

AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

In accordance with the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act of 2004, Overberg District Municipality (Municipal Health Services) performs the Air Quality Management Function.

The Municipality compiled an Air Quality Management Plan which was approved by Council, together with an Air Quality By-Law for the Overberg District Municipality, which was Gazetted on 15 May 2015.

Metropolitan and District Municipalities are charged with implementing the atmospheric emissions licensing and the Overberg District Municipality is only responsible to license industries triggering a Listed Activity and controlled emitters.



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MUNICIPAL HEALTH SERVICES

Municipal Health comprises aspects of human health, including the quality of life, determined by physical, chemical, biological, social and psychosocial factors in the environment. It also refers to the identification, evaluation, control, correction and prevention of the factors that can potentially adversely affect the health of present and the future generations.



Municipal Health Services is rendered by Overberg District Municipality's equipped and functional Municipal Health Services offices with dedicated and qualified Environmental Health Practitioners.

In accordance with the National Health Act, Act 61 of 2003, Municipal Health Services include the following core functions:



1. Water Quality Monitoring – Through implementation of monthly water sampling programme to ensure water is safe for human consumption; Conduct inspections of community water supplies and infrastructure;

Compile water analysis report to Local Municipalities and Industries; Communicate with community members and stakeholders in terms of potential unsafe water supply.



2. Food Control – Ensure food safety for human consumption, by doing routine inspections of food premises (supermarkets, restaurants, production facilities and milking sheds); Provide health education

programmes for food handlers and consumers; Oversee proper disposal of unsafe foodstuffs; Ensure food safety in respect of acceptable microbiological and chemical food standards, through monthly food sampling runs.



3. Waste Management - Monitor the safe management of waste by ensuring proper refuse storage, collection, transportation, transfer processing and final disposal; Ensure proper management of liquid waste

including sewage & industrial effluent; Registration and monitoring of medical waste generators & disposal; Through involvement in basic health educational programmes on waste-to-waste generators.



4. Health Surveillance of Premises –

Monitoring conditions at premises which could affect the health status of persons housed / making use of the premises, such as Early Childcare Development Centres, Healthcare Facilities, Schools & Old Age Homes; Routine assessment of premises to determine compliance with Health Requirements; Issue compliance certificates to complying premises.



5. Surveillance and Prevention of Communicable Diseases, excluding Immunizations –

Environmental Health Practitioners carry out investigations on cases of infectious diseases; Promotes health and hygiene aimed at preventing environmental diseases and related communicable diseases; Collect, analyse and disseminate epidemiological data and information; Community Diseases surveillance and hotspot mapping.



6. Vector Control – To protect public health, Environmental Health Practitioners monitor pest control measures implemented by businesses to prevent pest infestation; Assess the operational efficiency and

effectiveness of pest control operations; Conduct community surveys to determine environmental factors, that can create nuisance leading to pest control challenges & diseases outbreaks.



7. Environmental Pollution Control – Ensure a hygienic working, recreational and living environment; Environmental Health Practitioners carry out routine environmental health inspections to determine pollution

agents on land, water and air; Conduct community hazards, risk assessments and mapping; Ensure pollution sources are addressed through enforcement.



8. Disposal of the Dead – Oversee the management of human remains within the Overberg region through certification of mortuaries and funeral undertakers; Monitor practices at cemeteries, crematoria and other facilities used for human remains management; Manage, control and monitor exhumations and reburials; Develop and implement health promotion programmes on management of healthcare waste.



9. Chemical Safety – Chemical management compliance inspections conducted to ensure compliance to legislative requirements by premises owners & community members; Health education to promote safe storage and use of chemicals.