

ANNEXURE E

COMMENTS AND OBJECTIONS ON THE BUDGET

HUMAN RIGHTS ASSOCIATION

[KZN292]

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7th May 2018

THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER
ILEMBE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY
EMAIL: MunicipalM@ilembe.gov.za

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: BUDGET 2017 / 2018

Our letter regarding the above dated 26th March 2018 refers.

To date no reply has been forthcoming from you.

Our previous correspondence regarding refund of sewer charges dated 20/03/2018 has been ignored.

I also delivered objections to the tariff increases of 9,5% for water and sanitation to the secretary of the Mayor on 30th April 2018.

I wish to state that when the consumers, especially the business people of Kwa Dukuzi threatened to withhold payments from Ilembe because of the implementation of sewer according to the valuation system, the Mayor hastily convened a public meeting and requested the formation of a task team.

After various meetings between Ilembe and the task team and COGTA, the Mayor stated that since the budget of 2016/2017 has already been finalized. Ilembe will implement the valuation system until the new budget 2018/2018 where Ilembe will revert to the old system.

I sincerely hope this system (water based) has been included in your budget of 2017/2018.

Further, I am dismayed that water leaks that has been reported to your Municipality remains without being repaired.

The water leaks has reached very high proportions and there is no sign of it abating. Do you realize that the consumers pay up to R34,00 including Vat for a kilolitre of water which has become a precious and scarce commodity. Yet thousands of Kilolitre's is lost through leaks.

You will realize your percentage of water loss due to theft, illegal connections and leaks was for above the National level in your last budget. I can imagine how much higher it could be at this very moment.

We implore you to cooperate with us in order to benefit the Municipality and the consumers. Surely it is not difficult to reply to our letters.

However, assuring you of our best cooperation at all times.

Yours Faithfully

P.H. MAHARAJ