

Information Release Merafong City Local Municipality

During September 2017 Council resolved on strict credit control measures to be implemented as part of a Financial Turnaround Plan. The measures were communicated with the broader community during a Mayoral Outreach Programme in all wards and with the respective stakeholders. Despite this programme, the plan was met with resistance such as intimidation of the council credit control service provider, tampering with prepaid electricity meters, illegal connections and an increasing culture of non-payment.

The effect of this obstructive behaviour and non-conformance sabotaged the implementation of the credit control policy, now at a point where rolling blackouts are a reality for the low paying areas. This measure is necessitated to ensure the management of the Eskom bulk services account which is part of the financial obligation of the municipality.

During the mayoral outreach programme, the community was urged to make use of the programs available such as registering as indigent, as well as making affordable payment arrangements for accounts in arrears. The community is still encouraged to make payment arrangements and / or register as indigent.

During a Council meeting held on 25 October 2018, the council approved the Financial Turn-around Priority plan to concentrate on the reduction of electricity and water losses as well as the increase in the collection rate of Municipal accounts.

Part of this was also confirming the implementation of load shedding and block electricity disconnections.

The schedule is based on a four (4) hour black-out per identified area. The identification of these areas is based on the payment levels of the area. Areas with a level of above 75% are exempted from the initial implementation of the schedule. The payment levels are analysed on a monthly basis, and areas that improve above 75% will be removed from the Schedule and vice versa. Monthly schedules will be communicated on the Municipal website and Council notice boards.

The load shedding of electricity will commence on Monday, 3 December 2018 in the areas as listed below.

Where ESKOM load shedding schedule is implemented it will take precedence over the municipal load shedding process.

Load shedding schedule

Area of Supply					
		Loadshedding			
Weekday	Date	Khutsong South	Kokosi	Wedela	Greenspark
Monday	3-Dec-18	17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00	
Tuesday	4-Dec-18		17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00
Wednesday	5-Dec-18	17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00	
Thursday	6-Dec-18		17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00
Friday	7-Dec-18	17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00	
Saturday	8-Dec-18		15h00 - 19h00		15h00 - 19h00
Sunday	9-Dec-18	15h00 - 19h00			
Monday	10-Dec-18	17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00	
Tuesday	11-Dec-18		17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00
Wednesday	12-Dec-18	17h00 - 21h00			
Thursday	13-Dec-18		17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00
Friday	14-Dec-18	17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00	
Saturday	15-Dec-18				
Sunday	16-Dec-18				
Monday	17-Dec-18				
Tuesday	18-Dec-18	17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00	
Wednesday	19-Dec-18		17h00 - 21h01		17h00 - 21h00
Thursday	20-Dec-18	17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00	
Friday	21-Dec-18		17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00
Saturday	22-Dec-18	13h00 - 19h00		13h00 - 19h00	
Sunday	23-Dec-	13h00 -			

	18	19h00			
Monday	24-Dec-18	17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00	
Tuesday	25-Dec-18		17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00
Wednesday	26-Dec-18	17h00 - 21h00			
Thursday	27-Dec-18		17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00
Friday	28-Dec-18	17h00 - 21h00		17h00 - 21h00	
Saturday	29-Dec-18				
Sunday	30-Dec-18				
Monday	31-Dec-18				

For safety reasons all electrical installations and connections must be treated as live at all times.

Further actions will also be undertaken by the Municipality in the implementation of the Credit Control Priority Plan. This includes Credit Control actions as well as work done by the Infrastructure Department.

Credit control

Credit control actions will be undertaken as follows:

Khutong South – 3/12/2018 - Disconnections

Khutsong – 5/12/2018

Blybank – 7/12/2018 - Disconnections

Kokosi – 10/12/2018 - Disconnections

Wedela – 12/12/2018 - Disconnections

Greenspark – 14/12/2018 - Disconnections

Installation of restrictions indigent households

The installation of restrictions at registered indigent household will be done in terms of the undermentioned schedule:

Key Milestones	Deliverables	Planned Dates	
	Description	Start	End
Greenspark	Households assessed	Monday, December 03, 2018	Friday, December 21, 2018
	Retrofitting	Monday, December 03, 2018	Friday, December 21, 2018
	Restriction installed	Monday, December 03, 2018	Friday, December 21, 2018
Khutsong South ext 4	Households assessed	Monday, October 15, 2018	Friday, December 21, 2018
	Retrofitting	Monday, October 15, 2018	Friday, December 21, 2018
	Restriction installed	Monday, October 15, 2018	Friday, December 21, 2018

Replacing and repair of pre-paid water meters

Work on the replacing and repair of pre-paid water meters that are not purchasing water will be done in terms of the following schedule:

Key Milestones	Deliverables	Planned Dates	
	Description	Start	End
Blybank	Audit	10-Dec-2018	11-Dec-2018
	Replacement	10-Dec-2018	11-Dec-2018
	Info to Revenue	10-Dec-2018	11-Dec-2018
Carletonville	Audit	12-Dec-2018	14-Dec-2018
	Replacement	12-Dec-2018	14-Dec-2018

	Info to Revenue	12-Dec-2018	14-Dec-2018
Fochville	Audit	3-Dec-2018	3-Dec-2018
	Replacement	3-Dec-2018	3-Dec-2018
	Info to Revenue	3-Dec-2018	3-Dec-2018
Greenspark	Audit	6-Dec-2018	6-Dec-2018
	Replacement	6-Dec-2018	6-Dec-2018
	Info to Revenue	6-Dec-2018	6-Dec-2018
Welverdiend	Audit	7-Dec-2018	7-Dec-2018
	Replacement	7-Dec-2018	7-Dec-2018
	Info to Revenue	7-Dec-2018	7-Dec-2018

Assessment and installation of water meters in Kokosi Extention 99

The assessment and installation of water meters in Kokosi Extention 99 will be done in terms of the following schedule:

Key Milestones	Deliverables	Planned Dates	
	Description	Start	End
Kokosi ext 99	Assessment of meters	03 December 2018	Friday, December 21, 2018
Kokosi	meter installed	03 December 2018	Friday, December 21, 2018
Kokosi ext 6	Bulk water installation	03 December 2018	Friday, December 21, 2018

Installation and correction of electrical pre-paid meters

The inspection and correction electrical pre-paid meters will be undertaken on a weekly basis in the areas of Carletonville, Khutsong and Kokosi.

This schedule will be available on the Municipal website (www.merafong.gov.za) as well as Municipal notice boards and will also be available from ward Councillors. Enquiries can be directed to the Municipal Call Centre at 018 788 9990, the Call Centre for after hour emergencies at 107 or your ward Councillor.