

Some residents still without tap water in tale of two villages

Other inhabitants still use sources where pigs swim

SIKHO NTSHOBANE

While residents of Lazu village in Mnyolo near Ngcobo enjoy running tap water, their neighbours in Mkhonkotho village a kilometre away are still forced to draw water from rivers.

In January, Chris Hani District Municipality bosses announced both villages had become beneficiaries of the district authority's broader spring development programmes which saw communal taps connected to natural springs.

The district municipality claimed three communal taps had been installed in the two villages, out of a possible six.

The villages in the deeply rural Dr AB Xuma Local Municipality are sandwiched between the Mnyolo river and a mountain.

When a Dispatch team visited the two villages on Friday, it discovered three taps had been installed in Lazu while none had been installed in

Mkhonkotho. The visit was in response to a complaint by Gcobani Nkwele, a member of the Ngcobo Yethu Civic Organization (Nyco), launched late in 2025.

Mkhonkotho pensioner Nontaba Gigi, 72, confirmed the village still did not have tap water, despite having been promised that several tanks would be set up to catch water from the mountain behind the village. "We have been battling for many years, hoping we would also have tap water just like everyone else.

"Unfortunately, this has not happened. We still have to drink water where pigs swim."

Gigi's relative, Mlungisi Mngqisi, 70, said the villagers themselves had dug trenches where pipes were to be laid and taps installed.

"We were told at least five villages would benefit from the project.

"We dug up in Lazu and they came and laid the pipes and installed a few taps there. They promised to come back."

He said they were disappointed that the process in

Mkhonkotho had taken longer. "It took us one month to have those trenches dug, and we also dug some in Nkalweni and Mkhonkotho where they had promised to install taps, but we continue to wait."

In Lazu, residents said they had approached the municipality in the hope of having water from the natural springs.

They were told 15 water taps would be installed in Lazu alone.

They said authorities had promised a similar project would be undertaken in Noggala, Hesini, Mkhonkotho, Nkalweni and Zwelithsha villages.

"It is better than having to walk a long distance to the river to get water," Nosakehele Twane, 65 said.

"Some of us are very old and we no longer have the knees for the arduous task of fetching water."

The path to the river was steep and full of sharp, wet rocks, increasing the danger of someone slipping and injuring themselves.

"We will be happy when the

whole village has taps as promised."

Nosiphelo Qubuda, 62, said: "We dug the ground ourselves and we were not paid a cent for that because we feared they would take the project elsewhere."

Ward committee member Nobuntu Jazeweni, however, said when they first approached the municipality, they were told there was no budget for pipes and taps.

But after residents suggested connecting the springs to taps, they were allowed to identify the water sources.

She said some of the underground pipes had been left exposed with the promise that the municipality would return to finish the job in 2025.

Now some of the pipes had been damaged.

She said at one point, Lazu residents had bought cement themselves after the municipality claimed it did not have money for it.

"They are saying they are now waiting for materials to come and install additional taps," Jazeweni said.

On Monday, Chris Hani municipal spokesperson Dr Sandiso Tyembele said no outside contractor had been appointed as the project was being implemented by the spring water development programme team established by the municipality in collaboration with volunteers from the community.

The team offered different expertise, including plumbing, pipe laying and tap connections.

"Chris Hani District Municipality has a responsibility to serve its communities every financial year.

"For now, the municipality has delivered three communal taps, with water, at Mkhonkotho-Lazu villages," Tyembele said.

"This will be further improved when spring water development material is available.

"Procurement of spring water development material for the entire district is under way and the project in the Mnyolo-Mkhonkoto area will continue immediately such procured material is delivered on site."



NATURAL SOURCE: A villager in Lazu in rural Ngcobo drawing water from a tap connected to a natural spring. Pictures: LULAMILE FENI

Reported coronation of Nigerian king in KuGompo City deemed 'deeply disrespectful'

LULAMILE FENI and MPUMZI MSHWESHWE

A wave of condemnation has followed claims circulating on social media that a Nigerian national was "crowned" as a king in KuGompo City, though authorities say the incident has not been officially confirmed.

The claims stem from videos and images shared online, in which members of the Nigerian community say they have crowned Chief Solomon Og-

bonna Eziko as the Igwe Ndigbo Na East London — the Igbo king of East London.

However, no formal recognition of such a coronation has been verified by authorities.

Igwe is an Igbo term that means sky, heaven, or sky deity, commonly used as a royal title for traditional rulers in Nigeria as a formal title for monarchs.

Despite the lack of confirmation, traditional leaders, government officials and political organisations have strongly

criticised what they describe as an alleged attempt to establish a parallel traditional authority.

The AmaRharhabe Kingdom, the Eastern Cape House of Traditional and Khoi-San Leaders, Contralesa, Rolesa, premier Oscar Mabuyane and co-operative governance and traditional affairs leaders are among those who have spoken out.

Several leaders stressed that any such act — if proven — would be unlawful and contrary to SA's constitutional and

customary frameworks governing traditional leadership.

At the same time, they cautioned against reactions that could inflame xenophobic tensions.

The AmaRharhabe Kingdom, whose jurisdiction includes Buffalo City Metro, distanced itself from the reported event and rejected any suggestion of recognition.

Nkosi Siseko Maqoma and Prince Banzi Tyali, speaking on behalf of King Jonguxolo

Sandile, said: "A Nigerian individual claiming to be a king has no authority or recognition within our kingdom."

Tyali said the reports, if accurate, would amount to "an attempt not only to undermine the AmaRharhabe Kingdom's authority, but also South African law and traditional leadership."

The kingdom has called for investigations by the provincial and national government, as well as engagement with the Nigerian embassy.

Mabuyane described the reported incident as "a direct affront to the institution of traditional leadership, the customs of our people, and the constitutional order of the Republic of South Africa".

He emphasised that traditional leadership was rooted in recognised lineage and legal processes.

Eastern Cape House of Traditional and Khoi-San Leaders chair Nkosi Mpumalanga Gwadiso said the alleged installation would constitute "a flagrant violation of established customary protocols" if confirmed.

"The unilateral and unlawful installation of an individual purporting to be a 'king' within the territorial jurisdiction of a recognised monarchy is not only irregular but also deeply disrespectful," he said.

He warned that such conduct could inflame tensions and called for a public apology and possible legal action, depending on the outcome of investigations.

Cogta deputy minister Prince Zolile Burns-Ncamashe also condemned what he termed the "purported coronation", describing it as "irregular, illegitimate, and deeply disrespectful".

He said diplomatic channels had been engaged, including the department of international relations and co-operation and the Nigerian High Commission.

Cogta MEC Zolile Williams said any attempt to undermine the country's sovereignty would be dealt with through the rule of law.

Contralesa provincial chair Nkosi Mwelo Nonkonyana

warned that the issue risked damaging relations and fuelling tensions.

"We can ill afford xenophobic attacks," he said, calling for calm while the matter was investigated.

Political parties including the ATM and the Azania Movement also rejected the reported coronation, saying traditional leadership structures could not be established outside recognised legal and customary processes.

Meanwhile, the AbaThembu royal house dismissed social media posts suggesting King Buyelekhaya Dalindyebo had endorsed or recognised the alleged coronation.

"It would appear that the social media posts are a product of misinformation," senior royal adviser advocate Matthew Mpahlwa said.

He said the AbaThembu had no authority over the area and had not sanctioned any such event.

AmaXhosa Prince Abongile Ngozi said he was organising a march on March 30 in response to the reports, adding that thousands of signatures had already

been collected. Authorities have indicated that investigations are under way to determine the authenticity of the circulating material and whether any laws were violated.

Advocate Vuyo Booyesen, deputy registrar for legal services and compliance at the University of the Free State, said the reported coronation raised serious legal and constitutional concerns within SA's established framework for traditional leadership.

He said the recognition of traditional leaders was governed by national legislation, including the Traditional and Khoi-San Leadership Act, which set out strict procedures involving royal families, traditional structures and formal provincial recognition.

He said any purported coronation conducted outside these legal prescripts would likely be unlawful and risked undermining the legitimacy of constitutionally recognised traditional leadership, while potentially creating confusion and tension within affected communities.

The unilateral and unlawful installation of an individual purporting to be a 'king' within the territorial jurisdiction of a recognised monarchy is not only irregular but also deeply disrespectful

NOTICE NO. 27 OF 2026

EXTENDED PERIOD NOTICE FOR THE INSPECTION OF GENERAL VALUATION ROLL 2026
Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 49 (1) (a) (i) (ii) read together with Section 78(2) of the Local Government Municipal Property Rates Act 2004 (Act 6 of 2004), hereinafter referred to as the "Act", that the General Valuation Roll for the Financial years 2026 to 2031 is open for public inspection at the Municipal Offices, situated on the following addresses has been extended from **09 April 2026 to 22 May 2026**.

- Office 133 Munitata Building, Corner York Road and Sutherland Street.
- Municipality's Website: www.ksd.gov.za
- Municipal Offices: Mqanduli
- Municipal Library

An invitation is hereby made in terms of Section 49 (1) (a) (ii) read with Section 78(2) of the Act that any owner of property or other person who so desires should lodge an objection with the Municipal Manager in respect of any matter including the category, reflected in or omitted from the valuation roll within the above mentioned period.

Attention is specially drawn to the fact that in terms of Section 50(2) of the Act an objection must be in relation to a specific individual property and not against the valuation roll as such.

The form for the lodging of an objection is obtainable at all Revenue offices of the Municipality in Mthatha and Mqanduli.

The completed objection forms addressed to the Municipal Manager must be returned to Office No. 133 Munitata Building Mthatha and Mqanduli Municipal Offices during office hours.
NB: No late objections will be accepted

- Office 133 Munitata Building, Corner York Road and General Sabelo Gqweta Street: Contact Person: Ms N. Mjali or Mr V. O. Cetywayo
- Mqanduli Municipal Offices, Main Street: Contact Person: Ms F. Siquiti

For further enquiries please contact: Ms N. Mjali, Tel. No. 047 495 0889

NOTICE NO. 27 OF 2026

UKWANDISWA LOBIZO LOKUHLOLA UMQULU WOKUBHATALISA IMIHLABA KA 2026
Nasi isazizo ngemithetho yesixeko-49 (1) (a) (i) (ii) nakwisigaba 78(2) sokutsalela imihlabo yomasipala 2004 (umthetho werhafu yomasipala 6 ka 2004), ebizwa apha "umthetho", ukuba umqulu wokuhlalwisa uwonke-wonke (general) kwaba nyaka mali 2026 ukuya 2031 uluwiwe ukuba uhlowle uluntu lonke kwi-ofisi zikamasipala ukusukela ngomhla 09 Utsahazimpuzi 2026 ukuya kumhla we 22 Ucanzibe 2026 kwezindawo zilandelayo:

- IOfisi 133 kwisakhawo seMunitata Building, kwikona yeYork Road kunye neSutherland Street.
- Nalwazi website ethi www.ksd.gov.za ukuzwe uluntu lukwazi ukuluhlola.
- Kwi Ofisi kaMasipala eMqanduli
- Kwihlala leencwadi kaMasipala

Isimemo senziwa ngomthetho wesixeko-49 (1) (a) (ii) nakwisigaba 78(2) somthetho ukuba umntu onomhlaba okanye onqwenela ukuba nomhlaba angaphikisa imanejala kamasipala ngalomba, kunye nemibala engafakwanga kulomqulu.

Qaphela ngokuqalathwe kwicandelo 50(2) la lomthetho uphikiso lungu nxulumelana nomhlaba womntu othile, hayi ngomqulu wokuhlalwisa uwonke.
Amaphelha okufaka isiphikiso ayatumaneka kwi ofisi zikamasipala eMthatha nase Mqanduli. Amaphelha abhalwe iziphikiso amele abuyiselwe kwi ofisi 133 Munitata Building Mthatha kunye nase Mqanduli abhalwe imanejala kamasipala ukuzwe ziqwalaselwe ngamaxesha omsebenzi. QWALASELA: Izikhaziso ezifike sele ululile umhla obekelwe izikhaziso azisayi kwamkelwa.

- Office 133 Munitata Building, Corner York Road and General Sabelo Gqweta Street: Contact Person: Ms N. Mjali okanye Mr V. O. Cetywayo
- Mqanduli Municipal Offices, Main Street : Contact Person: Ms F. Siquiti

Iinkcukacha ezithe vetshe tsalela: Ms N. Mjali, Tel. No. 047 495 0889
Mr. N. Pakade - Municipal Manager

'Hands off Mkhwanazi,' says Ndlolzi after Malema attack

INNOCENTIA NKADIMENG

Former EFF member Mbuyiseni Ndlolzi has called for the protection of KwaZulu-Natal police commissioner Lt-Gen Nhlanelhla Mkhwanazi, saying he must be "shielded from all petty, egotistical, pompous, and parasitic attacks".

This comes after a verbal attack by EFF leader Julius Malema, who accused Mkhwanazi of dragging the EFF into personal vendettas between high-ranking police officials.

The friction began during Mkhwanazi's testimony before a parliamentary ad hoc committee last week. Mkhwanazi told the committee he had been introduced to Malema through Maj-Gen Feroz Khan. He further claimed Malema had previously arranged a meeting between himself and deputy national police commissioner Lt-Gen Shadrack Sibiyi in an attempt to broker peace between them.

While Malema was not present during the testimony, he used a party briefing at the weekend to fire back, criticising Mkhwanazi for involving the EFF in internal SAPS conflicts.

"Mkhwanazi is fighting Khan, and every time he fights him, he drags the EFF's name — he drags the CIC's name — to fight Khan," Malema said. "Let him fight Khan if they have their

own issues, and leave the EFF out of their nonsense, because the EFF is not part of any nonsense they are fighting about in the police."

Malema admitted meeting Mkhwanazi through Khan but disputed Mkhwanazi's version of events. He claimed he did not request the meeting; rather, it was Mkhwanazi who sought an audience after Malema publicly criticised the investigation into the murder of rapper Kiernan "AKA" Forbes.

After these comments, Ndlolzi took to social media to demand protection for Mkhwanazi. Though he did not mention Malema by name, his remarks came after the weekend's attacks.

"Hands off Gen Mkhwanazi," Ndlolzi posted on X. "A society that doesn't protect whistleblowers is doomed to become a mafia state! They have already killed Babita [Deokaran]. What do you think they will do to Mkhwanazi?"

Ndlolzi dismissed the narrative that Mkhwanazi is engaged in "personality fights" or factionalism in SAPS.

"What this line seeks to do is to neutralise the correct momentum against SAPS generals who have protected, advanced, and benefited from organised crime with the endorsement of top politicians," Ndlolzi said. — TimesLIVE



WALTER SISULU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

BID NOTICE FOR TENDERS

YOU ARE HEREBY INVITED TO BID FOR GOODS AND SERVICES REQUIRED BY THE WALTER SISULU MUNICIPALITY AS OUTLINED BELOW:

Project Description	Compulsory Briefing Session	Bid Number	Closing Date	Enquiries
Appointment of a Service Provider for the Culling of Game	N/A	Bid-Number: 85/2025/2026	Date: 15/04/2026 Time: 12H00pm	Technical Enquiries may be directed to Mr. M. Maqokolo at (051) 634 1230 or m dumiseni.maqokolo@wslm.gov.za SCM Enquiries may be directed to Mr. N. Mshicileli at (051) 653 1777 or ntembeko.mshicileli@wslm.gov.za

Bidders must take note of the following bid conditions:

Walter Sisulu Local Municipality is inviting suitable, qualified and experienced service providers for the above mentioned services. Contract will be based on the National Treasury General Condition of Contracts. The bids will be evaluated on the basis of the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act (Act No. 5, 2000), and the revised regulations pertaining thereto 2022 **Price and Specific Goals: Price 80, Specific Goals 20**

Tenders must be submitted in the tender box. Detailed specifications are contained in the tender documents that are available at No 1 Jan Greyling Street, Walter Sisulu Municipality Office's Supply Chain Management Unit upon payment of a non-refundable fee of R890.00 for each document (direct bank deposit to FNB, 62476326965) from TUESDAY 24 March 2026, or can be e-mailed at a request to ntembeko.mshicileli@wslm.gov.za after the payment has been received for bidders who are unable to collect the document, please be advised to use notice number as a reference on the proof of payment alternatively download tender document on e-tenders

Failure to submit or complete supplementary information will result in the tender being non-responsive.

All bidders must submit latest Municipal Rate charges and taxes Statement of the Company and all its Directors from their respective Municipalities and must not be older than three months showing that they do not owe their respective Municipality, the municipal account must not be more than 90 days in arrears or attach a valid signed lease agreement, signed by both Lessor and Lessee. Bidders residing on areas not subjected to Municipal rates are to submit a confirmation from the Municipality's Finance Department confirming that such a bidder is not liable for municipal rates

Failure to complete ALL MBD forms as stipulated in the Tender Document will result in a tender being deemed non-responsive

NB: No quotations will be considered from persons in the service of the state.

Failure to comply with the above conditions will invalidate your offer.

The Council reserves the right to disqualify any service provider whose members and/or shareholders owe the municipal rates, taxes and Municipal Charges. The Walter Sisulu Local Municipality does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any bid All alterations in prices/quotes must be signed for and failure to sign will result in tender being deemed non-responsive.

Use of tip-ex is prohibited and the bidder will be deemed non-responsive

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Evaluation on functionality for Bid Numbers:85/2025/2026

Bidders will have to score minimum points of 70 out of 100 points for further evaluation on price and WSLM Specific Goals

POINTS FOR SPECIFIC GOALS AS LISTED BELOW

51% Race (Black Owned Entity): 6 (30%), 51% Youth (18-35): 2 (10%), 51% Gender (Women): 4 (20%), 51% Disability: 2 (10%), 51% Locality (within WSLM): 4 (20%), 51% black military veterans: 2 (10%) and non-compliant contributor: 0 (0%)

The specifications, detailed functionality including mandatory documents (eligibility criteria) and bid conditions are attached in the tender documents.

Completed bid documents and supporting documentation are to be placed in a sealed envelope endorsed with **RELEVANT PROJECT NAME AND BID NUMBER** must be delivered to **Walter Sisulu Local Municipality, at No. 1 Jan Greyling Street, Burgersdorp, reception area, and placed in the Tender Box not later than 12H00 Noon on WEDNESDAY 15 APRIL 2026** at which time the tenders will be opened in public.

Telegraphic, telephonic, telex, facsimile, e-mail and late tenders will not be accepted.

Tenders may only be submitted on the tender documentation that is issued. Requirements for sealing, addressing, delivery, opening and assessment of tenders are stated in the tender data and tender documents.

Issued by: KHAYALETU GASHI - MUNICIPAL MANAGER -