



4 July 2019

To: The Amahlathi Local Municipality Accounting Officer and Municipal Council

ARA Communiqué 4: Response to Meeting

The Amahlathi Residence Association (ARA) represent numerous households, businesses and farmers in the greater Amahlathi area. On 26 June 2019 the ARA requested a meeting called a meeting with a broad-base of stakeholders. This meeting resulted in a letter requesting a letter of commitment relating to the payment of staff and ESKOM as well as the municipality arranging a meeting with the MEC of COGTA. The municipality responded with a request for a meeting on 3 July 2019. The meeting was held on the set date with the ARA committee, businesses, the Administrator and municipal management.

The meeting concluded the following:

1. That it is clear the Constitution Section 139(1)b and 139(5) gives the Administrator insufficient powers to implement the necessary interventions to ensure the financial stability of the municipality. The only course of action is that the ALM in coordination with the ARA arrange an urgent engagement with the new MEC of the Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), with representatives from the ARA, Business Community, as well as the various community organisations represented. It was agreed that this meeting must take place before **12 July 2019**.
2. It was further agreed that ALM will furnish the ARA with a letter on or before **8 July 2019**, committing that the municipality will:
 - a. Prioritise paying ESKOM the overdue amount as highest priority when receiving the next tranche of Equitable Share.
 - b. That all future amounts paid by residents relating to electricity will be ring-fenced and paid to ESKOM.
 - c. That all residents and businesses are indeed paid up in terms electrical accounts. In addition, indicating the percentage people on prepaid meters that pays their electricity upfront.

Should you wish to communicate directly with the ARA you can forward any correspondence to Donald Kemp who will serve as the liaison for the purposes of communication (Mobile number: 073 427 2119 & e-mail: donald@barkaybirds.co.za).

Yours Sincerely

Chair Person of the ARA