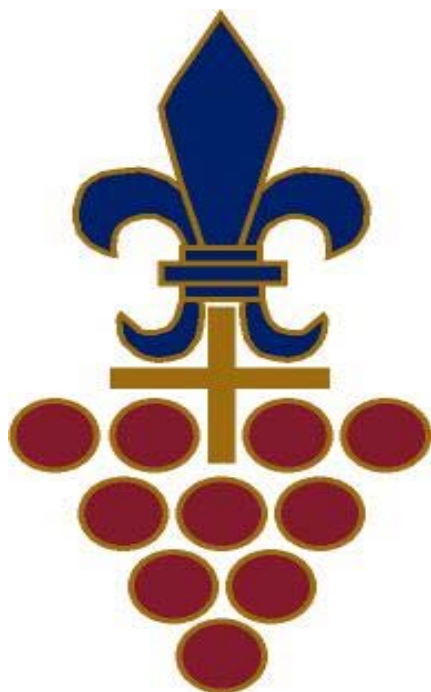


STELLENBOSCH MUNICIPALITY



**WARD ALLOCATION
POLICY**

2022/2023

REVISED



STELLENBOSCH MUNICIPALITY

WARD ALLOCATION POLICY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE

1. INTERPRETATION.....	<u>333</u>
2. INTRODUCTION	<u>444</u>
3. POLICY OBJECTIVE	<u>444</u>
4. STRATEGIC INTENT	<u>555</u>
5. POLICY PARAMETERS	<u>666</u>
6. REGULATORY CONTEXT.....	<u>666</u>
7. ROLE PLAYERS, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	<u>667</u>
8. CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF PROJECTS	<u>999</u>
9. OWNERSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY.....	<u>121211</u>
10. BASIS FOR ALLOCATING WARD ALLOCATION BUDGET	<u>121211</u>
11. POOLING OF FUNDS BETWEEN WARDS.....	<u>121211</u>
12. PROJECT SELECTION AND IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS.....	<u>121211</u>
13. DEVIATION FROM POLICY	<u>151514</u>
14. PROJECT REVIEW	<u>151514</u>
15. ANNEXURES TO POLICY	<u>161615</u>

1. INTERPRETATION

1.1. Acronyms

“IDP”	-	Integrated Development Plan
“SDBIP”	-	Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan
“EPWP”	-	Expanded Public Works Programme

1.2. Definitions

“**Capital budget**” is expenditure relating to the purchase, upgrade or refurbishment of a Council asset (property, plant and/or equipment);

“**Town / municipality**” means the Greater Stellenbosch also known as WC024, a local municipality established in terms of section 12 of the Local Government Municipal Structures Act (Act 117 of 1998)

“**Municipal Manager**” means the accounting officer of the municipality of Stellenbosch, appointed in terms of section 54A of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act (Act No. 32 of 2000) being the head of administration and accounting officer in terms of section 55 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act (Act No. 32 of 2000);

“**Council**” means the municipal Council of Stellenbosch Municipality;

“**Councillor**” means a member of the Council of the Stellenbosch Municipality;

“**Lead directorate**” is the directorate whose core business encompasses the ward allocation project, which is the dominant user or beneficiary of the outcome of the ward allocation project and which accepts responsibility and ownership of the ward allocation project;

“**Legacy project**” is a project that is executed in a financial year and of which the benefits to the community continues into the future;

“**User Department**” is the department whose core business encompasses the ward allocation project, which is the dominant user or beneficiary of the outcome of the ward allocation project and which accepts responsibility and ownership of the ward allocation project;

“**Operating budget**” refers to expenditure, other than capital, in respect of Council activities and includes repairs and maintenance of Council assets;

“**Ukey**” refers to a unique numerical key consisting of 7 segments describing the allocation of funds. All budget items must be linked to a Ukey.

“**Veriment**” refers to the administrative process required to request and approve the transfer of funds from one cost centre to another. Apart from

re-allocation of funds through the adjustment budget, transfer of funds can only be done between cost centres within a directorate.

“Ward committee” means a committee that has been established for each ward in terms of section 73 of the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act (Act No. 117 of 1998);

“Ward project” a project identified by the ward councillor in line with the identified IDP needs, in consultation with the ward committee and financed by the ward allocation;

2. INTRODUCTION

The Republic of South Africa Constitution, 1996 requires the Municipality to encourage the public participation of community members and community organizations in the matters of local government. The Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, 1998 (Act 117 of 1998) (“Structures Act”) provides for the establishment of ward committees as formal mechanisms to give effect to this Constitutional obligation. Ward committees play a vital role in bridging the gap between the Community, the Municipality and its Council and also play an important role in:

- a) Enhancing participatory democracy;
- b) Neighbourhood and ward based planning including the encouragement of communities to take charge of their own livelihoods;
- c) Assisting the Municipality in service delivery improvement;
- d) Assisting in the economic empowerment of communities;
- e) Enhancing local democracy and accountability;
- f) Enhancing social cohesion, nation building and integration of communities across class, race, culture

Along with many other responsibilities the Municipality provide support to the Councillors and Ward Committees through the Ward Allocation policy. The policy intends to establish uniform rules and regulations in the identification, planning and implementation of ward projects. It will further encourage accountability and regulate all administrative processes in the execution phases.

3. POLICY OBJECTIVE

- 3.1. The objective of the Ward Allocations Policy is to create opportunities for Councillors to identify ward projects in line with the identified IDP needs, with the support of their Ward Committees, which would improve the quality of living in all wards. These projects would need to fit into the basket of services of the relevant User Department and must comply with the following:

- 3.1.1. Local Government’s mandate;

- 3.1.2. Council policies;
 - 3.1.3. Support the pillars and objectives of the IDP;
 - 3.1.4. Directly benefit the community.
- 3.2. Ward project must be:
- 3.2.1. Additional projects identified by Councillors as identified through the IDP community participation processes,
 - 3.2.2. Supported by the ward committees, and
 - 3.2.3. Approved by Council.
- 3.3. Ward Allocation funds must be utilised in the manner contemplated in sections
- 3.3.1. **7(e)** categorising municipalities according to their system of municipal government. B Municipalities include a ward participatory system which allows for matters of local concern to be dealt with by committees established for wards;
 - 3.3.2. **72 (3)** describing the object of a ward committee as being to enhance participatory democracy in local government; and
 - 3.3.3. **74** describing the powers and functions of ward committees
- of the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act (Act No. 117 of 1998).**

4. STRATEGIC INTENT

The Policy shall be governed by the underlying principle of ensuring that ward allocation projects meet the requirements of the Integrated Development Plan including specific reference to the following:

- 4.1. A **“valley of possibility”** that creates an environment conducive to business development and job creation. To facilitate and coordinate support to emerging entrepreneurs by utilizing internal SCM processes and linking SMME’s with opportunities in the market. To provide, upgrade and maintain an effective engineering infrastructure to support effective service delivery and to ensure the provision of non-motorised transport routes as a functional mode of transport.
- 4.2. A **“green and sustainable valley”** that ensures the management of human use of the biosphere and its resources, enhancing the integrity of the environment as an imperative for long-term sustainability and incorporates bio-diversity into the environment as an imperative for long-term sustainability. A valley that ensures spatial sustainability and facilitate efficient use of all forms of capital available to the Town including human capacity and ability and information management.
- 4.3. A **“safe valley”** where integrated safety strategies with multi-stakeholder engagements are implemented to focus on institutional, situational and social crime prevention interventions that will improve law enforcement and neighbourhood watches.

- 4.4. A “**valley with dignified living**” inclusive of sustainable human settlements, social infrastructure through the involvement and building of capacity of stakeholders in the planning and management of the areas where they live. This includes access to basic services to households.
- 4.5. A “**valley of good governance and compliance**” that ensures transparency and is corruption-free, establishes an efficient and productive administration to prioritise service delivery and ensures financial prudence, with clean audits by the Auditor-General;

5. POLICY PARAMETERS

- 5.1. The provisions of this policy apply to Ward Councillors, Ward Committees and all Directorates and Departments of the municipality;
- 5.2. This policy applies to all programmes and projects within the jurisdiction of Stellenbosch Municipality that are funded through ward allocations and which are approved by Council in accordance with this policy.

6. REGULATORY CONTEXT

This Policy draws its legal mandate from the following laws and relevant policies, as amended from time to time:

- 6.1. Legislation:
 - 6.1.1. The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996
 - 6.1.2. Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, (Act No. 32 of 2000);
 - 6.1.3. Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, (Act No. 56 of 2003);
 - 6.1.4. The Municipal Budget and Reporting Regulations with specific reference to Circular 82 adopted by Stellenbosch Council on 25 May 2016.
- 6.2. Policies and documents
 - 6.2.1. Stellenbosch Municipality: Integrated Development Plan (IDP);
 - 6.2.2. Stellenbosch Municipality: Asset Management Policy;
 - 6.2.3. Stellenbosch Municipality: Supply Chain Management Policy;
 - 6.2.4. Stellenbosch Municipality: Virement Policy

7. ROLE PLAYERS, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The relevant role players include, but are not limited to:

- 7.1. The Ward Councillors and members of Ward Committees;

- 7.2. Manager: Councillor Support;
- 7.3. Council support staff;
- 7.4. Directors;
- 7.5. Budget office;
- 7.6. Technical or functional representatives in User Departments;
- 7.7. Ward Administrators; and
- 7.8. IDP Department

Official / Councillor	Role and responsibility
Manager: Councillor Support	<p>Owner and driver of Ward Allocation Policy.</p> <p>Collations of all ward projects.</p> <p>Submission of ward allocation projects for draft budget.</p> <p>Facilitation of meetings with councillors.</p> <p>Manage ward administrators in this process.</p> <p>Monthly and annual collations of all ward-project progress reporting on all ward projects.</p> <p>Elevate problems to MM.</p>
Councillor and Ward Committee	<p>Project identification, development, submission for draft budget inclusion to Manager Councillor Support.</p> <p>Signing of commitment form.</p> <p>Finalization and submission of project plans to lead departments.</p> <p>Attending meetings with lead departments.</p> <p>Identification of IDP link.</p> <p>Identification of beneficiaries.</p> <p>Attendance, overseeing and reporting (incl. pictures) on projects.</p> <p>Return service provider goods/equipment (if applicable).</p> <p>It is important to note that Ward Committees play a supporting and advisory role to the Ward Councillor.</p>
Ward Administrator	<p>Minute keeping of Ward Committee meetings and provision of said minutes relating to project identification to lead departments.</p> <p>Administrative support for the execution of ward projects (communication and arrangements)</p> <p>Administrative and coordinating link between lead department, councillor and community (ie. Transport plans, attendance registers, beneficiary communication, indemnity forms, etc.).</p> <p>Assist with the drawing up of project evaluation reports and submission thereof to lead department.</p> <p>Compilation of photographic portfolio of evidence of completed projects with specific focus on goods and services procured.</p> <p>Asset registers and general asset management of furniture, tools and equipment procured.</p>

Speaker after consultation with the Executive Mayor	<p>Identify the annual strategic intent of ward projects.</p> <p>Verify that the identified projects comply with the mandate of local government,</p> <p>Respond in writing to the Ward Councillor if projects are approved.</p> <p>Has the prerogative to refuse funding for projects outside the scope of the policy.</p> <p>Continuously, monitor and evaluate the progress of the Ward projects.</p> <p>Provide advice and support to Ward Councillors where necessary in terms of the Ward Allocation projects.</p> <p>Keep record of all proposals and projects arrange All Wards meetings discussing the projects.</p>
MM	<p>The Municipal Manager as head of the administration is responsible and accountable for tasks and functions as provided for in, but not limited to the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, No. 32 of 2000, Chapter 8 of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, No. 56 of 2003, other functions/tasks.</p>
IDP and Public Participation	<p>Identification of needs and priorities in the different wards through a valid public participation process.</p> <p>Provide ward committees and ward councillors with updated lists of community needs and ward priorities.</p> <p>Provide feedback to community on project implementation linked to their needs.</p>
CFO	<p>Submission of recommended projects as part of draft and final budget for council approval.</p> <p>The Finance Directorate with the approval of the Speaker may, depending on the circumstances approve the use of the Ward Allocation for projects outside this framework but within the mandate of the Municipality.</p>
Directors	<p>Ensure implementation ownership of projects at manager level.</p> <p>Recommend projects for inclusion after costing.</p> <p>Authorization of procurement documents.</p> <p>Address elevated problems with lead managers.</p>
User department	<p>Costing of projects.</p> <p>Completion of procurement plans and inclusion of ward projects in implementation planning for the year.</p> <p>Implementation of projects.</p> <p>Procurement of services.</p> <p>Arranging meetings with councillors to guide, and explain process to follow.</p> <p>Communication between procured service provider, Ward Administrator and Ward Councillor.</p> <p>Signing off and submission of invoices.</p>

	Monthly reporting on overall departmental expenditure for ward projects.
SCM	Procurement of goods and services.

8. CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF PROJECTS

~~In response to the current COVID-19 pandemic and the realignment of the budget for 2021/22, with severe budget cuts and adjustments, the following measures will be in place regarding ward allocations until further notice, and replace the information regarding capital and operational ward projects in this policy:~~

- ~~i) The CAPEX for ward allocations is withdrawn from ward allocations for 2021/22;~~
- ~~ii) The OPEX ward allocation is reduced to R50 000 per ward for 2021/22;~~
- ~~iii) That OPEX be utilised to fund COVID prevention projects; this is in line with the request from Western Cape Government – Department of Local Government that ward allocation projects be aligned to address COVID-19 pandemic;~~
- ~~iv) The following list of goods will be circulated for councillors to choose from in order to be utilised for the COVID prevention projects:~~

GOODS AVAILABLE FOR COVID PREVENTION PROJECTS (2021 – 22)		
ITEM	PRICE	QUANTITY NEEDED
Masks for children		
Masks for adults		
Face cloths		
Hand towels		
Polar fleece blankets		
250 ml refill sanitiser spray bottle		
5L bulk sanitiser		
Hand soap (per box)		

- ~~v) Prices for the goods will be communicated as soon as the 2021/22 financial year commences. Current prices of goods will be made available to assist with planning processes.~~
- ~~vi) A separate form similar to the table above will be issued that must be completed by ward councillors to register the COVID prevention project.~~

- ~~vii) The goods will not be issued with a municipal logo, as the logo is only used for officials and official municipal branding.~~
- ~~viii) Ward councillors must be discouraged from requesting nutritional support assistance. Currently, the Special Investigations Unit are investigating numerous municipalities around the country on matters related to food parcel / nutritional support irregularities, distribution and allocation.~~

Projects that are to be implemented under the Ward Allocations Policy must comply with the following criteria:

- 8.1 Be within Local Government mandate as defined in legislation.
- 8.3 Be aligned with the objectives and pillars of the Integrated Development Plan and with the approved strategic intent identified by the Speaker.
- 8.4 Comply with all the Policies of Council.
- 8.5 Be informed by the ward based needs of the wards and municipal infrastructure needs that have been –
 - 8.5.1 assessed by the Ward Councillor and Manager Councillor Support, and
 - 8.5.2 reported and supported by the ward committee in accordance with the budget and IDP timelines.
- 8.6 Fall within the core business activity of the Lead Directorate and shall form part of the Lead Directorate's SDBIP.
- 8.7 Preferably be legacy projects that will address a need and be of a sufficient scale to have a significant impact in the ward.
- 8.8 **Not** be projects that directly benefit an individual.
- 8.9 **Not** be projects that benefit a private property – including repairs and maintenance of property not owned by Stellenbosch Municipality.
- 8.10 Projects shall, as far as possible, be completed within the financial year in respect of which they are approved but capital funds may be rolled over to the next financial year at the August Adjustment Budget (MFMA Sec 28 (2) (e) where compelling reasons exist for such roll-over. Funds remaining after the successful completion of projects will be deemed savings and re-allocated to existing approved projects requiring additional funding during the adjustment budget in January of each year.

- 8.11 Projects may cross ward boundaries provided that the relevant ward councillors are in agreement on collaborative planning, funding and implementation of such projects.
- 8.12 The lead directorate must technically evaluate and cost all projects in order to ensure that they are technically feasible, cost effective and comply with budgetary priorities before council considers a project for approval.
- 8.13 Labour intensive approaches shall be developed to maximise EPWP opportunities wherever possible for projects in both the capital and operating budget components. Councillors should note the timelines for submission of EPWP projects as part of the National EPWP Business Plan. These requirements entail that EPWP project identification must be completed and submitted to the LED Department by March each year.
- 8.14 In the case of projects undertaken on the **capital budget**, the assets created must:
 - 8.14.1 Be on council property that is appropriately zoned and reserved for the lead directorate.
 - 8.14.2 Have a provision for maintenance and operating costs (inclusive of human resources) on the operating budget of the user directorate for subsequent years. These projects must adhere to sections 18 and 19 of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, (Act no. 56 of 2003) describing the funding sources and requirements for capital projects.
 - 8.14.3 Be placed on the asset register of the user directorate responsible for the facility.
 - 8.14.4 Be adequately insured and secured by the user directorate responsible for the facility.
- 8.15 In the case of projects undertaken on the **operating budget**:
 - 8.16.1
 - 8.14.1. Adequate supervisory control shall be provided by the user directorate.
 - 8.14.2. Projects will be undertaken on council property, except in cases where:
 - 8.14.2.1. A ward hosts a function or event at facilities that are not council owned - subject to adequate supervisory control provided by the relevant user directorate, or
 - 8.14.2.2. A ward funds or supports a local government function (for example; additional law enforcement officers) that is not necessarily performed on council property.
 - 8.14.3. All operational projects will comply with the requirements of National Treasury Circular 82 specifying requirements to be

adhered to when providing catering as adopted by Stellenbosch council.

8.14.4. Community events aimed at vulnerable groups must contain an educational component that speaks to the strategic intent as identified by the Speaker.

8.15. To contribute to maximum impact through meaningful legacy projects within communities, projects must be limited to **two operational and two capital** projects per ward. (Except for wards consisting of mostly rural areas where council does not own property.)

9. OWNERSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Directors are responsible for ensuring that all ward allocation projects within their respective directorates are completed during the financial year in respect of the projects approved by Council. Capital funds may be rolled over to the next financial year where compelling reasons exist for such roll-over and after approval has been obtained.

Directors must ensure timeous monthly and annual reporting on constraints and/or progress to the Manager Councillor Support for inclusion in Council documents.

10. BASIS FOR ALLOCATING WARD ALLOCATION BUDGET

10.1. Council ~~may~~**MAY** allocate as part of the municipal annual budgetary process certain funding from the rates accounts towards the Ward Allocations which may be an Operating Budget allocation and/or a Capital Budget allocation. The funding provided for each ward in the municipality must be equal;

10.2. Ward allocation funding ~~might be~~**is** approved annually as part of the budgeting process with a percentage distribution between capital and operational funding ~~if there is allocation for both capital and operational.~~ All capital projects must be captured on the municipality's capital project identification, planning and prioritization system.

11. POOLING OF FUNDS BETWEEN WARDS

Subject to the clause ~~8.118-118.10~~ ward allocations may be pooled in order to achieve higher impact and enable legacy projects.

12. PROJECT SELECTION AND IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

The different stages of selection and implementation are set out hereunder and are subject to the timelines set out in the IDP and Budget Preparation process approved by Council in August of each year. See Ward Allocation SOP for detail and roles and responsibilities. **(ANNEXURE 1) Note that the stages are completed in the**

preceding financial year to ensure implementation of projects within one financial year.

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE	TIME LINE
STAGE 1: STRATEGIC INTENT		
Determine and announce strategic intent of all ward projects for the ensuing financial year.	Speaker	July
STAGE 2: INTRODUCTION		
Report submitted at All Wards Meeting containing: 1. Clear strategic intent 2. Timeframes 3. Roles and responsibilities 4. Process 5. Updated ward priorities, ward plans and baseline needs	Manager: Councillor Support supported by 1. Manager IDP 2. Manager Budget Office Representation required from all user departments at meeting.	July
Documentation required for this stage: 1. Minutes of meeting 2. Attendance Register 3. Ward Allocation Policy 4. Updated IDP ward priorities	Manager Councillor Support	July
STAGE 3: WORKSHOP AND CONSULTATION PHASE		
Arrange series of workshops with Ward Councillors and Ward Committees to: 1. Discuss strategic intent, ward priorities, process, timelines and costing of proposed projects 2. Explain the project prioritisation and provide technical information regarding projects. 3. Signing of Commitment Form (ANNEXURE 2)	User Departments through Ward Administrator	July - August
Documentation of meetings containing the following: 1. Minutes 2. Attendance Registers 3. Completed Commitment Forms	Ward Administrator	August
STAGE 4: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION, COSTING AND TECHNICAL REVIEW		
Completed project priority list submitted to user department. (ANNEXURE 3) . This list provides clear indication of projects ward councillors would like to have implemented in order of priority. It will minimize time spent on costing	Ward Administrator – after decisions taken at ward committee meeting.	September

Council approval of ward project plans as part of draft and final budget.	Council	March and May
Documentation required for this stage include: 1. Completed and signed Ward Project Plans per ward. 2. Minutes of meetings	Manager Council Support Secretariat	May
STAGE 6: IMPLEMENTATION		
Monthly reporting on implementation of projects submitted to Manager Council Support	User Department	Monthly starting in July of each financial year.
Collation and monthly reporting on progress to Executive Mayor and Speaker	Manager Council Support	Monthly starting in August of each financial year.
Changes to approved Ward Allocation Projects can be done as part of the adjustment budget following the same processes and approvals as departmental adjustment budget requests. It is important to note that the adjustment budget does not allow for the creation of new projects, but only for the movement of budget between previously approved projects on the existing budget.		

13. DEVIATION FROM POLICY

- 13.1. Deviation from the project selection criteria as listed in section 8 above may be considered by the Municipal Manager on receipt of a written request from the Manager Councillor Support, supported by the User Directorate, detailing the motivation for such a deviation.
- 13.2. The basis of the Municipal Manager's consideration of a deviation shall be whether the deviation would further the Policy Objective as set out in section 3 of the Policy.
- 13.3. The Municipal Manager shall report to Council on the requests received for deviations from the Policy.

14. PROJECT REVIEW

- 14.1. After every financial year there shall be a review of the projects undertaken by the Ward Allocation process. This review will be undertaken by the Manager Councillor Support and reported to the Municipal Manager and Director's Forum. Once supported the reviewed document must be submitted to Council;
- 14.2. The review must cover the following for all the projects undertaken in the municipal area:
 - 14.2.1. Ward number and Ward Councillor name;
 - 14.2.2. List of projects per User Directorate responsible;
 - 14.2.3. Budgeted cost against projects;

- 14.2.4. Whether the project was completed within the planned time by the User Directorate – if not, reasons must be supplied;
- 14.2.5. Assessment of project as to whether the original objectives of the project were achieved;
- 14.2.6. Assessment of projects in terms of quality;
- 14.2.7. Assessment of the sustainability of the projects in terms of maintenance and operating cost;
- 14.2.8. Check list for Asset Register and Insurance;
- 14.2.9. Reason for the under spending of allocated funds in order to reflect savings or over-quoting

15. ANNEXURES TO POLICY

ANNEXURE 1: Ward Allocation SOP

ANNEXURE 2: Ward Allocation Commitment Form

ANNEXURE 3: Ward Allocation Project Plan

ANNEXURE 4: Ward Allocation Project approval budget submission format