



CLEAN AUDITS SINCE 2010/11



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We shape a better future!  
Sakha ikusasa elingcono!*

File Ref:

Dear Resident

## **SEWERAGE NETWORK CHARGE**

In the past, residents making use of the vacuum tanker service only paid for the months the service was used. The tariff was R269.50 and included two vacuum tanker service visits as well the treatment cost of the sewerage. With the application of this tariff structure residents making use of the vacuum tanker service, only paid for the service for the month it was used, while the monthly overhead costs for this service remained the same, regardless of how often the service was used. The cost of the vacuum tanker service was therefore subsidised by other residents through the payment of their monthly municipal utility bills.

A new tariff structure was therefore developed and approved by the Council that enables residents that do not use the vacuum tanker service regularly, to make a fair contribution to the fixed overhead costs of sewerage services. Accordingly, the Council has approved a monthly network charge of R120.87, which is charged to all properties with reasonable access to sewerage services. The monthly network charge is not related to the frequency of use of the vacuum tanker service and is not a reserve charge, insurance charge or a prepaid charge. Residents making use of the vacuum tanker service will be levied an additional fee of R164.54 for the month that the vacuum tanker service is used. The fee of R164.54 includes two service visits for that specific month as well as the treatment cost of the sewerage. Should additional service visits be requested for that specific month, a charge of R1 046.43 will apply for each visit. Residents with access to a water borne sewer system are levied the same monthly network charge of R120.87 as well as a monthly sewerage charge of R164.54 totaling R285.41.

Also note that the sewerage charge in the previous financial year was R269.50. The combined charge for the current financial year is R285.41, which represents an increase of R15.91 or 5.9%.

The network charge for sewerage services is standard and applied throughout the entire municipality with the exception of certain properties in Yzerfontein that has

*Rig asseblief alle korrespondensie aan:*  
Die Munisipale Bestuurder  
Privaatsak X52  
Malmesbury 7299  
**Darling Tel:** 022 492 2237

**Tel:** 022 487 9400  
**Faks/Fax:** 022 487 9440  
**Epos/Email:** swartlandmun@swartland.org.za  
**Moorreesburg Tel:** 022 433 2246

*Kindly address all correspondence to:*  
The Municipal Manager  
Private Bag X52  
Malmesbury 7299  
**Yzerfontein Tel:** 022 451 2366

historically made use of French drains. The status quo where no levies are made is maintained in respect of these properties.

The financial year for local municipalities runs from the 1st of July to the 30th of June annually. Every year, in line with the prescribed legislation (See the Municipal Finance Management Act 56 of 2000 and the Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000), the Executive Mayor must present the draft budget for the next financial year before the 31st of March. This draft budget contains all the proposals, including tariff proposals and adjustments for the next financial year. The draft budget, including the new proposed tariffs are then advertised in all the local newspapers, as required by law, and placed on our website for a period for public comment and feedback. The adjusted tariffs for the vacuum tanker service were included in the draft budget proposal for this current financial year, and residents had the opportunity to give input on this. No objections to this tariff were received.

All the comments received are then duly considered and integrated into the final budget, which is then tabled at Council for final approval before the end of May of the financial year. This includes the final approved tariffs. The drafting and approval of the budget is an annual process, and all this information is made public and therefore available to all residents. Residents, however, have a responsibility to acquaint themselves with the information made available to them by the municipality. Residents must also take an active citizen role, study the proposed draft budget, and give input on the information made available to them.

We do our very best to inform residents and we utilise the communication tools available to us, and we will continue every effort to improve our communications moving forward. We do however ask that our residents do their due diligence and participate in the process when the opportunity is given.

Sincerely, Joggie Scholtz

**Municipal Manager**