



Integrated Environmental Policy
For The
Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality

Adopted on: 26th July 2012

PLEDGE

“We, as the leadership of the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, commit ourselves to the implementation of this Integrated Environmental Policy.

We commit to applying the general principles of sustainable development, as well as the sector commitments as detailed in this policy, in all NMBM plans and programmes and implementation thereof.

We commit to supporting compliance with this Integrated Environmental Policy and to providing resources therefore.”

**INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY
FOR THE
NELSON MANDELA BAY MUNICIPALITY**

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DEFINITIONS

In the Policy, unless the context indicates otherwise,

“Council” refers to the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality Council

“Environment” means the surroundings within which humans exist and is made up of:

- i) The land, water and atmosphere of the earth;
- ii) Micro-organisms, plant and animal life;
- iii) Any part or combination of i) or ii) and the interrelationships among and between them; and
- iv) The physical, chemical, aesthetic and cultural properties and conditions of the foregoing that influence human health and well-being.

“Municipality” means the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, a Category A municipality established by Part 2 of Schedule 1 of Notice 85 in the Eastern Cape Provincial Gazette No. 654 on 27 September 2000, promulgated in terms of Section 12(1) of the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act 117 of 1998, for the municipal area described in such Notice.

“Nelson Mandela Bay” refers to the geographical area, i.e. Port Elizabeth, Uitenhage and Despatch.

“Policy” means the Integrated Environmental Policy.

ABBREVIATIONS

CETT	Corporate Environmental Task Team
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMF	Environmental Management Framework
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EMS	Environmental Management System
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
IEM	Integrated Environmental Management
IEP	Integrated Environmental Policy
IWMP	Integrated Waste Management Plan
MDTTT	Multidisciplinary Technical Task Team
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act
NMB	Nelson Mandela Bay
NMBM	Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality
NMMOSS	Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Open Space System
SDF	Spatial Development Framework
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SMMEs	Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises
SoER	State of the Environment Report

1 INTRODUCTION

The Integrated Environmental Policy (IEP) outlines the vision, priorities and commitments of the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality (NMBM), in respect of the management of the environment in the area of its jurisdiction. It is integrated in that it applies to all, and all that the *Municipality* does, across all sectors, from planning to implementation. It provides a framework from which action plans can be developed and serves as a high level strategic guide in directing the *Municipality* towards its vision for sustainable development.

1.1 Function of the Integrated Environmental Policy

The IEP represents the *Municipality's* vision for, and its commitment to, practising and promoting sustainable development during its day to day execution of duties which have an impact on the *environment*, whether directly or indirectly.

The *Municipality* is committed to fulfilling national, as well as international environmental requirements, through a series of subsequent strategies and plans. The Policy is the first key strategic step guiding these plans. The Policy further is intended to provide guidance to all inhabitants of the *Municipality*, and those with a civic responsibility to be a custodian of the environment.

1.2 The Nelson Mandela Bay Context

NMB is located in the western regions of the Eastern Cape Province in South Africa. It is a coastal municipality bordered by 110 km of coastline which includes two island groups, famous sandy beaches and Algoa Bay which supports a wealth of marine life. The large Swartkops and Sundays Rivers flow through the area.

NMB has floral and faunal diversity to be proud of. It is floristically extremely diverse, being located in the eastern extreme of the Cape Floral Kingdom.

Dominant vegetation biomes include Fynbos and Sub-tropical Thicket. Regrettably, approximately one third of the natural environment has already been lost due to urban expansion, cultivation, overgrazing, mining and alien plant infestation and hence there is a strong need to correctly conserve and manage the remaining environment.

Fauna is well represented both on and off-shore and up to nine species of whales, dolphins and seals are found along our coast. The NMB borders the Groendal Wilderness Area and the southern section of the Addo Elephant National Park, with its approximately 550 elephants. The value of this diversity cannot be over emphasised, nor can the importance of conservation thereof.

NMBM is the only metropolitan municipality in the Eastern Cape Province, and the economic hub of the Province. It is a national and international tourist destination famed for its water sports and being a launch pad to the Garden Route. It is in this diverse setting that the approximately 1.1 million diverse people of NMB live.

The *Municipality* recognises that the natural environment is valuable, not only because of its inherent diversity, but also because of the significant environmental services it offers.

2 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Numerous national legislations address environmental management in some form or other, however there are certain key acts which drive environmental management in South Africa. This IEP will function as a tool to guide the NMBM towards fulfilling the requirements of this legislation. Key legislation includes the following:

- 2.1 Section 24 of the Constitution of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996) guarantees everyone the right to *inter alia* “an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being” and to have the environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations.

- 2.2 The National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended) defines the environment, and other key terms such as public participation, sustainable development, and pollution. It also presents key National Environmental Management Principles, such as “the polluter pays” principle on which this policy is founded.
- 2.3 The National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (Act 39 of 2004) controls and manages air pollution.
- 2.4 The National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act 10 of 2004) provides for the conservation and management of South Africa’s biodiversity.
- 2.5 National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) provides for the protection of heritages resources.
- 2.6 The National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) provides a legal framework for the sustainable management of all water resources. It recognises that water is a scarce commodity and belongs to all the people of South Africa.
- 2.7 The Municipal Systems Act (Act 32 of 2000) requires that local authorities provide services in an environmentally sustainable manner and require local authorities to compile development and sector plans which address these issues.

3 POLICY PRINCIPLES

3.1 General vision and values of NMBM

The NMBM has the long term vision to be:

“A globally competitive and preferred metropole that works together for the people”

(NMBM, IDP 2010/2011 review)

The NMBM is also committed to the Batho Pele principles of “people first”; courtesy; consultation; service excellence; access to services; information; openness and transparency; redress; and value for money.

The environmental vision for the NMBM must be seen within the context of the NMBM’s main strategic objectives, as expressed in the IDP. These strategic objectives are:

1. Correcting spatial imbalances;
2. Combating poverty and unemployment;
3. Ensuring access to basic services by all;
4. Socio-economic growth and sustainability;
5. A safe, secure, healthy and sustainable environment;
6. Development of integrated and sustainable settlements;
7. Responsive, people-centred and integrated institution;
8. Democratisation of planning and decision-making;
9. Elimination of growth and maintenance backlogs; and
10. Sound and sustainable finances.

It is against the backdrop of these objectives that the NMBM’s vision for the environment is defined.

3.2 Vision for the environment

NMBM's vision for key aspects of its environment is:

1. A society well aware of its environment and the importance thereof.
2. A healthy environment which is managed in a manner which balances both its biophysical needs as well as the human development needs of present and future generations.
3. Basic services provided for all.
4. A growing economy and reduced unemployment.
5. Sustainable water resources and a sustainable potable water supply for all.
6. An area with clean air for all.
7. A society acknowledging the challenges of climate change and accordingly prioritises renewable energy generation and efficient consumption thereof.
8. A society which recognises the services provided by the many facets of the natural environment and the value thereof.
9. Safe, secure and tourist-friendly environment for all, including coast and beaches.
10. Comprehensive waste management which encourages and facilitates waste minimisation and recycling.

3.3 Environmental principles

International conventions, the Constitution and environmental legislation such as the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) define general guiding environmental principles which are to underpin all actions as civilians and civil servants. The NMBM is committed to adopting and implementing these and other key principles which include:

3.3.1 Sustainable development: integrating environmental, social and economic considerations in all that we do so as to ensure our development activities serve present generations, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. To achieve sustainable development, the NMBM is committed to adhering to the seven key principles of the Local Agenda 21 to which South Africa is a signatory. These include.

- a) Integration of social, economic and environmental issues;
- b) Adopting a multi-sectoral approach;
- c) Concern for the future;
- d) Working within ecological limits;
- e) Ensuring transparency and developing partnerships with civil society;
- f) Linking local issues with global impacts; and finally
- g) Striving for equity, justice and accountability.

3.3.2 Healthy environment: ensuring the right of all South Africans to an environment that is not damaging to their health and well-being, as defined in the Constitution, is protected.

3.3.3 Protecting the environment: ensuring our environment is protected through preserving biodiversity and our cultural heritage, reducing waste, and preventing pollution.

3.3.4 Legal compliance: complying or exceeding the requirements of all local, provincial, national and international legislation, and those conventions and protocols to which South Africa is a signatory. The NMBM is also accountable for enforcement of its local legislation.

3.3.5 Efficient use of natural resources: ensuring that our natural resources are used in a sustainable manner which protects them for future generations.

3.3.6 Holistic approach: considering all aspects of the environment, including all potential impacts of our actions, be they cumulative, direct or indirect.

- 3.3.7 Precautionary approach:** applying a risk averse and cautious approach which recognises the limits of current knowledge regarding environmental impacts and the consequences thereof.
- 3.3.8 Polluter pays:** ensuring that the cost of environmental pollution, including all remediation, is borne by those responsible for causing the pollution.
- 3.3.9 Public participation:** involving civil society in the decision-making process with regards to the environment in NMBM, and partnering with the public to realise appropriate management thereof.
- 3.3.10 Environmental awareness:** furthering awareness of NMBM employees and the general public regarding all environmental management issues.
- 3.3.11 Integrated planning and decision making:** ensuring integrated environmental management is part of NMBM's decision-making and planning at all levels, including policies, plans, programmes, and operational functions, in and across all sectors. All sectoral strategies or plans should consider the IEP and adopt it.
- 3.3.12 Continuous improvement:** ensuring that we are continuously looking for better ways of doing things, and that our environmental performance continuously improves as a result thereof.
- 3.3.13 Best Practical Environmental Option:** ensuring that in decision making, the Best Practical Environmental Option (BPEO) is considered.

4 POLICY OBJECTIVES

The three spheres of government have environmental responsibilities and duties imposed on them by national policy and legislation. The Policy represents the NMBM's commitment to fulfilling these responsibilities by:

- 4.1 Producing a framework for all other policies, strategies, plans and programmes to consider environmental issues.
- 4.2 Highlighting the environmental responsibilities and commitments of all Directorates across different sectors, bringing them together into one focused policy.
- 4.3 Directing the NMBM towards legislative compliance with environmental requirements in all that it does.
- 4.4 Assisting in the establishment of a culture of "best practice" when it comes to managing the environment within NMBM.
- 4.5 Providing environmental awareness to all inhabitants of NMB thereby promoting custodianship of the environment

5 POLICY APPLICATION

- 5.1 The *Policy* is applicable within the geographical boundaries of the NMBM and covers all activities within its control and those that could be reasonably influenced by its involvement.
- 5.2 The *Policy* is integrated, cuts across a range of sectors and functions, and serves as an implementation tool for all Directorates in the NMBM. Its key principles are to be cascaded to every category of employee in the NMBM.
- 5.3 While the *Policy* is of particular value to those executing the responsibilities of the NMBM, it is a public document and of relevance to all within the Nelson Mandela Bay area including civil society.

6 SECTORS SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS

Different environmental goals and commitments will be addressed per sector in accordance with its management needs and challenges.

6.1 Biodiversity and conservation

To ensure that biodiversity within NMB is conserved in a sustainable manner, for present and future generations, the municipality endeavours to:

- 6.1.1 Protect terrestrial biodiversity and key habitats and ecological processes.
- 6.1.2 Protect the marine and coastal environment.
- 6.1.3 Meet appropriate environmental management standards in its operational activities.
- 6.1.4 Implement legal tools such as the Bioregional Plan (currently in the processes of being gazetted).
- 6.1.5 Develop and implement the Environmental Management Framework (EMF), a legislated planning tool which defines areas where specific land uses may be best practiced, and which defines different permitting and performance standards for different areas.
- 6.1.6 Partner with civil society and academic institutions in research and conservation action.

6.2 Water resources

To ensure that water resources in NMB are sustainable in terms of the biodiversity, and their use as a source of water for human needs, the municipality endeavours to:

- 6.2.1 Ensure the long term provision of clean, potable water for all.
- 6.2.2 Protect surface and groundwater resources.

6.2.3 Protect, and where necessary, restore the ecological integrity of natural aquatic systems.

6.2.4 Minimise all forms of water wastage so as to ensure water use efficiency is maximised.

6.3 Air quality & noise

To minimise the impact of air and noise pollution on people and the natural environment, NMBM endeavours to:

6.3.1 Develop the appropriate structures, systems, and capacity within the NMBM to manage air quality and noise issues.

6.3.2 Minimise the release of Greenhouse Gases in the NMBM.

6.3.3 Combat noise pollution and its impact on developed areas.

6.4 Renewable energy and climate change

To proactively respond to the challenge of climate change by implementing appropriate mitigation and adaptation measures, the municipality endeavours to:

6.4.1 Develop the appropriate structures and capacity within the NMBM to manage the challenge of climate change.

6.4.2 Improve public awareness of energy and climate change issues in NMB.

6.4.3 Fulfil the local obligations which South Africa has committed to as signatories of international agreements such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol.

6.4.4 Encourage efficient energy use and “low carbon” practices wherever possible and practical.

- 6.4.5 Encourage technologies which minimise the release of greenhouse gasses harmful to the atmosphere including reducing emissions from vehicles utilised by the municipal fleet.
- 6.4.6 Respond to the challenge of sea level rise through informed coastal planning.

6.5 Waste

In order to manage waste effectively in line with the national waste management hierarchy, the municipality endeavours to:

- 6.5.1 Maintain a clean environment within NMB.
- 6.5.2 Realise waste prevention and minimisation.
- 6.5.3 Recycle, including within the operations of the municipality itself.
- 6.5.4 Prevent illegal dumping.
- 6.5.5 Enforce appropriate waste management practices and the polluter pays principle.
- 6.5.6 Work with other levels of government, NGOs and the private sector to realise the above.

6.6 Heritage

To ensure that the heritage of NMB, including cultural heritage and living heritage, built heritage and historical townscapes, paleontological and archaeological heritage, and significant landscapes, are both preserved and celebrated in an accessible manner, the municipality endeavours to:

- 6.6.1 Recognise our diverse cultural practices.
- 6.6.2 Protect and maintain existing heritage sites, and improving these where appropriate.
- 6.6.3 Consider areas of heritage value in decision making.

6.7 Land use and planning

The NMBM is committed to ensuring that land is used and managed optimally in a manner which improves the quality of life of all residents, and endeavours to provide housing by:

- 6.7.1 Undertaking spatial planning that reduces urban sprawl, promotes densification, mixed use development, and corridor developments.
- 6.7.2 Integrating open spaces into planning and developing, maintain quality open spaces in all areas, and to green urban areas.
- 6.7.3 Addressing illegal occupation of land.
- 6.7.4 Realising inner-city rejuvenation of the main centres of Port Elizabeth, Uitenhage and Dispatch.
- 6.7.5 Encouraging green buildings and sustainable design and development practices.

6.8 Transportation

To realise a sustainable transportation system that is safe, accessible and which minimises environmental impact, the NMBM endeavours to:

- 6.8.1 Consider sustainability and environmental factors when planning, implementing and managing all facets of transportation.
- 6.8.2 Encourage commuting by non-motorised means.

6.9 Environmental education & awareness

To facilitate environmental education throughout all levels of society and within the municipality itself, the NMBM endeavours to:

- 6.9.1 Encourage a culture of learning about the environment.
- 6.9.2 Develop environmental management capacity within the municipal staff, as needed, through formal training programmes.
- 6.9.3 Build partnerships with government and the private sector and support the environmental education initiatives of other organisations as appropriate.

6.10 Economic development

To realise a vibrant and sustainable local economy in NMBM resulting in increased wealth in the area and improved lives of its residents, the NMBM endeavours to:

- 6.10.1 Realise NMB as an internationally preferred destination for investors.
- 6.10.2 Reduce poverty through supporting job creation initiatives.
- 6.10.3 Encourage entrepreneurial activities through supporting emerging businesses and SMMEs.
- 6.10.3 Prioritise empowerment of local communities.
- 6.10.4 Foster an enabling environment for growth by, for example, providing the required infrastructure for growth.
- 6.10.5 Encourage sustainable business practices and environmental performance.
- 6.10.6 Develop a culture of “Sustainable Procurement” within NMBM which considers environmental, economic, and social factors (the triple bottom line) in the procurement process.

6.11 Environmental governance

To achieve effective environmental governance in all areas within its jurisdiction the NMBM endeavours to:

6.11.1 Achieve transparent and accountable governance.

6.11.2 Avail the required resources, both human and financial, for the appropriate management of our environment and implementation of the *Policy*.

6.11.3 Collect and manage environmental data and information in a manner which facilitates the effective management of the environment.

6.11.4 Partner with communities to realize environmental benefits.

6.11.5 Achieve clear, transparent communication with stakeholders and communities and ensure inclusive decision making.

6.11.6 Enforce environmental legislation, including the development, implementation and enforcement of by-laws.

6.11.7 Work together with other local authorities and levels of government, as well as the private sector, to ensure knowledge and skills transfer into and out of the NMBM

7 IMPLEMENTATION, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1 Implementation commitments

The NMBM is committed to implementing the *Policy* by applying the principles contained therein in all decision making, strategies and plans, which will be rendered effective by ensuring:

7.1.1 The *Policy* and its commitment to sectoral strategies and plans are adopted at all management levels of the NMBM.

7.1.2. That appropriate resources, including financial and human resources, are made available for its implementation.

- 7.1.3 The *Policy* is implemented across all NMBM Directorates - Implementation is not only the responsibility of the Environmental Management Sub-Directorate.
- 7.1.4 The *Policy* is communicated to all stakeholders in NMB.
- 7.1.5 The *Policy* is aligned with all other municipal strategies and policies.
- 7.1.6 Sectoral strategies and plans are developed within five years of the adoption of the *Policy*. Where these already exist, they will be updated in line with the IDP review periods.
- 7.1.7 The appropriate environmental management tools are utilised to achieve implementation.

7.2 Responsibilities of key stakeholders

The following stakeholders are responsible for the implementation of the *Policy*:

- 7.2.1 Council:** to review and approve the IEP, and ensure all new proposals are aligned with the IEP.
- 7.2.2 Executive Mayor:** to facilitate the implementation of the IEP by fostering relationships with other levels of government, and internationally, so as to achieve knowledge transfer, and to evaluate progress of IEP implementation.
- 7.2.3 Municipal Manager:** to ensure implementation of IEP across all Directorates of the NMBM.
- 7.2.4 Executive Director, Public Health:** is responsible for developing the policy; reviewing the IEP; reviewing implementation thereof; for communicating and implementing programmes for its implementation; and for allocating resources for the above.
- 7.2.5 Directors (all):** to ensure awareness of the IEP in their Directorates, to ensure its implementation in their Directorates, and to ensure that significant IEP issues are communicated to the Environmental Management Sub-Directorate.

7.3 Responsibilities of key Directorates

All Directorates are responsible for applying the principles of the *Policy* in the areas of their activity. The NMBM commits to fulfilling these responsibilities as listed below.

7.3.1 Directorate: Public Health

(a) Strategic planning and development

- (i) Develop, maintain and implement a Biodiversity Management Plan, and the NMMOSS action plan for the NMBM.
- (ii) Address the challenge of alien invasive species in the NMBM.
- (iii) Maintain, increase, and continually improve municipal designated conservation areas.
- (iv) Ensure private land owner conservation through stewardship programmes.
- (v) Mainstream planning tools such as the EMF and EIA processes into land use planning.
- (vi) Raise environmental awareness through NMBM education initiatives.
- (vii) Mobilize community involvement through environmental education initiatives in the combating of environmental degradation
- (viii) Develop, maintain, and implement a Climate Change and Response Management Strategy together with the Sub-directorate: Environmental Management, for the NMBM and subsequent mitigation and adaptation response plans.
- (ix) Commit to developing and implementing a Green Procurement Policy to guide the NMBM procurement process. This is applicable to all directorates undertaking procurement of goods and services.

(b) Air Quality and Noise

- (i) Maintain and implement the NMBM's Air Quality Management Plan in line with the requirements of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act 39 of 2004.
- (ii) Ensure air quality and noise by-laws are relevant, up to date and enforced.
- (iii) Undertake meaningful meteorological and air quality monitoring and maintain an emissions inventory for NMBM.
- (iv) Develop and manage a system for enforcing the legal air quality requirements.

(c) Waste

- (i) Maintain and review an Integrated Waste Management Plan as required by the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (59 of 2008).
- (ii) Implement the waste objectives as highlighted in the Integrated Waste Management Plan.
- (iii) Prevention and minimise waste through initiatives such as the NMBM waste exchange.
- (iv) Promote public awareness campaigns with NMB civil society on the dangers of illegal dumping.
- (v) Ensure waste by-laws are up to date, relevant and enforced

7.3.2 Directorate: Infrastructure and Engineering

(a) Water resources

- (i) Provide a basic sanitation services to all.

- (ii) Manage Waste Water Systems such that they operate effectively, and that discharges meet legal requirements.
- (iii) Promote the use of alternative sources of water e.g. rainwater harvesting, and the recycling of waste water.

(b) Transportation

- (i) Develop an effective public transport system which is energy efficient, and in which carbon and greenhouse gas emissions are minimised.
- (ii) Develop bicycle and pedestrian paths where feasible.

7.3.3 Directorate: Electricity & Energy

(a) Renewable Energy

- (i) Create an enabling environment for an alternative energy economy and encourage efficient energy generation through facilitation of renewable energy projects, for example, wind, solar and landfill gas initiatives.

7.3.4 Directorate: Recreation and Culture Services

(a) Heritage

- (i) Develop, maintain, and implement a Heritage Management Plan for the NMBM.
- (ii) Raise public awareness regarding the heritage value of NMBM.

7.3.5 Directorate: Economic Development

(a) Economic Development

- (i) Aims to ensure that NMB is a productive and globally competitive area which has a vibrant economy and is able to address local economic challenges.
- (ii) Responsible for promoting economic growth, job creation and reducing poverty.

7.3.6 Directorate: Integrated Human Settlements

(a) Land Use and planning

- (i) Eliminate the housing delivery backlog and provide quality housing for all in sustainable human settlements.
- (ii) Implement land use planning that promotes integrated communities and addresses the legacy of race-based segregation.
- (iii) Realise sustainable communities through planning which strives for poverty alleviation, satisfaction of basic needs, and focuses on special needs groups.
- (iv) Be proactive in community education regarding the importance of the above principles.

7.4 Tools

The following tools will be used in the implementation of the Policy:

7.4.1 Communication tools

(a) Inter-Directorate forums:

These forums will be established where there is a need for addressing cross-cutting issues in a coordinated manner. The environmental forums such as the Corporate Environmental Task Team (CETT) and the Multi-disciplinary Technical Task Team (MDTTT) are examples of such forums.

(b) *NMBM Website:*

The Policy and any other strategic documents will be made available on the municipal website.

7.4.2 Monitoring and reporting tools

(a) *Annual performance reporting:*

All relevant NMBM sectors will report on an annual basis regarding the degree to which they have implemented the *Policy*.

(b) *Monitoring:*

In order to understand environmental performance in the NMBM, regular environmental monitoring will be undertaken from which meaningful data will allow evaluation of resources.

(c) *Environmental Information Management System:*

The relevant Directorate will establish a system for collecting, storing and accessing environmental information and reports.

(d) *State of the Environment Report (SoER):*

The State of the Environment Report, which describes the environment and performance indicators under various “themes”, will be updated every five years.

7.4.3 Legislative tools

(a) *By-laws:*

Up-to-date bylaws will be developed, implemented and enforced.

7.4.4 Planning tools

The NMBM will develop and implement plans to address and realise the commitments detailed under the provisions of chapter 6 of the Policy outlining “Sector Specific Commitments”. The following key environmental plans will be aligned to any future plans being developed:

- a) Spatial Frameworks at both the municipal level, through the Spatial Development Framework, and at the local level through Local Spatial Development Frameworks and Sustainable Community Unit Plans.
- b) Integrated Waste Management Plan (2005, currently under review).
- c) Water Master Plan and Water Services Development Plan (2006).
- d) Sanitation Master Plan (complete).
- e) Air Quality Management Plan, 2010.
- f) Metropolitan Open Space System (completed and revised).
- g) Bioregional Plan and the EMF (in the process of being gazetted).
- h) Coastal Management Programme (2008).
- i) Greening policy (2007).
- j) Heritage Management Plan (to be commenced).
- k) Energy & Climate change strategy (in progress).
- l) Green Procurement Strategy and Implementation Plan (in progress).

7.4.5 Management & Decision Making Tools

- (a) Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) will be undertaken to determine the degree to which key plans, such as the SDF, have considered the environmental needs of the area. The last SEA for NMBM was undertaken in 2007, prior to the revision of the SDF.
- (b) Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) will be undertaken to evaluate impacts on a project by project basis.

- (c) Environmental Management Framework (EMF) is a tool which defines administrative permitting requirements and conservation requirements for different geographical areas. The NMBM EMF is currently being developed.
- (d) Environmental Management Systems (EMS's) will be used, where appropriate, by NMBM to manage and minimise the negative environmental impacts which are a results of operational activities.

7.4.6 Green Procurement Strategy and Implementation Plan:

A Green Procurement Strategy and Implementation Plan for NMBM has been developed and is currently being finalised.

7.4.7 Other Tools

(a) Guidelines

Where specific activities and environmental issues warrant it, best practice guidelines will be compiled so as to provide clarity, guidance and direction for NMBM. Where guidelines from other organisations are relevant to the functioning of NMBM, these will be adhered to.

8 POLICY REVIEW

- 8.1 This policy will be called the Integrated Environmental Policy for the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality.
- 8.2 Upon its adoption by Council it will replace the NMBM Environmental Policy adopted in October 2004.
- 8.3 The Policy will be reviewed every three years from the date of adoption.