

POLICY ON USAGE OF CELLPHONES BY WARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Comment [GE1]: Approved 22/09/2008
C06/09/2008

Background

Department of Provincial and Local Government in partnership with Department of Communication solicited ICT (cell phones) equipment from ICASA, Vodacom, MTN and Cell C to support and bridge digital divide in provision of communication to facilitate service delivery.

Who are recipients of cell phones?

The cell phones will be the property of Endumeni Municipality and will be issued to Ward Committee Members to facilitate and enable communication between the municipality, stakeholders and community.

Obligation of Endumeni Municipality/ Office of the Speaker:

- Provision of cell phone and its accessories to Ward Committee Members;
- Starter pack with AIRTIME worth R50,00
- Provision of AIRTIME worth R 50.00 per month per Ward Committee Member for the period of his/her term of office:
- Provide basic information on National, Province, District, Local Municipality and Ward Councillors keyed in for access and avail when required by public
- Keep record of Cell phones and numbers of each phone issued to Ward Committee Members

Nature and Service / Scope of Service

- Cell phones will have basic information on profiles of Province, District, Local Municipality and wards with ward councillors offices and municipal emergency and after hours contact details
- Ward Councillors will be expected to be sources and points of reference of information on ward development activities for public, municipality and other stakeholders;
- Assist in cases of emergency to inform Endumeni Municipality and stakeholders in times of need by community;
- Ward Committees will liase with community development workers, traditional leaders and other stakeholders on community development activities as deemed necessary;
- Ward Committees will disseminate information about government meetings/izimbizo in the wards to community

Obligation of a Ward Committee Member

- Protect and keep the cell phone safe

- Charge battery for functionality
- Utilise the cell phones and airtime for Ward Committee business only
- Be accessible to community at all times and provide information where necessary
- Disseminate official information to all community members without prejudice

Code of Conduct

- Cell phones shall be protected from any damage, abuse by ward committee during term of office contracted with the municipality / Office of Speaker
- Ward councillor shall take necessary measures to prevent situations that could compromise the objective and purpose of the equipment as a result of economic interest, political or emotional ties which could arise during term of office as a ward committee member
- Any difficulty that could arise in performance of duty due to the above must be notified in writing to the Office of the Speaker without delay
- It is expected when a ward committee member resigns or term of office ends that the ward committee member shall return the cell phone to the Office of the Speaker with all accessories

Indemnity

- The Ward Committee Member shall protect the equipment / cell phone from and against loss or damage arising from any act or omission in the performance of his/her duties including violation of any legal provision

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