Help Build South Africa's Future - Exercise Your Right to Vote

On the 7th of May 2014, South Africa will go to the polls for the 5th National and Provincial elections. The day has been declared a special public holiday and Executive Mayor Cllr Georlene Wolmarans says these are historic elections. "They mark the 20th anniversary of our freedom from apartheid, and give residents the opportunity to participate in the making of South Africa's future."

Mr Wolmarans says that the 7th of May should not only remind all South Africans of how far we have come, but also how far we have to go in building a better future for South Africa. "Democracy offers us all the opportunity to make our voices heard. The best thing we can do is to work together by exercising our right to vote."

Voter registration closed on 25 February 2014. To check your registration status, ward number and voting station location, visit www.elections.org.za, or sms your ID number to 32810 (R1 per sms). You can also contact the local Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) office in St Georges Street, phone 044 382 3608 or e-mail iec@elections.org.za for more information.

Knysna Municipal Draft Budget Tabled for Public Comment

The 2014/2015 draft budget for the Knysna Municipal Council Meeting on Thursday 27 March 2014. The anticipated final outcome of the current 2013/14 budget is that Council will end with a surplus after all transfers of R47.3 million. This compares to the original budgeted figure of R42.2 million. The operational budget for 2014/15 projects R336.8 million operating revenue, R544.1 million operating expenditure, R38.4 million capital transfers and a surplus of R32.2 million. Capital expenditure is budgeted at R676.6 million. The capital expenditure emphasis remains on electricity, water and sewerage infrastructure. Of the R23.3 million allocated for MIG projects in 2014/15, R3.9 million is earmarked for the upgrading of the community nodes in Rheenendal and Smitvlei, and R3.8 million has been earmarked for labour intensive sidewalk and pavement projects.

Executive Mayor Cllr Georlene Wolmarans has announced that the annual draft budget is available on the Knysna Municipality website and at all Knysna libraries for public comment. "We encourage all residents to take this opportunity to review the budget and voice their opinions about it, we will consider each submission made before the final budget is tabled in May 2014. Anyone who would like to submit a representation regarding the draft budget may submit it to the Municipal Manager, or e-mail it to budget@knysna.gov.za before the closing date for submissions on Friday, 2 May 2014."

Festival will celebrate its 14th year to the theme of "Funky Town" 30 April 4 May.

The Jaguar Simola Hillclimb, sure to entertain speed lovers from all across South Africa, will take place 16-18 May.