

HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY



DISASTER MANAGEMENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT POLICY

POLICY FOR ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO DESTITUTE VICTIMS OF DISASTER INCIDENTS AND/ OR DISASTERS IN CASES WHERE MORTALITY WAS REGISTERED OR FOOSTUFFS FOR THE FAMILY WAS TOTALLY DESTROYED.

Council note the demand for assisting destitute families affected by disaster incidents or disasters occurring within the area of jurisdiction of Harry Gwala District Municipality.

1. DEFINATIONS:

Disaster – means a progressive or sudden, widespread or localized, natural or human- caused occurrence which:

- a) causes or threatens to cause
 - i) death, injury or disease.
 - ii) damage to property, infrastructure or the environment
 - iii) disruption of the life of the community and
- b) is of a magnitude that exceeds the ability of those affected by the disaster to cope with its effects using only their resources.

Disaster Incident- is a relatively minor occurrence which could be dealt with by one agency or service.

Applicant- shall mean the family or representative of the family making the application for assistance.

Assistance- shall mean the assistance provided by council as envisaged in section 6 and 8 below.

Destitute- means an individual, family that due to the occurrence of a disaster or a disaster incident was affected in such a way that all the belongings were destroyed including food.

1. Request for assistance will only be considered, if submitted by a Councilor who will have to write a letter to the municipality with proof that, such family has been left destitute as a result of a disaster incident or a disaster.
2. The family should have been unemployed and the relevant ward councilor should confirm the poverty conditions being experienced by the affected family.
3. The application for assistance must be compared with assessment report conducted by the Harry Gwala District Municipality and that the

Head of Department Social and Development Planning must make recommendations on whether the assistance must be granted or not based on the above reports in 2 and 3.

4. The Municipal Manager shall be responsible for the approval of the application in consultation with the Head of the Department and in the absence of the Municipal Manager; the Head of Department shall be delegated to process such applications.
5. No direct cash payment will be made either to applicant or person applying on behalf of family
6. A maximum amount of **R 2000.00** to be a standard amount, which the municipality shall assist with in case of death in a family as a result of a disaster incident.
7. The municipality shall procure or hire items for the family using the above funds to assist towards the funeral(s) of the deceased in consultation with the family or its representative.
8. In case of no death in the family and there is proof that the family lost everything including food due to a disaster incident and or a disaster, the municipality will only assist with a maximum amount of **R 2000.00** to purchase groceries for that family, whilst such family makes an application to the department of Social Development for assistance.
9. Strictly no alcohol will be procured with municipal funds.
10. The Municipal Manager shall be responsible for the authorization of the above funds to be utilized solely for the purposes as outlined in (7 and 8) above.
11. Only applications within Harry Gwala District Municipal area of jurisdiction will be considered.
12. The municipality shall not be held responsible of any loss of items or damage incurred thereof during the provision of assistance process.
13. Funds to cater for the above assistance shall come from the disaster relief budget of the municipality.
14. The municipality shall endeavor to ensure that, all disaster incidents are attended to within a period of 5 hours or less and that disaster relief shall then be expedited to assist those affected.