



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Have your children's births been registered with the Department of Home Affairs?**

The Late Registration of Birth-process currently followed by the Department of Home Affairs will come to an end on 31 December 2015. Thereafter a new procedure to register late births on the National Population Register will be followed, with strict procedures and regulations to adhere to.

Knysna Executive Deputy Mayor Esmé Edge said that the South African government provides its residents many benefits. "These include access to a variety of grants, housing and education. But to even apply for any of these benefits, you must be a registered South African citizen."

"According to legislation, all children born in South Africa must be registered within 30 days of their birth," said Edge. "The new requirements for registration that will come into effect from 1 January 2016 will be stringent, with requirements specific to children younger than 14 years, and those 15 and older."

"Various factors will determine registration requirements," she continued. "These include issues such as birth in and out of wedlock, as well as abandonment. Knysna Municipality will work closely with the Department of Home Affairs and our Community Workers to ensure that all of the greater Knysna area's children are correctly registered."

"As South Africans, we are extremely proud of our young democracy where everyone has the right to vote. But our young people won't be able to vote if they are not registered at birth. We will do everything we can to make this new registration process as easy as possible for applicants and their guardians," she concluded. "That is really just another way in which we are creating a town where people and nature prosper."

For more information on the current and new requirements for the registration of a birth, please visit the Department of Home Affairs at 106 York Street, George, call them on 044 805 4103, or visit <http://www.dha.gov.za/>.

**ENDS**

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