between content types, with the number of results clearly shown for each section.

The upgraded system supports both full keyword searches and partial word searches, helping users locate relevant content even if they don't have the precise wording. Results are displayed from newest to oldest; so the most recent information appears first.

For larger sets of results, improved navigation tools now make it easier to browse through documents in an organised and user-friendly way.

These updates are part of ongoing efforts to make Overstrand Municipality's online services more accessible and efficient for residents.



REPLACEMENT OF ASBESTOS-CEMENT PIPES IN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE



Like in many municipalities in South Africa (in fact, the world over), asbestos-cement (AC) pipes remain part of older water infrastructure in the Overstrand.

While both international and local research (including assessments by the World Health Organisation) have consistently found no significant health risk from asbestos fibres in drinking water, Overstrand Municipality continues to prioritise the systematic replacement of these legacy pipes with modern, high-density polyethylene alternatives.

OVERSTRAND'S PIPE-REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME

- Overstrand Municipality allocates significant resources annually to modernise its water infrastructure.
- On average, R10 million per year is spent on pipe replacement, with a strong focus on replacing AC pipes.
- For the 2025/26 financial year, this budget has increased to R13,5 million.
- Concurrently, the municipality is actively exploring alternative funding sources to accelerate the pipe-replacement programme.
- The long-term goal is to completely phase out AC infrastructure, subject to funding and project prioritisation.

Rollout of AARTO in Overstrand set for April 2026



AARTO – short for the Administrative Adjudication of Road Traffic Offences – aims to centralise the management of traffic offences across South Africa. It replaces various local traffic-fine systems with a single national platform and introduces a national demerit point system to promote road safety.

AARTO implementation will commence on 1 December 2025, without the demerit point system, and will be phased in across municipalities and metros as per the proclamation signed off by the President.

The National Department of Traffic has identified 1 April 2026 as the date on which implementation of the AARTO Act by Overstrand Municipality should commence.

Preparations are underway, including:

- Training of traffic officers and administrative staff
- Back-office readiness and compliance
- Deployment of IT equipment
- Integration with NaTIS and network connectivity

These steps form part of the planning and rollout process to ensure effective and compliant implementation of this Act in the municipality.

One of the key benefits of the AARTO system is its centralised digital platform. Motorists will be able to view all outstanding fines in one place, see whether discounts apply and pay by making use of an array of accessible methods. Monthly notifications will keep drivers informed about new infringements.

How will it work?

- Every motorist starts with zero demerit points on their licence.
- Demerit points are allocated based on the type of traffic offence committed.
- Accumulating more than 15 points will result in a three-month licence suspension for each point above the limit.
- Two or more suspensions will lead to full cancellation of the driver's licence, obliging the motorist to go through the entire licensing process – beginning with getting a learner's licence – yet again.
- Minor infringements, such as low-level speeding, may result in the loss of one to two points.
- Serious offences, like ignoring a stop sign, disobeying traffic lights or having a missing number plate, typically carry two demerit points.
- The rules also apply to vehicle operator cards, not just individual driver's licences.

SAFE HANDLING AND DISPOSAL OF ASBESTOS

The municipality regularly conducts up-skilling and training programmes to ensure staff are equipped to handle hazardous materials safely. Most recently, early in May this year, 23 municipal staff members across the Overstrand underwent certified asbestos-awareness training in collaboration with the National Department of Employment and Labour.

As part of this safety-first approach, our plumbing teams do their utmost to replace the entire length of any asbestos-cement pipe in the event of a break, rather than cutting into it. This is a precautionary measure to prevent the release of asbestos fibres or particles into the air.

When asbestos-cement pipes are replaced, appointed contractors are also required to follow strict safety protocols, in line with national health and safety regulations.

These same requirements apply to other asbestos-containing materials commonly found in the building environment, such as roofing, gutters and other structural components. All such work must comply with the Asbestos Abatement Regulations, 2020 (GG43893) and the Occupational Health and Safety Act:

- Only contractors registered with the Department of Labour may perform Type 2 or Type 3 asbestos-related work.
- This applies to both underground infrastructure and asbestos in buildings, such as roof sheets, ceiling panels, fascia boards or cladding.
- A registered asbestos contractor must be appointed for any asbestos-related removal, repair or disposal work.
- An application for a demolition permit must be submitted to the relevant Building Control office. This application must include the details of the registered asbestos contractor who intends to complete the demolition work.

Overstrand Municipality remains committed to ensuring the safety of its residents and workers, the reliability of its infrastructure and compliance with all relevant national regulations regarding asbestos materials.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



Ridding our communities of this scourge and offering support

In the course of Women's Month, the question was raised as to whether Overstrand Municipality has a Gender-based Violence Programme in place. In response, Municipal Manager Dean O'Neill responded as follows:



Even though gender-based violence (GBV) is not a core local government mandate, Overstrand is doing all it can to support the relevant departments, community-based organisations and local law enforcement.

To this end, we appointed a Special Project Officer. In the past financial year, this official conducted seventeen GBV awareness outreaches and facilitated Overstrand's participation in five events as part of the **16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children campaign**.

In addition, delegates from our law enforcement and social units participate in a Department of Health-driven, multi-stakeholder group with a singular focus: to prevent violence.

This participation led to initiating and conducting the Community GBV Dialogue in Zwelihle in July this year.

Our law enforcers are also being sensitised as to how victims ought to be treated, and the Department of Community Safety (in partnership with Social Development) is busy training thirty volunteer GBV ambassadors right now.

Overstrand Municipality is but all too aware that ridding our communities of the scourge of GBV will take far more than merely creating awareness. We need to identify and address the gaps.

To ensure that adequate services are provided in the best interest of the victim, it is crucial that all involved – including community-based organisations, police officers, the judiciary and those who provide after-care – fully understand their roles in addressing often complex cases.

To this end, Overstrand Municipality intends to conduct more dialogues with all involved – including communities.

GBV affects all communities. If we are to rid society of GBV, all of us must unite in safeguarding our women.

There is so much that still needs to be done. Let's all do our bit to put an end to this scourge once and for all.

