From the desk of the Mayor



HESSEQUA

Munisipaliteit / Municipality / U Masipala

Soos ons nader aan die einde van 2025 beweeg, staan ons in diepe dankbaarheid teenoor die Here vir Sy genade, beskerming en seëninge deur die jaar.

21 November 2025 sal vir altyd 'n historiese dag vir Albertinia wees — die sooispit ("soil turning") seremonie vir die nuwe swembad wat reeds in 2026 voltooi sal wees. 'n Belegging van R15 miljoen, direk in ons mense, ons kinders en ons toekoms.

'n Opregte dank aan Minister Ricardo McKenzie en Minister Isaac Sileko vir u teenwoordigheid en onwrikbare ondersteuning. U betrokkenheid in die ontwikkeling van ons gemeenskappe beteken baie.

Dankie ook aan elke Raadslid, direkteur en amptenaar wat die dag bygewoon het – julle harde werk agter die skerms het hierdie belangrike projek moontlik gemaak.

Dit is met ongelooflike trots dat ek deel dat Hessequa Munisipaliteit 9 sertifikate tydens die WESSA Blouvlag-seremonie op 31 Oktober 2025 ontvang het:

- *6 sertifikate vir ons ses spog-strande: Lappiesbaai, Stilbaai-Wes, Jongensfontein, Witsand, Preekstoel en Gouritsmond.*
- *1 sertifikaat vir Witsand – 15 jaar volstatus Blouvlag.*
- *1 sertifikaat vir Lappiesbaai – 20 jaar volstatus Blouvlag.*
- *1 sertifikaat aangesien ons die enigste munisipaliteit in die hele Suid-Afrika is wat vir ál sy swemstrande volstatus Blouvlag ontvang het — 'n merkwaardige prestasie wat spreek van toewyding, bestuur van gehalte en uitnemendheid deur al ons spanne.*

Aan elke amptenaar, elke vennoot en elke lid van die gemeenskap: Baie dankie vir julle deel in hierdie reuse-sukses.

Met trots kondig ons aan dat Hessequa Munisipaliteit vir die 2024/25 finansiële jaar wéér 'n skoon ouditverslag ontvang het — die 12de jaar in 'n ry.

Hierdie is nie net 'n prestasie nie, maar 'n bewys van sterk leierskap, verantwoordelike finansiële bestuur en uitstekende same-werking tussen die Raad en Administrasie.

My opregte dank aan die Raad, die Munisipale Bestuurder, sy Direkteure en elke amptenaar vir julle volharding en getrouheid.

Kersfees bring altyd 'n boodskap van hoop, liefde en lig. Mag die Here se vrede oor u en u familie rus en mag Sy nabyheid u deur hierdie feestyd omarm.

***Jesaja 9:6** – "Want 'n Kind is vir ons gebore, 'n Seun is aan ons gegee... en Hy sal genoem word: Wonderbare Raadsman, Sterke God, Ewige Vader, Vredevors."*



Namens myself en die hele Raad, wens ek elke inwoner en besoeker van Hessequa 'n Geseënde Kersfees en 'n voorspoedige 2026 toe.

Besoek gerus ons verskillende media platforms om op hoogte te bly van die jongste Hessequa nuus.

GRANT RIDDLES

Uitvoerende Burgemeester

A CARING, SERVING & GROWING HESSEQUA

Closing of municipal offices

during the

2025/26 Festive Season

Hessequa municipal offices will close on Wednesday, 24 December 2025 at 13:00 and reopen on Friday, 02 January 2026 at 07:45.

Cashier Services

Municipal cashiers will close at 12:00 on Wednesday, 24 December 2025, operating only on **29, 30** and **31 December** from **09:00 to 11:00** for pre-paid electricity and water sales ONLY.

NO municipal account payments will be received.

Prepaid WATER sales are available at the following municipal offices: Riversdale, Heidelberg, Albertinia and Slangrivier.

Prepaid ELECTRICITY sales are available at the following municipal offices: Riversdale, Heidelberg, Albertinia & Witsand.

Traffic Department

Cashiers at the Riversdale and Heidelberg Traffic Departments will close at 10:00 on Wednesday, 24 December 2025 and reopen at 08:00 on Friday, 02 January 2026.

Emergency, standby and essential services such as refuse removal services will continue to operate as normal.

Raising the Flag for a Cleaner, Safer Summer

The Blue Flag beaches offer safe, clean, and accessible spaces for residents and visitors. These beaches are monitored for water quality by independent laboratories, with results displayed on-site and on WESSA's website throughout the season. Blue Flag beaches are operational during the designated season, with lifeguards, clean ablutions, and safety signage in place. Dogs and other pets are prohibited during operating hours to ensure hygiene and visitor safety. WESSA conducts regular inspections, and sites that fail to maintain standards risk losing their accreditation, a measure that preserves the program's global credibility.



WATER RESTRICTIONS

Hessequa Municipality appeals to the residents of Hessequa to use water sparingly.

Water is a precious commodity and water conservation should be a lifestyle, not just during drought.

Report violations of the water restrictions at your nearest municipal office or at (028) 713 8000, (028) 713 2222 or 084 014 1828.

The new water restrictions applicable to the various towns in the Hessequa region are as follows:

LEVEL 4 Water Restrictions

Witsand

- Water may only be used for human consumption.
- Watering gardens is prohibited.
- Hosing down of paving and cement surfaces is prohibited.
- Washing of vehicles, caravans and boats is prohibited.
- Properties where alternative water resources such as rainwater tanks or boreholes are used, must ensure that it is clearly indicated.
- Nursing homes, nurseries and car wash businesses are excluded from this restriction.
- The provision of municipal services, which include sports facilities and municipal assets, is excluded from the above restrictions and will be managed by the Administration on an ad hoc basis.
- The situation in the various towns will be monitored and stricter restrictions will be imposed if the state of water sources deteriorates.
- Law enforcement will monitor the situation in the towns and take strict action against offenders.
- This replaces previous restrictions and is valid for Witsand.

LEVEL 3 Water Restrictions

Albertinia, Heidelberg, Slangrivier & Jongensfontein

- Gardens may only be watered once a week between 17:00 and 18:00. Even street numbers may water their gardens on Tuesdays and odd street numbers on Thursdays. This provision supersedes all previous permissions for watering gardens at other times.
- Garden hoses, buckets, watering cans and automatic irrigation systems may be used for watering gardens, provided this occurs within the permitted time slot. Garden hoses may only be used if supervised.
- Properties where alternative water resources such as rainwater tanks or boreholes are used, must ensure that it is clearly indicated.
- Nursing homes, nurseries and car wash businesses are excluded from this restriction.
- The provision of municipal services, which include sports facilities and municipal assets, is excluded from the above restrictions and will be managed by the Administration on an ad hoc basis.
- The situation in the above towns will be monitored and stricter restrictions will be imposed if the state of water sources deteriorates.
- Law enforcement will monitor the situation in the towns and take strict action against offenders.
- This replaces previous restrictions and is valid for Albertinia, Heidelberg, Slangrivier and Jongensfontein.

LEVEL 2 Water Restrictions

Gouritsmond, Stilbaai, Melkhoutfontein & Riversdale

- Gardens may only be watered twice a week between 17:00 and 18:00. Even street numbers may water their gardens on Mondays and Thursdays and odd street numbers on Tuesdays and Fridays. This provision replaces all previous permits for watering at other times.
- Garden hoses, buckets, watering cans and automatic irrigation systems may be used for watering gardens, provided this occurs within the permitted time slot. Garden hoses may only be used if supervised.
- Hosing down of paving and cement surfaces is prohibited.
- Washing of vehicles, caravans and boats may only be done by means of a bucket.
- Properties where alternative water resources such as rainwater tanks or boreholes are used, must ensure that it is clearly indicated.
- Nursing homes, nurseries and car wash businesses are excluded from this restriction.
- The provision of municipal services, which include sports facilities and municipal assets, is excluded from the above restrictions and will be managed by the Administration on an ad hoc basis.
- Written requests for the hosing down of roof tops with a high-pressure sprayer will only be considered if the level of the Korentepoort Dam (Riversdale) is above 50% [this is applicable to Riversdale only].
- The situation in the above towns will be monitored and stricter restrictions will be imposed if the state of water sources deteriorates.
- Law enforcement will monitor the situation in the towns and take strict action against offenders.
- This replaces previous restrictions and is valid for valid for Gouritsmond, Stilbaai, Melkhoutfontein and Riversdale.

INVITATION FOR ATTENDING A WORKSHOP FOR THE REVIEW OF BUDGET RELATED POLICIES AND BY-LAWS FOR THE 2026/2027 FINANCIAL YEAR

Notice is hereby given that Hessequa Municipality is currently in the process of reviewing its policies and by-laws, namely Property Rates, Tariffs, Credit Control and Debt Collection, Write-off of Irrecoverable Debt and Indigent subsidies for implementation with effect from 1 July 2026. To this end, a series of workshops have been scheduled as set out below to which all rate payers, consumers and interested parties are invited.

WORKSHOP DETAILS

Workshop principles for determining tariffs and review of policies and By-laws with the Hessequa community, businesses and agricultural.

■ 19 January 2026	18:00	Riversdale - Civic Centre
■ 20 January 2026	15:00	Witsand - De Duine Community Hall
■ 20 January 2026	18:00	Heidelberg - Town Hall
■ 22 January 2026	15:00	Stilbaai / Jongensfontein - Stilbaai Community Hall
■ 22 January 2026	18:00	Melkhoutfontein - Community Hall
■ 26 January 2026	15:00	Gouritsmond Hall
■ 26 January 2026	18:00	Albertinia Town Hall
■ 27 January 2026	18:00	Slangrivier Community Hall

Please also note that the 2025/2026 Policies and By-laws are available at the administrative offices and on the website at www.hessequa.gov.za or https://www.hessequa.gov.za/by-laws/.