



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 26 March 2015
EMBARGO: Immediate

APPOINTMENT OF NEW MUNICIPAL MANAGER, MR GRANT EASTON

Knysna Council today appointed Mr Grant Easton as the new Municipal Manager, effective from 1 April 2015.

Addressing Council, the Executive Mayor, Cllr Georlene Wolmarans stated that it had not been an easy task to find someone with the right skills, capacity and knowledge to lead the Municipal Administration. "Someone of Mr Easton's stature does not come along every day. Of course it is especially pleasing that he is from our town and has been a Director within the Municipality for over ten years. This means he can hit the ground running!"

Mr Easton has an extensive and lengthy history in Local Government. He commenced work with the City of Johannesburg in 1984, and after spending 14 years there, he realized that the Western Cape was where he wanted to continue with his career. He was the Director responsible for Budgeting & Accounting at the City of Cape Town for four years before moving to Knysna in January 2003 and taking up the position of the Chief Financial Officer.

During Mr Easton's career he has occupied a number of senior positions within various local government forums, such as the Institute for Municipal Finance Officers and the Major Cities Association where he worked on a complexity of matters from VAT to Electricity supply to urban development. He has also been an advisor to the Office of State President on Urban Development.

Mr Easton served as an external examiner for the Graduate School of Business at the University of Johannesburg, and an external lecturer for the University of Stellenbosch and University of Cape Town. And I believe it is the latter two roles which has made Mr Easton so passionate about mentorship and capacity building for young recruits into the local government arena.

Mayor Wolmarans addressed Mr Easton directly by saying that he has one of the most difficult tasks ahead of him. "You know the size and nature of the task you have to deal with. You know what is expected of you and your administration. I know and, all the Councillors before you today know, that you are the right person for this job. Be assured that you have the full support and backing of this Council to do whatever you are required to do to make this a town where people and nature prosper."

ENDS

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