



ENGAGEMENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES:
SALGA HOUSE, CAPE TOWN
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PRESENTATION BY NMBM HEALTH MMC

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OUTLINE

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BACKGROUND

- The NMBM is one of the 2 metropolitan municipalities in the Eastern Cape Province
- The NMBM has an estimated population of 1,3 million citizens (1,308,444- StatsSA, 2015)
- The NMBM implements the full scope of municipal health services
- The service budget for the past three years
 - 2017/18 – 46,599,750
 - 2018/19 – 63,435,310
 - 2019/20 – 72,763,470
- In the past the significance of the service was not well understood or could have been poorly communicated. Now, there are clear communication channels between the politicians and the administration. The budget reflects that the attention given to the service by the municipality is growing



BACKGROUND

- CAPITAL PROJECTS

- OUTBREAK READINESS FACILITY (R5, 000, 000)
- LAND & FACILITIES FOR TRADITIONAL MALE INITIATION (R10, 500,000)
- AIR POLLUTION MONITORING EQUIPMENT (R1, 900,000)
- POLLUTION MONITORING (MOBILE) (R1, 200,000)
- ANIMAL POUND (R700,000)
- EH TARIFFS ARE GRADUALLY INTRODUCED TO INCREASE REVENUE FOR THE SERVICE
- THE NMBM HAS INVESTED SIGNIFICANTLY ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY AND IS CONTINUING TO DO SO
- THE RECENT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE ENDORSED AN ACTION PLAN FOR FILLING OF EH VACANCIES TO MEET THE NATIONAL STAFFING NORM AS REFLECTED IN THE RECENT AUDIT OF THE NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
- THE SUCCESS OF CURATIVE HEALTH SERVICES IN THE NMB DISTRICT IS LARGELY DEPENDENT ON THE SUCCESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN IMPLEMENTING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

LEGAL CONTEXT

- The South African Constitution allocates municipal health services to local sphere of government in terms of Part B Schedule 4
- The National Health Act, (61 of 2003) outlines municipal health services for South Africa
- The constitution is clear in that constitutional mandates have to be implemented diligently and without delay
- It is for this reason that in the NMBM, the environmental health services are a priority
- The next slide will show how environmental health services are understood

THE CONTEXT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

- ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ENCOMPASSES THOSE ASPECTS OF HUMAN HEALTH INCLUDING QUALITY OF LIFE THAT ARE DETERMINED BY: PHYSICAL, CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, SOCIAL AND PSYCHOSOCIAL FACTORS IN THE ENVIRONMENT. IT ALSO REFERS TO THE THEORY & PRACTICE OF ASSESSING, CORRECTING, CONTROLLING & PREVENTING THOSE FACTORS IN THE ENVIRONMENT THAT CAN POTENTIALLY AFFECT ADVERSELY THE HEALTH OF PRESENT & FUTURE GENERATIONS (NAT. EH POLICY, 2013)
- FROM THE DEFINITION IT IS CLEAR THAT: EH SERVICES ARE USED TO ASSESS HUMAN ENVIRONMENTS (SURROUNDINGS) BY (TESTING, MEASUREMENT, INSPECTION, AUDITING, RESEARCH ETC. TO UNDERSTAND THE RISK TO HUMAN HEALTH BEFORE CERTIFYING OR APPROVAL OF ANY ACTIVITY OR USE OF PREMISES). THIS IS DONE FOR HUMAN HEALTH SECURITY OR FOR HUMAN HEALTH SUSTENANCE (SHORT TERM & LONG TERM).
- THE HEALTH CRISIS FOR SOUTH AFRICA CAN ONLY CHANGE ONCE THIS CONCEPT IS UNDERSTOOD, BUDGETED FOR AND EXECUTED DILIGENTLY. LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS BEST SUITED FOR THIS KEY AREA AS IT IS CLOSER TO COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING REGULATED COMMUNITIES SUCH AS INDUSTRIES, COMMERCIAL PREMISES, INSTITUTIONS, ETC.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

- THE HEALTH PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE OF WHICH I AM THE CHAIRPERSON EXERCISES OVERSIGHT OVER THE ADMINISTRATION OF HEALTH SERVICES OF THE MUNICIPALITY
- THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTORATE REPORTS TO ME AND THE OVERSIGHT MEETING BETWEEN THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE AND THE ADMINISTRATION HAPPENS ONCE EVERY MONTH.
- VARIOUS REPORTS INCLUDING CHALLENGES ARE PRESENTED TO COMMITTEE FOR SCRUTINY AND RESOLUTION
- THE SERVICE IS MANAGED DIRECTLY BY QUALIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PERSONNEL. THE DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORTS TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PUBLIC HEALTH WHO REPORTS TO THE CITY MANAGER



RISKS RELATING TO NON-RENDERING OF SERVICES

- NON-COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTIONAL IMPERATIVES
- SERVICE DELIVERY PROTESTS
- WORSENING OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN HEALTH CRISIS, DISEASE OUTBREAKS, BURDEN OF DISEASE
- LITIGATION DUE TO – UNSAFE DRINKING WATER, UN-INSPECTED FOOD PREMISES, AIR POLLUTION, INFESTATIONS
- NEGATIVE EFFECTS ON THE ECONOMY AND REPUTATIONAL DAMAGE FOR THE COUNTRY



THANK YOU

