

2016/17 ANNUAL REPORT



WATERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY FIRE SERVICES



MISSION

To respond to fires, hazardous materials incidents and rescues on land to save lives, property and the environment.

VISION

To be a committed Division in the Municipality to all we serve.

CORE VALUES OF THE DIVISION

We value a rich humanistic tradition and committed to service, professionalism, discipline, integrity, accountability and pride.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

As members of the Waterberg District Municipality Fire Services, we believe in the following principles:

- The safety of our members and the citizens we serve is paramount,
- We will provide the highest quality of service to all who call upon us,
- We believe in service, professionalism, discipline, integrity, accountability and pride.
- We recognize and respect the rights of all we serve,
- We are committed to the preservation of life and property of our citizens,
- We believe that the professional development of our members will lead to improved quality of service,
- We will promote a positive environment that inspires teamwork.

SYNOPSIS

Waterberg District Municipality is a Category C municipality found in the Limpopo province.

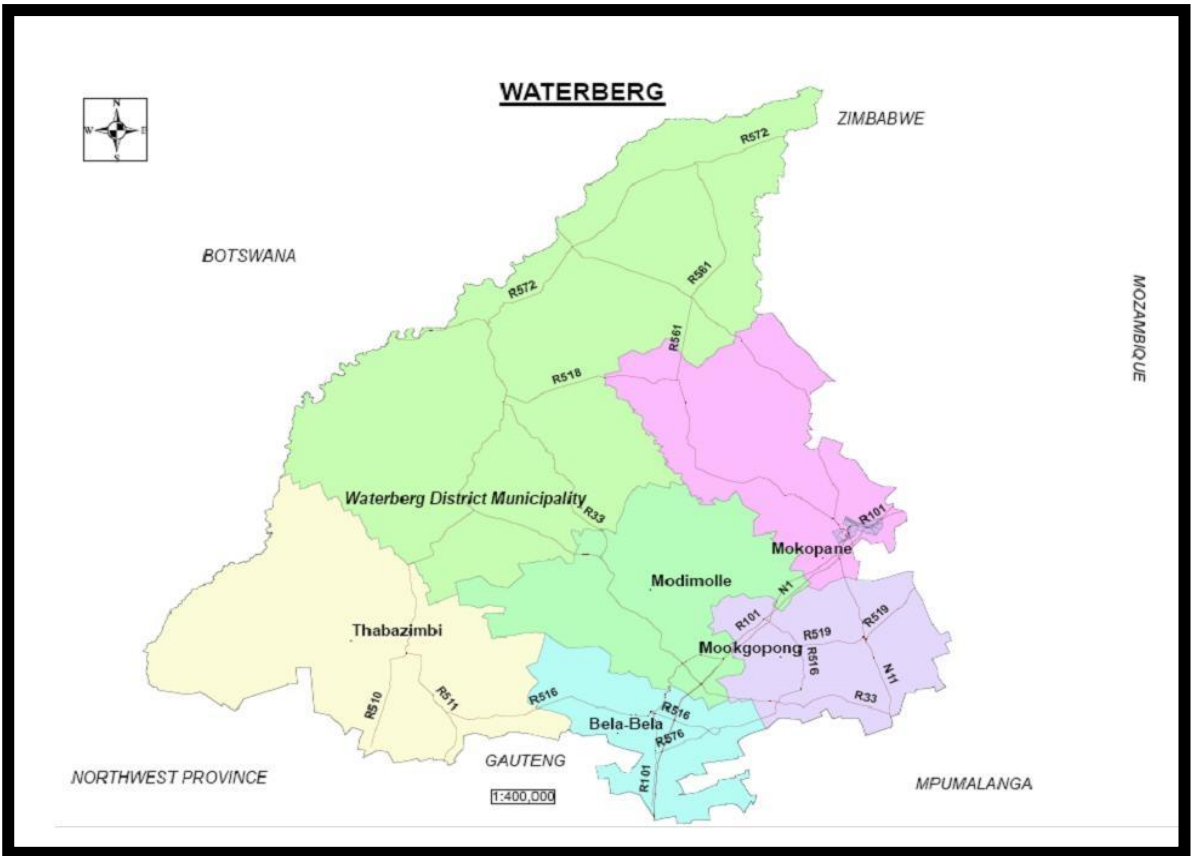
It is geographically located on the western part of Limpopo province and shares its five-border control point with Botswana, namely Groblersbridge, Stokpoort, Derdepoort, Zanzibar and Platjan.

It is strategically located in sharing its borders with Capricorn District Municipality on the north and Sekhukhune District Municipality in the east. The south-western boundary abuts the North West, while the Gauteng province lies on the south-eastern side.

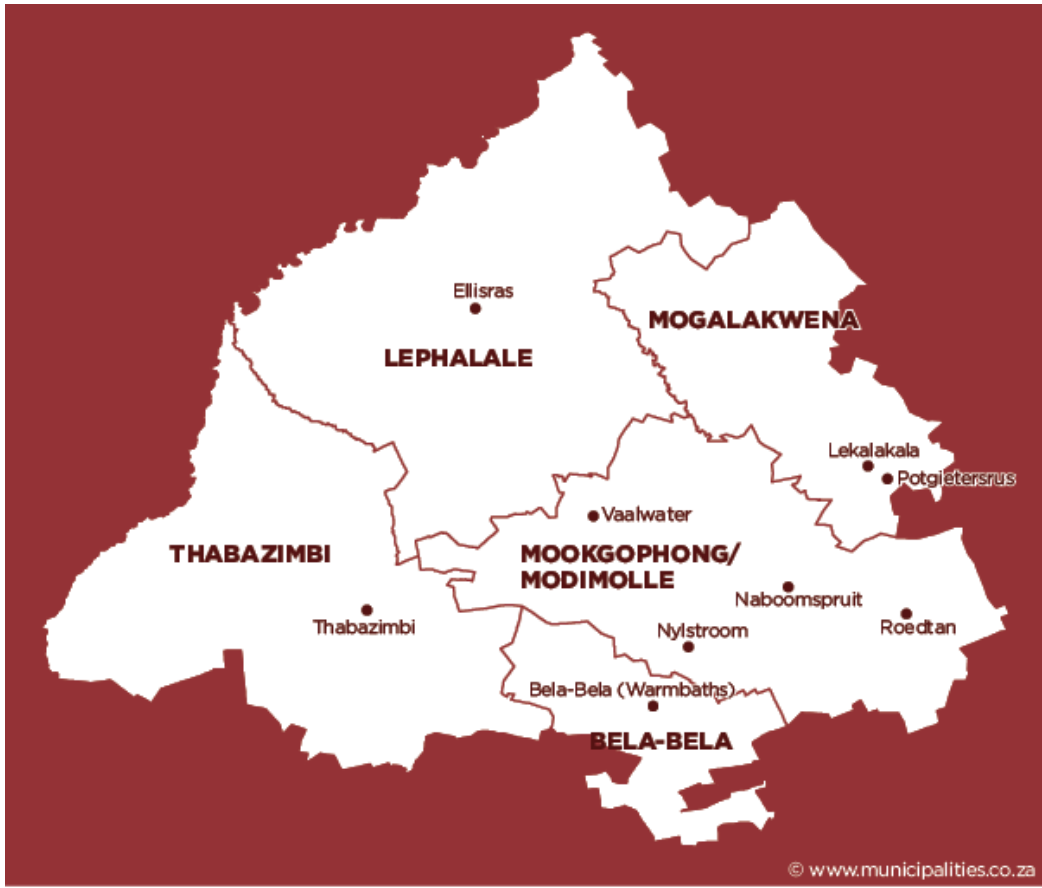
The Waterberg District Municipality is comprised of six local municipalities, namely Bela-Bela, Lephalale, Modimolle, Mogalakwena, Mookgophong and Thabazimbi with a total area of 45 579.62 km², population of 679 336 and total household of 179 866 as stated on table below.

LOCAL MUNICIPALITY	AREA(KM ²)	% of DISTRICT	POPULATION	HOUSEHOLDS
Bela-Bela	4 000 km ²	8.07	66 500	18 068
Lephalale	14 000km ²	28.3	115 767	29 880
Modimolle	6 227 km ²	12.57	68 513	17 525
Mogalakwena	6 200km ²	12.52	307 682	79 395
Mookgophong	4 270.62km ²	9.2	35 640	9 918
Thabazimbi	10 882km ²	21.97	85 234	25 080
District Municipality	45 579.62 km²	92.63	679 336	179 866

Waterberg IDP 2014/15



Distribution of local municipalities in Waterberg District



Bela- Bela is strongest agricultural area in the Waterberg and shows a comparative advantage as strong services sector both in the national and provincial economies. It is also a large scale tourism activities and the hub of tourism outside the proclaimed nature reserves and the Waterberg Biosphere, every year lots of veld fires are encountered. On 1 September 2012, the popular nature reserve and holiday resort, Sondela Nature Reserve, suffered substantial damages when a devastating veld fire tore through the reserve.

Lephalale is Category B (in terms of SANS 10090): Limited central business district, smaller commercial or industrial areas normally associated with small towns and decentralized areas of cities and large towns. Moderate risk, characterised by the development of Medupi, Matimba power station and Caltex industrial nearby. Successful control and extinguishing of fires depends on sufficient appliances responding with adequate manpower and arriving within reasonable time, EXXARO and Eskom assist in responding to emergencies as they are designated services.

LIM368, former Mookgophong is primarily a service centre supporting strong agricultural hinterland and existing mining activities in close proximity to the town, veld fires are the concern in the area. Vaalwater was initially developed as service centre for local farms. It is in the beneficial position to develop as hub of the Waterberg Biosphere.

In **Mogalakwena**, Bakenberg, Rebone and Beauty/Ga-Seleka, are very low municipal service points. The emphasis should be on creating opportunities for establishing satellite stations for community services.

Thabazimbi is dominated by a single sector; mining. The future role of the node will increase in importance as mining activities shifts from iron ore to platinum.

Municipality	Number of Informal Settlement(s)
Bela-Bela	2
Lephalale	3
LIM368	5
Mogalakwena	4
Thabazimbi	6

MECHANISMS FOR PROVISION OF SERVICE

Only two Local Municipalities namely Mogalakwena and Thabazimbi renders the service on behalf of the district through service delivery agreements (SDAs) which have expired.

LEGISLATIVE MANDATE OF THE DISTRICT

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa Act 108 of 1996: Section 41 (1)(h)

All spheres of government and all organ of state within each sphere must-

(h) Co-operate with one another in mutual trust and good faith by:-

- (i) fostering friendly relations;
- (ii) assisting and supporting one another;
- (iii) informing one another of, and consulting one another on, matters of common interest;
- (iv) co-ordinating their actions and legislation with one another;
- (v) adhering to agreed procedures; and avoiding legal proceedings against one another.

Municipal Structures Act 117 of 1998:- Chapter 5 Section 84 (1)(j):

A district municipality has the following functions and powers:

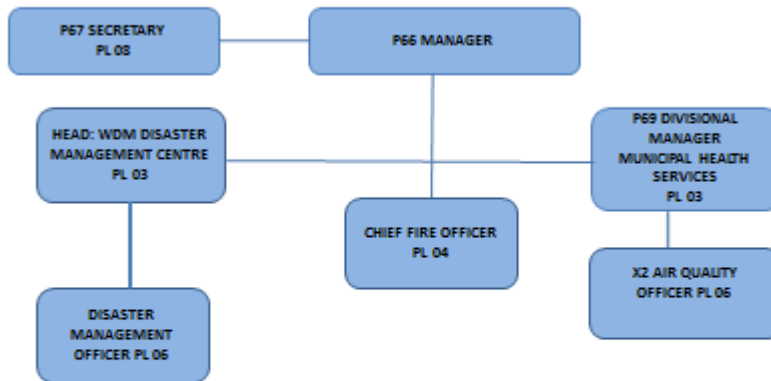
Fire Fighting Services serving the area of the district municipality as a whole, which includes-

- (i) Planning, co-ordination and regulation of fire services;

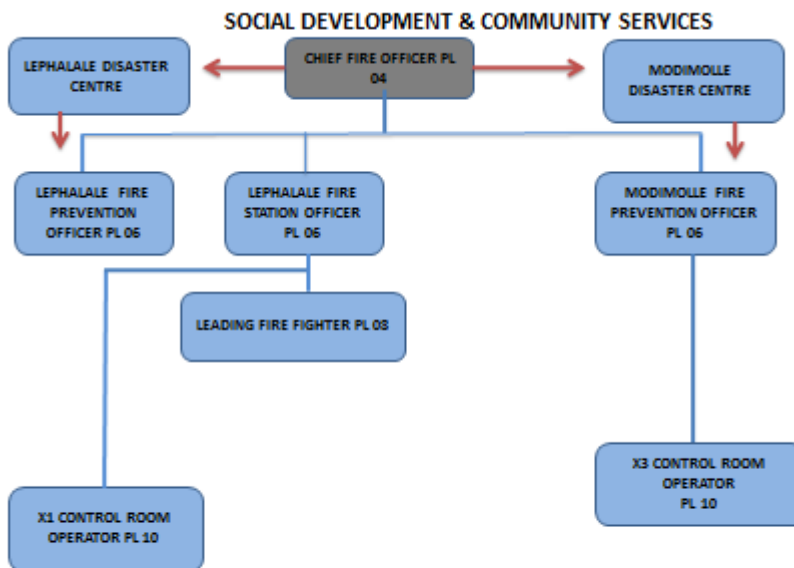
- (ii) Specialized fire fighting services such as mountain, veld and chemical fire services;
- (iii) Co-ordination of standardisation of infrastructure, vehicles, equipments and procedures;
- (iv) Training of fire officers.

ORGANOGRAM

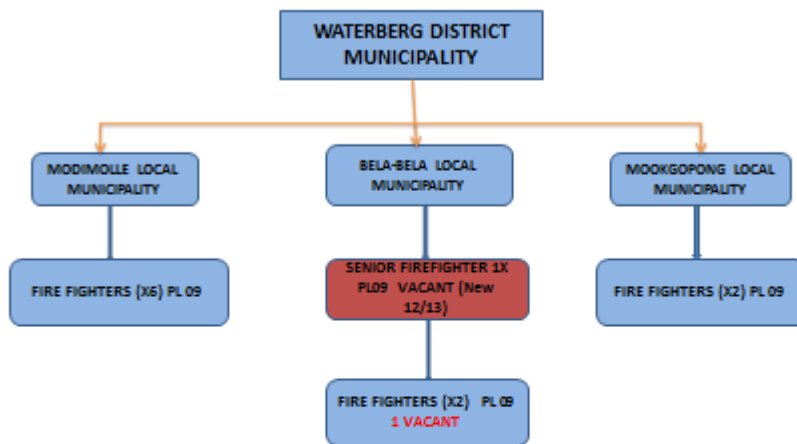
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES – CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



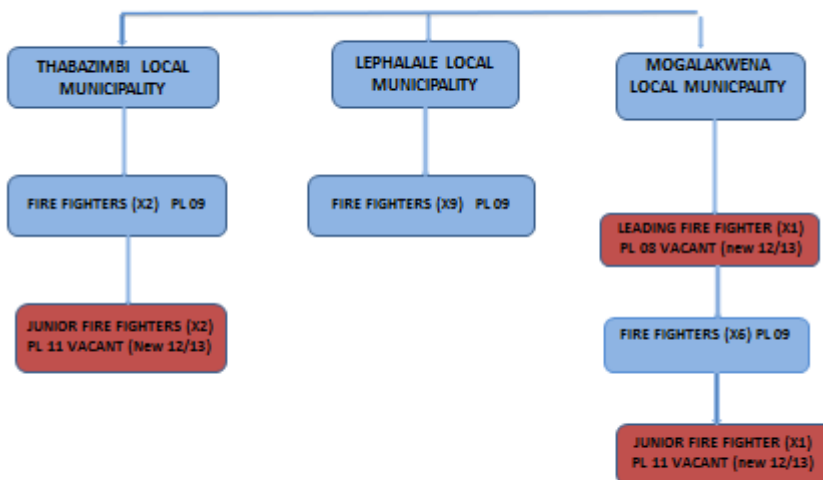
WDM ORGANOGRAM REVIEWED 03 DECEMBER 2015
(A297/2015 & A306/2015) 2016/17



WDM ORGANOGRAM REVIEWED 03 DECEMBER 2015
(A297/2015 & A306/2015) 2016/17



WDM ORGANOGRAM REVIEWED 03 DECEMBER 2013
(A297/2013 & A306/2013) 2016/17



WDM ORGANOGRAM REVIEWED 03 DECEMBER 2013
(A297/2013 & A306/2013) 2016/17

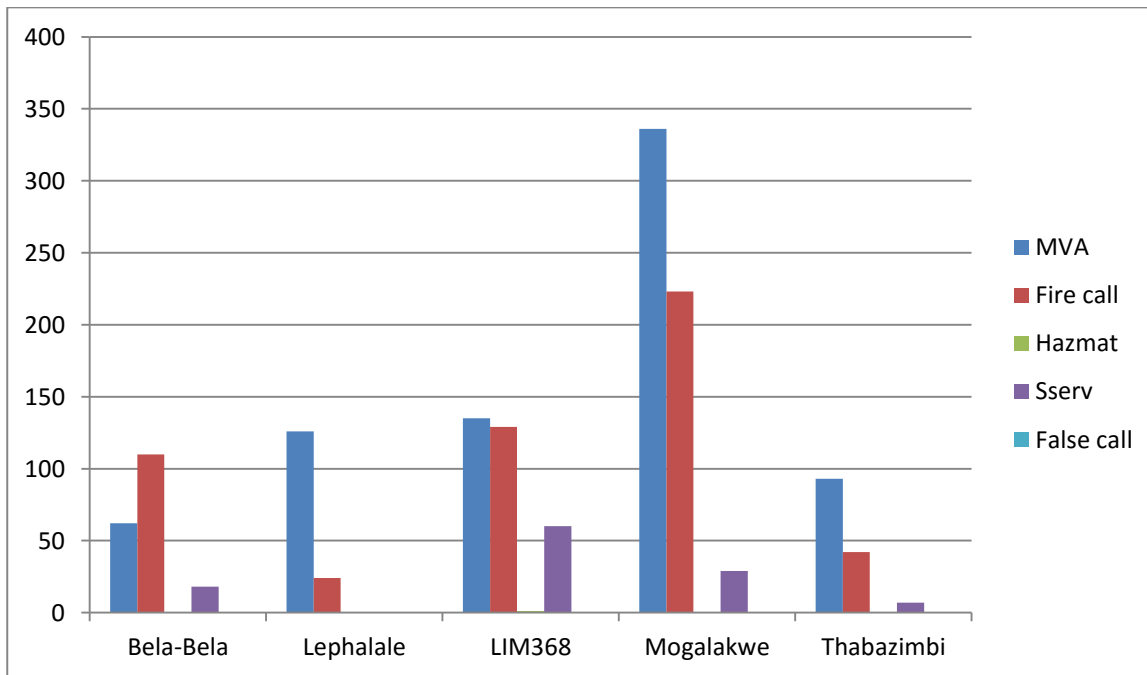
QUARTERLY REPORT SUBMISSION

Municipality	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total
Bela-Bela	1	1	1	1	4
Lephalale	1	1	1	1	4
LIM368	1	1	1	1	4
Mogalakwena	1	1	1	1	4
Thabazimbi	1	1	0	1	3

NUMBER OF CALLS

Municipality	MVA	Fires calls	HAZMAT	S/Services	False calls
Bela-Bela	62	110	0	18	0
Lephalale	126	24	0	0	0
LIM368	135	129	1	60	0
Mogalakwena	336	223	0	29	0
Thabazimbi	93	42	0	7	0

Below are expressed in graphs



MAJOR ACCIDENTS

On Saturday, 10 June 2017 16:39 the control room received a motor vehicle accident (MVA) call on ±4km N1 north of Kranskop. On arrival of the Fire Officer, he identified the substance as ammonium nitrate.

The substance is predominantly used in agriculture as a high-nitrogen fertilizer. Its other major use is as a component of explosive mixtures used in mining, quarrying, and civil construction.

The road was since closed for traffic safety and traffic was diverted to R33 to join R101 towards north and towards south was diverted from Modimolle off ramp and opened the following day Sunday, 11 June 2017 10:40.

ACTIONS BY WDM FIRE SERVICES

Modimolle fire services responded on time and they were on the incident the whole night until the next morning 10:30.

The substance was not involved in fire and there were fatalities.

LESSON LEARNED FROM THE INCIDENT

Lack of resources poses a threat to responders/firefighters.

COMPARISSON TO OTHER DISTRICTS IN LIMPOPO IN RELATION TO FIREFIGHTING STAFF

Capricorn	= 70
Mopani	= 72
Sekhukhune	= 80
Waterberg	= 33
Vhembe	= 102

CHALLENGES AND RISKS

There are a number of challenges that are encountered and the general control of the fire fighters.

- Non-response to accidents due to strike,
- Non-compliance to fire related legislations and regulations,
- Non submission of quarterly reports,
- Poor care and maintenance of fire vehicles (damages to the vehicles are not reported),
- Loss of equipment/apparatus due to accidents and theft,
- Improper handling of incidents,
- Serious personnel shortage,
- Utilization of members without prescribed qualifications,
- Poor logging of calls,
- Lack of supervision during emergencies,
- Late response to emergency scenes,
- Lack of professionalism,
- Salary escalations without WDM consultation,
- Improper self-appointment to higher positions,
- Non implementation of Fire Service Tariffs,
- Approval of Building plans performed by traffic officers,
- Concern activities dealing with the safety conditions as contemplated in section 6(2) of the National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act, 1977 (Act 103 of 1977) in relation to plan analysing, building site meetings and building inspections to establish whether fire safety requirements are met,

- Inability to implement Fire Brigade Services Act and National Fire Codes due to SDAs,
- Non-accountability of assets,
- Improper use of protective clothing,
- Due to cash flow problems, some local municipalities are unable to procure uniform for their fire fighters,
- Municipalities allowing new recruits to drive municipal vehicles without undergoing driver pre-assessment,
- Mode of communication during emergency response.

CHALLENGES EMANATING FROM RADIO COMMUNICATION

- WDM is in a process of consultation with other municipalities outside the District to find out as to how they managed to procure the system.

CHALLENGES EMANATING FROM STAFF SHORTAGE

- Accumulation of more hours of work than required,
- Fatigue to fire fighters which can lead to injuries, heart related disorders and deaths,
- Frustration amongst the fire fighters due to long hours of work,
- Late response to emergencies due to lack of proper supervision,
- Utilisation of unqualified people during emergencies.

2016/17 WDM IDP [fire services]

Firefighting services is the function of Waterberg District Municipality but it is not individually prioritised as a function as contemplated in 2015/16 WDM IDP

Municipal priority issues – Disaster Management (Fire Services included).

It is important to note that Disaster Management & Fire Services are not one function as each has its own specific legislation. Firefighting service is critical as it provides first response/first line of defence to life-threatening emergencies and in area where fire services is weak/ without capacity, a routine emergency can have disastrous consequences.

Two separate meetings (01 September 2014 and 12 August 2015) were arranged and held with officials from Provincial COGHSTA and National COGTA to clarify on the issue of Disaster Management and Fire Services. It was reiterated that Disaster Management and Fire Services are not one function as each have its own specific legislation and further that Fire Service is a line function which needs a short reporting line and Disaster Management is a coordinating function within the District.

Problem with staffing

Municipality	Existing staff	Gender		Compliance to SANS 10090: Community protection against fire
		Male	Female	
Bela-Bela	1	1	0	None
Lephalale	8	7	1	None
Modimolle LIM368	6	5	1	None
Mogalakwena	9	7	2	None
Mookgophong LIM368	2	2	0	None
Thabazimbi	2	2	0	None
WDM	5	5	0	None
TOTAL	33	29	4	

Maintenance of the vehicles

Currently the district does not have maintenance plan/contract in place, the local municipalities service the vehicles at their own workshops and sometimes they utilise external service providers/dealerships. Lack of maintenance contract creates a problem wherein if the water pump on the fire truck get broken or need a service, the dealership will be in no position to repair it as it is not their competency.

Budget.

Firefighting service and Disaster budget is **R33,931,140.00** with firefighting service having 90% which is a year-on-year increase of 1.8%.

Fire fighting service is rendered by local municipalities on behalf of WDM and claims are submitted on regular basis. Provision of **R15,961,200.00** is allocated to all local municipalities.

The Operating Budget that was allocated to our 6 (six) Local municipalities within Waterberg District Municipality for Fire Fighting Services were distributed as follows:-

Bela Bela	R1,163,800.00
Lephalale	R3, 092,200.00
LIM368 Municipality	R4,145,500.00
Mogalakwena	R6,077,000.00
Thabazimbi	R1,495,400.00
TOTAL	<u>R15,973,900.00</u>

CAPITAL PROJECTS

None

EXISTING FIRE STATIONS

Municipality	Type of building	Ownership
Bela-Bela	Fire station	Bela-Bela donated the fire station to WDM
Lephalale	Fire station	District Municipality
Modimolle	Fire Station	District Municipality
Mogalakwena	Fire station	Local Municipality
Mookgophong	Traffic station	Local Municipality
Thabazimbi	Traffic station	Local Municipality

VEHICLES/APPARATUS

DESCRIPTION	NUMBER
Water Tankers/Tenders	3
Heavy Duty Pumpers	2
Medium Pumpers	9
Medium Rescue Apparatus	1
Aerial Appliances	0
Rapid Intervention Rescue Vehicles	4+1 involved in an accident in Thabazimbi and is written off
Hazmat Units/Trailers	2
Skid Units	12
LDV's	9

Reserve vehicles	0
TOTAL FIRE VEHICLE/APPARATUS	42

PROPOSED CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR 2017/18

- Renovation of Bela-Bela Fire Station
- Lephalale Medium Pumper
- Fire Prevention Vehicles x2
- Information Signs for fire Stations
- 4x4 Rapid Intervention Vehicle x2

CURRENT VEHICLE STATUS

Municipality	Make	Category	Remarks
Bela-Bela	Iveco	Med Pumper	In order
	Toyota Hilux	LDV	In order
	Toyota Hilux	LDV	In order
	Isuzu	Bush Pumper	In order
	Iveco Daily	RIV	Taken to Thabazimbi
Lephalale	Land Cruiser		In order
	Iveco		In order
	Toyota Hilux	LDV	In order
	Toyota Hilux	LDV	In order
Modimolle	Iveco	Med Pumper	In order
	M Benz Unimo	Bush Pumper	Currently at BB Truck for Gear box repair
	Iveco	RIV	To be taken to repairs
	Toyota Hilux	LDV	In order
	M Bez	Command Unit	WDM, need service
	Chevrolet Custom	Off roader	Recommend write off
Mogalakwena	M Benz Unimo	Med Pumper	In order
	J Bean	Med Pumper	Recommend write off
	Toyota Dyna	Utility	In order
	Iveco	Water Tanker	In order
	Isuzu	LDV	In order
	Isuzu	LDV	In order
	Nissan	LDV	In order
	International	M Rescue Pumper	Equipment to be serviced
	M Benz	Med Rescue Pumper	Allocated to Lephalale
	M Benz	Med Rural Pumper	Equipment to be serviced
Mookgophong	Iveco	Medium Pumper	Vehicle need service
	Toyota LCruis	RIV	Equipment to be serviced
	Toyota LCruis	Off Roader	Recommend write off
	Nissan	LDV	Recommend write off
	Isuzu	LDV	
	Ford F250	Off Roader	Recommend write off
Thabazimbi	Toyota LCruis	RIV	Written off by accident
	MAN	Water Tanker	Pump broken
	MAN	Water Tanker	Gearbox broken
	Renault	Major Pumper	Recommend write off
	Toyota Hilux	LDV	Vehicle need service

	Isuzu	LDV	Vehicle need service
	Tata	Bush Pumper	

DOCUMENTATIONS

TYPE	REMARKS/COMMENTS
Reservist Policy	Approved by Council
Vehicle Replacement Policy	To be incorporated into Fleet Management Policy
Maintenance programme	None
By-Laws	In a review process
Operational Guide	To be submitted to Council
SOPs	To be submitted to LLF
Operational Plan	None
Incident Management System (IMS)	Yes, implemented by DoRT through Nathoo Mbenyane Engineers
SANS 10090: Community protection against fire	The document was adopted by Council
Emergency Response Plans 1. Ammonium Nitrate	To be submitted to LLF

CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS

WDM is having staff compliment of 33 fire personnel on the establishment; this includes the five that are directly appointed by the district, which is way below the required number by National Fire Codes. Lack of funding is the leading course of inadequate staffing which lead to non-compliance to SANS 10090 Community protection against fire.

SUPPORT FOR THE FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (FPA)

WDM is paying registration fees for all local municipalities

CURRENT VACANT POSTS

Municipality	Budgeted vacant posts
Bela-Bela	0
Lephalale	1
LIM368	0
Mogalakwena	0
Thabazimbi	0
Total	1

FUTURE FIRE STATIONS

WDM is planning to negotiate the donation of land to build new fire stations especially in Mookgophong town LIM368 and Thabazimbi municipalities

FUTURE SATELITE FIRE STATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED

Vaalwater : LIM368
Pienaars Rivier : Bela-Bela
Witpoort : Lephalale
Steenbokpan/Bulgerivier : Lephalale
Rebone : Mogalakwena

PERSONNEL QUALIFICATIONS

Municipality	Diploma and above	Higher Certificate	FFI and FFII	AEA	BA A	Petro chemical	Fire Invest	Haz/A/O ps/Tec	FS Instr
Bela-Bela	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Lephalale	1	0	11	0	15	0	1	2Tec	0
Modimolle LIM368	1	0	6	1	5	2	2	1Tec	2
Mogalakwena	1	1	9	1	8	0	0	9Ops	1
Mookgophong LIM368	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	2Ops	0
Thabazimbi	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	2Ops	0

FULL COMPLIANCE ON STAFFING LEVEL THAT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED WITHIN A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS

For WDM to comply with the **SANS 10090**: Community protection against fire, **NFPA 1201**: Standard for providing emergency services to the public and **NFPA 1710**, Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Department, Basic Condition of Employment Act and Occupational Health and Safety Act in terms of staffing levels, below will be the ideal number of personnel to be employed.

Bela-Bela

1x Divisional Officer PL06
4x Station Officer PL07
4x Leading Fire Fighter PL08
4x Senior Fire Fighter PL09
8x Fire Fighter PL10
16x Junior Fire Fighter PL11

Thabazimbi

1x Divisional Officer PL06
4x Station Officer PL07
4x Leading Fire Fighter PL08
4x Senior Fire Fighter PL09
8x Fire Fighter PL10
16x Junior Fire Fighter PL11

Mookgophong

1x Divisional Officer PL06
4x Station Officer PL07
4x Leading Fire Fighter PL08
4x Senior Fire Fighter PL09
8x Fire Fighter PL10
16x Junior Fire Fighter PL11

Lephalale

1x Divisional Officer PL06
4x Station Officer PL07
4x Leading Fire Fighter PL08
4x Senior Fire Fighter PL09
8x Fire Fighter PL10
16x Junior Fire Fighter PL11

Modimolle

1x Divisional Officer PL06
4x Station Officer PL07
4x Leading Fire Fighter PL08
4x Senior Fire Fighter PL09
8x Fire Fighter PL10
16x Junior Fire Fighter PL11

Mogalakwena

1x Divisional Officer PL06
4x Station Officer PL07
4x Leading Fire Fighter PL08
4x Senior Fire Fighter PL09
8x Fire Fighter PL10
16x Junior Fire Fighter PL11

THE IDEAL POST LEVELS AND RANKING STRUCTURE FOR FIRE SERVICE

Chief Fire Officer : PL03
Deputy Chief Fire Officer : PL04
Assistant Chief Fire Officer : PL05
Divisional Officer : PL06
Station Officer : PL07
Leading Fire Fighter : PL08
Senior Fire Fighter : PL09
Fire Fighter : PL10
Junior Fire Fighter : PL11

CRITICAL POSITIONS WITH TACTICAL SKILLS REQUIRED

Divisional Officer : PL06
Station Officer : PL07

CENTRALIZATION OF FIREFIGHTING SERVICE TO THE DISTRICT

On 01 May 2017, the three local municipalities namely: Bela-Bela, Lephalale and LIM368, started reporting directly to the District.

TRAINING

Type	Number of personnel attended
<u>Initial</u> <i>It shall include basic training and specialist courses</i>	0
<u>Continuation</u> <i>The training shall be conducted regularly on the station to consolidate and practice knowledge and skills during initial training and help ensure that proficiency is maintained.</i>	0
<u>Conversion</u> <i>To update skills/knowledge as a result of the acquisition of new equipment or changes in policies and procedures</i>	0

VISITS

Type	Number	Reason for none compliance
Pre-Fire Planning	0	Personnel shortage
Risk	0	Personnel shortage

DEDICATED FIRE SAFETY/PREVENTION UNIT

There is no dedicated fire safety unit,
Currently there are three (04) fire prevention officers in the District.

DAMAGE AND THEFT TO FIRE SERVICES APPARATUS

None

RETIREMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1x Station Officer appointed in January 2017 to replace the resigned one.

INJURIES TO WDM MEMBERS

None

APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL

None

VACANT POSTS FILLED

None

REASONS FOR NOT FILLING VACANT POSTS

Lack of funds as a reason

PROMOTIONS

None

AWARDS

None

CONCLUSION

Firefighting Service has been designated as an Essential Service: Government Notice no. 18276 of 12 September 1997.

An essential service is defined in section 213 of the Labour Relations Act. In terms of this section a service is deemed as an essential service if can be shown that an interruption of that service would: *“endanger the life, personal safety or health of the whole or any part of the population”*

Moreover, it would have to be established that a clear and imminent threat to the life, personal safety or health of the whole or part of the population existed.

Fire service is a line function of the organisation, which means it contribute directly to the provision of services to the customer (Community), it is critical as it provides first response to life-threatening emergencies and in area where service is weak/ without capacity, a routine emergency can have disastrous consequences, this means that it deserve to be put as WDM priority issue.

Schedule 4 Part B of The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996:

*“The following local government matters to the extent set out in Section 155(6)(a) and 7: Air pollution, Building Regulations, Child Care facilities, Electricity and gas reticulation, **Firefighting Services** etc.”*

Organisational arrangements must take into account the paradigm shift from response-oriented operations towards a more proactive and predictive methodology of delivering fire service.

Implementation of the following as service delivery standard is significant; **SANS 10090: Community protection against fire**, **NFPA 1201: Standard for providing emergency services to the public** and **NFPA 1710, Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Department.**

Modimolle town in LIM368 is prone to hazardous chemical accidents, the town does not have dedicated route for trucks carrying dangerous goods.

WDM is losing competent Firefighting Officers for greener pastures to other municipalities.