



The Msunduzi Municipality

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**All Media
Immediate Release**

MSUNDUZI MUNICIPALITY FLOODS UPDATE

Exceptional hard rainfall were experienced from Friday evening 21 May and Saturday 22 May. Disaster Management had operational staff and disaster officers on standby, other arrangements were made with NGO's and NPO's to assist should it be necessary for them to assist when needed.

The assessments carried out by the Msunduzi Municipality on the reported incidents through the call centre line and others were done via the ward councilors are as follows.

- Wards that were affected are Ward 31, 23, 40, 11, 30, 5 and 28
- All these wards had challenges of roof leaking or roof totally damaged; except for ward 30 in Northdale where there is a house built next to the river and soil is eroding towards the house.
- Ward 28 where Mud slide caused damage and cracked walls, and then the arrangements to relocate the house were made by the disaster management team as the house cracked.

ELECTRICITY

A major fault - cable for the mainline going to Hilton had a failure –repairs have been completed. More cable faults were experienced affecting parts of pentrich road and Oribi Village, although these were not associated with the storm they are being attended to by the Electricity Unit.

WATER AND SANITATION

The water unit has been on site attending to burst water pipes; a challenged was experienced in locating the burst and leaking pipes due to the amount of rainfall. However three major burst pipes were located and attended to on Sunday as the rain had subsided. A major main pipe in Azalea collapsed again as a result of the storm, affecting portions of Willow fountain and surrounding. More burst pipes are were reported this morning affecting parts of Panorama, Northdale and parts of

Boughton and these are being inspected. A number of overflowing sewers were experienced and assessments are being undertaken.

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

Blockages have been reported mainly in the CBD. Due to the Municipality's ongoing programme for cleaning and maintenance of storm water drains, the number of storm water blockages has decreased.

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

A number of temporary structures have been constructed in different Wards as part of the relief following the Disasters experienced previously. This program will continue until all the affected wards have been covered.

The Municipality appeals to the members of the public to avoid sharing of false information being circulated on social media of incidents related to the rainfall as this causes unnecessary panic. Only verified information issued by the Municipality or credible news sources should be trusted.

Disaster management teams continue to respond to numbers of incidents of flooding in various areas. The members of the public are urged to report incidents to their respective Ward Councillors or Emergency Communication Centre; 0800 033 911. The Municipality is appealing to the community to ensure that they report the incidents immediately to ensure that the officials can respond, do necessary assessment on the extent of the damage and provide relief.

The Municipality is urging the community who may be susceptible to incidents caused by the heavy rains are strongly advised to exercise the utmost caution and where possible, delay or suspend any activities that may be unsafe during floods. Msunduzi Disaster management teams provides emergency supplies in case of emergency and we continue to respond to a number of incidents which include blocked drainage system causing traffic.

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