## MATATIELE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



# **DEBT CAPACITY POLICY**

POLICY INFORMATION	
DATE OF COUNCIL ADOPTION:	22/05/2024
COUNCIL RESOLUTION NUMBER:	CR 652/22/05/2024
POLICY NUMBER:	MLM/BTO/P10

Where Nature, Agriculture, Tourism are Investments of Choice.

Electrical Services: 0.9522 9770 Prepaid Sales: 679 528 927 historic Office: 039 717 State Olsaster and Elect 0.92 406 9770 523 2223

Police(SAPS); 879-737904,9905 Water: 047-520-1476 Ambulance: 10177 Traffic: 679-522-9778

MR. L. MATIWANE MUNICIPAL MANAGER

2024

CLLR. MNGENELA MAYOR

20 105 2024 DATE

CLLRN. NGWANYA SPEAKER COUNCIL

DATE

Authority	Date
HOD Approval	
MM Approval	
Council Approval	
Date of next Review	

#### **Approval of Policy**

Please note that the implementation of the policy contained in this document is subject to approval and signing off by all relevant Heads and/or Committees, including but not limited to:

- Municipal Manager; and
- Municipal Council.

Policy on Debt Capacity effective 01 July 2024

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#### 1. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the policy is to define the circumstances under which the municipality can incur debt.

#### 2. PRINCIPLES

The guidelines regarding debt is outline in Sections 45 to 49 of the Municipal Finance Management Act and provides for the following:

- 2.1 Short-term Debt can be incurred for operating or capital requirements, if it can be realistically repaid within a financial year; and
- 2.2 Long-term Debt can be incurred for the acquisition of property, plant and equipment, repayable over the estimated life of the assets financed.

### 3. LONG-TERM DEBT

- 3.1 The management team is responsible for the identification of the need to incur debt, in accordance with an approved budget.
- 3.2 The manager of the division requiring debt finance is responsible for the initiating of a request for debt finance for capital expenditure to the Municipal manager, which request should detail, at least, the anticipated cost of the property, plant and equipment to be financed, its estimated life, and the cash (if any) that will be generated by the item over its estimated life, with a motivation to support the financing thereof by means of Debt.
- 3.3 The Municipal Manager must consider the request, and only approve such, if he/she is convinced that the municipality can not do without the expense, and there is no alternative means of financing the purchase.

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- 3.4 The Municipal Manager will ascertain, with the assistance of the Chief Financial Officer if the municipality will be able to afford the capital charges emanating from the debt, with due cognisance of the impact thereof on municipal tariffs and property rates.
- 3.5 The Municipal Manager will obtain at least three alternative quotations from financing institutions and prepare a recommendation regarding the most advantageous arrangement to the municipality, after approval of the debt to be incurred.
- 3.6 The Municipal Manager will then prepare the required information statement, as envisaged in Section 46(3) of the Municipal Finance Management Act, and seek approval from Council regarding the Debt.

## 4. SHORT-TERM DEBT

- 4.1. Short-term debt will only be incurred when necessary to bridge financing, as required for Long-term debt, and only after approval has been obtained for such Long-term Debt in accordance with Section 46 of the Municipal Finance Management Act.
- 4.2. Short-term debt will under no circumstances be considered to finance operational costs.

Policy on Debt Capacity effective 01 July 2024

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Electrical Services: Dis 522 9770 Prepaid Sales: 079 523 217 Heavise Office: 079 737 8505 Disaster and Fire: 039 1506 079 523 2223
Police(SAP): 079 12790 7700 William 2017 2017 Ambulance: 10177 Teathic 079 527 8274

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