

Report of the auditor-general to Western Cape Provincial Parliament and the council of the City of Cape Town

Report on the audit of the consolidated and separate financial statements

Opinion

1. I have audited the consolidated and separate financial statements of the City of Cape Town and its subsidiaries (the group) set out on pages 7 to 92, which comprise the consolidated and separate statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, consolidated and separate statement of financial performance, statement of changes in net assets, cash flow statement and statement of comparison of budget information with actual information for the year then ended, as well as notes to the consolidated and separate financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.
2. In my opinion, the consolidated and separate financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the City of Cape Town as at 30 June 2024 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (GRAP) and the requirements of the Municipal Finance Management Act 56 of 2003 (MFMA) and the Division of Revenue Act 5 of 2022 (Dora).

Basis for opinion

3. I conducted my audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the responsibilities of the auditor-general for the audit of the consolidated and separate financial statements section of my report.
4. I am independent of the City of Cape Town in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *International code of ethics for professional accountants (including International Independence Standards)* (IESBA code) as well as other ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit in South Africa. I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA code.
5. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Key audit matters

6. I have determined that there are no key audit matters to communicate in this audit report.

Emphasis of matters

7. I draw attention to the matters below. My opinion is not modified in respect of these matters.

Material Impairments

8. As disclosed in note 9 to the financial statements, the municipality provided impairment of receivables from exchange transactions of R5,48 billion (2022-23: R5,19 billion) and non-exchange transactions of R4 billion (2022-23: R3,67 billion).

Material losses

9. As disclosed in note 41.3.2.3 to the financial statements, material electricity losses of R915 million (2022-23: R768 million) was incurred, which represents 11% (2022-23: 11,46%) of total electricity purchased.

Subsequent events

10. I draw your attention to note 40 in the financial statements. The municipality obtained a significant amount of external funding. The detail of the transaction is further described in the disclosure note. The matter was treated as a non-adjusting subsequent event.

Irregular expenditure

11. As disclosed in note 41.3.2.1 to the financial statements, irregular expenditure of R634 million was incurred. The amount represents R368 million incurred in current year and R266 million relating to the prior year.

Other matters

12. I draw attention to the matters below. My opinion is not modified in respect of these matters.

Unaudited disclosure note

13. In terms of section 125(2) (e) of the MFMA, the municipality is required to disclose particulars of non-compliance with the MFMA in the financial statements. This disclosure requirement did not form part of the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, I do not express an opinion on it.

Unaudited supplementary schedules

14. The supplementary information set out on pages 93 to 112 does not form part of the financial statements and is presented as additional information. I have not audited these schedules and, accordingly, I do not express an opinion on them.

Responsibilities of the accounting officer for the consolidated and separate financial statements

15. The accounting officer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated and separate financial statements in accordance with the GRAP and the requirements of the MFMA; and for such internal control as the accounting officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated and separate financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
16. In preparing the consolidated and separate financial statements, the accounting officer is responsible for assessing the City of Cape Town's ability to continue as a going concern; disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern; and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the appropriate governance structure either intends to liquidate the municipality or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Responsibilities of the auditor-general for the audit of the consolidated and separate financial statements

17. My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated and separate financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated and separate financial statements.
18. A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated and separate financial statements is included in the annexure to this auditor's report. This description, which is located at page 9 in the annexure, forms part of my auditor's report.

Report on the audit of the annual performance report

19. In accordance with the Public Audit Act 25 of 2004 (PAA) and the general notice issued in terms thereof, I must audit and report on the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance against predetermined objectives for the selected development priorities presented in the annual performance report. The accounting officer is responsible for the preparation of the annual performance report.
20. I selected the following development priorities presented in the annual performance report for the year ended 30 June 2024, for auditing. I selected development priorities that measure's the municipalities performance on its primary mandated functions and that are of significant national, community or public interest.

Development priority	Page numbers	Purpose
Basic services	APR Annexure A Scorecard 3 to 8 APR Annexure A.2 Circular 88 2 to 6	Objective 2: Improved access to quality and reliable basic services Objective 3: End load shedding in Cape Town over time Objective 4: Well managed and modernised infrastructure to support economic growth
Housing	APR Annexure A Scorecard 10 to 11 APR Annexure A.2 Circular 88 7 to 8	Objective 7: Increased supply of affordable, well-located homes Objective 8: Safer, better-quality homes in informal settlements and backyards over time
Transport	APR Annexure Scorecard 14 to 15 APR Annexure A.2 Circular 88 9 to 10	Objective 12: A sustainable transport system that is integrated, efficient and provides safe and affordable travel options for all Objective 13: Safe and quality roads for pedestrians, cyclists

21. I evaluated the reported performance information for the selected priorities against the criteria developed from the performance management and reporting framework, as defined in the general notice. When an annual performance report is prepared using these criteria, it provides useful and reliable information and insights to users on the municipality's planning and delivery on its mandate and objectives.

22. I performed procedures to test whether:

- the indicators used for planning and reporting on performance can be linked directly to the municipality's mandate and the achievement of its planned objectives
- all the indicators relevant for measuring the municipality's performance against its primary mandated and prioritised functions and planned objectives are included
- the indicators are well defined to ensure that they are easy to understand and can be applied consistently, as well as verifiable so that I can confirm the methods and processes to be used for measuring achievements

- the targets can be linked directly to the achievement of the indicators and are specific, time bound and measurable to ensure that it is easy to understand what should be delivered and by when, the required level of performance as well as how performance will be evaluated
- the indicators and targets reported on in the annual performance report are the same as those committed to in the approved initial or revised planning documents
- the reported performance information is presented in the annual performance report in the prescribed manner and is comparable and understandable
- there is adequate supporting evidence for the achievements reported and for the measures taken to improve performance.

23. I performed the procedures for the purpose of reporting material findings only; and not to express an assurance opinion or conclusion.

24. I did not identify any material findings on the reported performance information for the basic services, housing and transport.

Other matters

25. I draw attention to the matters below.

Achievement of planned targets

26. The annual performance report includes information on reported achievements against planned targets and provides measures taken to improve performance.

27. The tables that follow provides information on the achievement of planned targets and lists the key service delivery indicators that were not achieved as reported in the annual performance report. The measures taken to improve performance are included in the annual performance report Annexure A Scorecard on pages 3 to 8, 10 to 11 and 14 to 15; Annexure A.2 Circular 88 on pages 2 to 10 (APR).

Basic Service priority

Targets achieved: 73%		
Budget spent: 95,3%		
Key service delivery indicator not achieved	Planned target	Reported achievement
4.A – Sewer reticulations pipelines replaced (metres)	100 000	96 863
4.F – Service requests for no collection of refuse resolved within 3 days (%) (NKPI)	90%	61,06%
4.G – Percentage of valid customer applications for new electricity connections	95%	72,80%

processed in terms of municipal service standards (indicator EE1.13)		
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Housing

Targets achieved: 70%		
Budget spent: 97,9%		
Key service delivery indicator not achieved	Planned target	Reported achievement
7.C – Formal housing serviced sites provided (number)	2 700	1 627
8.A – Informal settlement sites serviced (number)	1 220	1 124
HS1.12 Number of serviced sites	4 000	2 751

Transport priority

Targets achieved: 75%		
Budget spent: 93,8%		
Key service delivery indicator not achieved	Planned target	Reported achievement
TR6.13 – Kilometres of new municipal road network	0,2	0

Material misstatements

28. I identified material misstatements in the annual performance report submitted for auditing. These material misstatements were in the reported performance information for basic service, housing and transport. Management subsequently corrected all the misstatements, and I did not include any material findings in this report.

Report on compliance with legislation

29. In accordance with the PAA and the general notice issued in terms thereof, I must audit and report on compliance with applicable legislation relating to financial matters, financial management and other related matters. The accounting officer is responsible for the municipality's compliance with legislation.

30. I performed procedures to test compliance with selected requirements in key legislation in accordance with the findings engagement methodology of the Auditor-General of South Africa (AGSA). This engagement is not an assurance engagement. Accordingly, I do not express an assurance opinion or conclusion.
31. Through an established AGSA process, I selected requirements in key legislation for compliance testing that are relevant to the financial and performance management of the municipality, clear to allow consistent measurement and evaluation, while also sufficiently detailed and readily available to report in an understandable manner. The selected legislative requirements are included in the annexure to this auditor's report.
32. I did not identify any material non-compliance with the selected legislative requirements.

Other information in the annual report

33. The accounting officer is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information referred to does not include the financial statements, the auditor's report and those selected priorities presented in the annual performance report that have been specifically reported on in this auditor's report.
34. My opinion on the financial statements, the report on the audit of the annual performance report and the report on compliance with legislation do not cover the other information included in the annual report and I do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion on it.
35. My responsibility is to read this other information and, in doing so, consider whether it is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and the selected priorities presented in the annual performance report or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.
36. The other information I obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report is the draft annual report. The final annual report is expected to be made available to us after 30 November 2024.
37. When I do receive and read the final annual report, if I conclude that there is a material misstatement therein, I am required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance and request that the other information be corrected. If the other information is not corrected, I may have to retract this auditor's report and re-issue an amended report as appropriate. However, if it is corrected this will not be necessary.

Internal control deficiencies

38. I considered internal control relevant to my audit of the financial statements, annual performance report and compliance with applicable legislation; however, my objective was not to express any form of assurance on it.
39. I did not identify any significant deficiencies in internal control.

Other reports

40. Investigations commissioned by the accounting officer is being performed concerning allegations of SCM non-compliance with laws and regulations within the Urban Waste Management directorate of the City of Cape Town. The period covered by the investigations is from 1 August 2006 to date. As at the date of this auditor's report, the investigations was still ongoing.

Auditor - General

Cape Town

11 December 2024



AUDITOR - GENERAL
SOUTH AFRICA

Auditing to build public confidence

Annexure to the auditor's report

Auditor-general's responsibility for the audit

Professional judgement and professional scepticism

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout my audit of the financial statements and the procedures performed on reported performance information for selected priorities and on the municipality's compliance with selected requirements in key legislation.

Financial statements

In addition to my responsibility for the audit of the financial statements as described in this auditor's report, I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the municipality's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made
- conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements. I also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists relating to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the municipality to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements about the material uncertainty or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion on the financial statements. My conclusions are based on the information available to me at the date of this auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause a municipality to cease operating as a going concern
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and determine whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation
- obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. I am responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. I remain solely responsible for my audit opinion.

Communication with those charged with governance

I communicate with the accounting officer regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I also provide the accounting officer with a statement that I have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence and communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on my independence and, where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.

Compliance with legislation – selected legislative requirements

The selected legislative requirements are as follows:

Legislation	Sections or regulations
Municipal Finance Management Act 56 of 2003 (MFMA)	<p>Sections: 1, 11(1), 13(2), 14(1), 14(2)(a), 14(2)(b), 15, 24(2)(c)(iv), 28(1), 29(1), 29(2)(b), 32(2), 32(2)(a), 32(2)(a)(i), 32(2)(a)(ii),</p> <p>Sections: 32(2)(b), 32(6)(a), 32(7), 53(1)(c)(ii), 54(1)(c), 62(1)(d), 63(1)(a), 63(2)(a), 63(2)(c), 64(2)(b), 64(2)(c), 64(2)(e), 64(2)(f),</p> <p>Sections: 64(2)(g), 65(2)(a), 65(2)(b), 65(2)(e), 72(1)(a)(ii), 112(1)(j), 116(2)(b), 116(2)(c)(ii), 117, 122(1), 122(2), 126(1)(a),</p> <p>Sections: 126(1)(b), 127(2), 127(5)(a)(i), 127(5)(a)(ii), 129(1), 129(3), 133(1)(a), 133(1)(c)(i), 133(1)(c)(ii), 170, 171(4)(a), 171(4)(b)</p>
MFMA: Municipal Budget and Reporting Regulations, 2009	Regulations: 71(1)(a), 71(1)(a)(b), 71(2)(a), 71(2)(b), 71(2)(d), 72(a), 72(b), 72(c)
MFMA: Municipal Investment Regulations, 2005	Regulations: 3(1)(a), 3(3), 6, 7, 12(2), 12(3)
MFMA: Municipal Regulations on Financial Misconduct Procedures and Criminal Proceedings, 2014	Regulations: 5(4), 6(8)(a), 6(8)(b), 10(1)
MFMA: Municipal Supply Chain Management Regulations, 2017	<p>Regulations: 5, 12(1)(c), 12(3), 13(b), 13(c), 16(a), 17(1)(a), 17(1)(b), 17(1)(c), 19(a), 21(b), 22(1)(b)(i), 22(2), 27(2)(a), 27(2)(e),</p> <p>Regulations: 28(1)(a)(i), 29(1)(a), 29(1)(b), 29(5)(a)(ii), 29(5)(b)(ii), 32, 36(1), 36(1)(a), 38(1)(c), 38(1)(d)(ii), 38(1)(e), 38(1)(g)(i),</p> <p>Regulations: 38(1)(g)(ii), 38(1)(g)(iii), 43, 44, 46(2)(e), 46(2)(f)</p>
Construction Industry Development Board Act 38 of 2000	Section: 18(1)
Construction Industry Development Board Regulations, 2004	Regulations: 17, 25(7A)
Division of Revenue Act	Sections: 11(6)(b), 12(5), 16(1); 16(3)
Municipal Property Rates Act 6 of 2004	Section: 3(1)
Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000	<p>Sections: 25(1), 26(a), 26(c), 26(h), 26(i), 29(1)(b)(ii), 34(a), 34(b), 38(a), 41(1)(a), 41(1)(b), 41(1)(c)(ii), 42, 43(2),</p> <p>Sections: 54A(1)(a), 56(1)(a), 57(2)(a), 57(6)(a), 66(1)(a), 66(1)(b), 67(1)(d), 74(1), 96(b)</p>

Legislation	Sections or regulations
MSA: Disciplinary Regulations for Senior Managers, 2011	Regulations: 5(2), 5(3), 5(6), 8(4)
MSA: Municipal Planning and Performance Management Regulations, 2001	Regulations: 2(1)(e), 2(3)(a), 3(3), 3(4)(b), 7(1), 8, 9(1)(a), 10(a), 12(1), 15(1)(a)(i), 15(1)(a)(ii)
MSA: Municipal Performance Regulations for Municipal Managers and Managers Directly Accountable to Municipal Managers, 2006	Regulations: 2(3)(a), 4(4)(b), 8(1), 8(2), 8(3)
MSA: Regulations on Appointment and Conditions of Employment of Senior Managers, 2014	Regulations: 17(2), 36(1)(a)
MSA: Municipal Staff Regulations	Regulations: 7(1),31
National Environmental Management: Waste Act 59 of 2008	Section: 20(b)
National Water Act 36 of 1998	Section: 22(1)(b)
Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act 12 of 2004	Section: 34(1)
Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act 5 of 2000	Sections: 2(1)(a), 2(1)(f)
Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2017	Regulations: 4(1), 4(2), 5(1), 5(3), 5(6), 5(7), 6(1), 6(2), 6(3), 6(6), 6(8), 7(1), 7(2), 7(3), 7(6), 7(8), 8(2), 8(5), 9(1), 10(1), 10(2), Regulations: 11(1), 11(2)
Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2022	Regulations: 4(1), 4(2), 4(3), 4(4), 5(1), 5(2), 5(3), 5(4)