

AM AHLATHI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



FIXED ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE

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1. Introduction

The Amahlathi Local Municipality (ALM) has made a significant investment in various assets such as land and buildings, infrastructure, fixed and movable equipment such as vehicles, computers and office furniture (Property, Plant and Equipment) used mainly to fulfil its responsibilities for:

- Delivery of sustainable services,
- Social and economic development,
- Promoting safe and healthy environments, and
- Providing for the basic needs of the community.

As custodians on behalf of the local community, the municipality has a legislative and moral obligation to ensure it implements policies to safeguard the monetary value and future service provision invested in this Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE). The purpose of this policy is to therefore ensure that the municipality's fixed assets are acquired, safeguarded, controlled, disposed of and accounted for in accordance with the Municipal regulations, the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act no. 56 of 2003), Auditor General's requirements, applicable accounting pronouncements, such as General Recognized Accounting Practices (GRAP), and in an appropriate manner applicable to the management and control of fixed assets.

Statutory provisions have been implemented to protect public property against arbitrary and inappropriate management or disposal by a local government. The Accounting Standards Board per instructions of the Accounting General, to ensure the appropriate financial treatment for property, plant and equipment, has adopted certain accounting standards. The requirements of these new accounting standards include:

- The compilation of asset registers covering all property, plant and equipment controlled by the municipality;
- Accounting treatment for the acquisition, disposal, recording and depreciation of property, plant and equipment;
- The standards to which these financial records must be maintained.

This Fixed Asset Management Policy deals with the municipal rules required to ensure the enforcement of appropriate stewardship of property, plant and equipment. This stewardship is comprised of two components being the:

- Financial administration by the Chief Financial Officer; and
- Physical administration by the individual Asset Controller (s)

2. Purpose

The Amahlathi Local Municipality believes that a Fixed Asset Management Policy is essential to ensure effective and efficient utilization of public monies and accountability thereof is heavily dependent on accurate recoding and accounting.

The objective of this Fixed Asset Management Policy is therefore to ensure that the assets of the Amahlathi Local Municipality are properly managed and accounted for by:

- ✓ Ensuring the effective and efficient control, utilisation, safeguarding and management of the municipality's property, plant and equipment;
- ✓ Ensuring that Asset Controllers are aware of their responsibilities with regard to the control, utilisation, safekeeping and management of the municipality's property, plant and equipment;
- ✓ Setting out standards of physical management, recording and internal controls to ensure property, plant and equipment are safeguarded against inappropriate loss or utilisation;
- ✓ Ensuring adequate insurance of all municipal assets;
- ✓ Specifying the process required before expenditure on property, plant and equipment occurs;
- ✓ Emphasising a culture of accountability over assets by all municipal officials; and
- ✓ Ensuring compliance with all legal and accounting prescriptions and requirements.

3. Applicable to

This policy is applicable to all municipal officials and political office bearers.

4. Definitions

Terminology	Definition
Accounting Standards Board	Was established by the Public Finance Management Act to set standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (GRAP) as required by the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa
AMP	Asset Management Policy
AO	Accounting Officer
Acquisition cost	When a Municipality initially recognises assets such as items of property, plant and equipment, investment properties, intangible assets and heritage assets using the Standards of GRAP, it measures those assets using either cost (if the asset is acquired in an exchange transaction) or at fair value (if the asset is acquired in a non-exchange transaction). This cost or fair value on initial acquisition of an asset is the acquisition cost.
Assets	Are resources controlled by a Municipality as the result of past events and from which future economic benefits or potential service provision are expected to flow to the Municipality
Asset Categories	Are the four main asset categories defined by GAMAP 17 and GRAP 17. These are:
<i>Infrastructure assets</i>	Are defined as any asset that is part of a network of similar assets. It is specialised in nature and does not have an alternative use. It is immovable and may be subject to constraints on disposal.
<i>Heritage assets</i>	Are defined as culturally significant resources such as historical buildings and statues
<i>Community assets</i>	Are defined as any asset that contributes to the community's wellbeing, egg. parks, libraries and fire stations

Terminology	Definition
<i>Other assets</i>	Are defined as assets utilised in normal operation, egg. plant and equipment, motor vehicles and furniture and fittings
Capilisation	Is the recognition of expenditure as an Asset or Inventory item in the Fixed Asset Register.
Carrying amount	Is the amount at which an asset is included in the Statement of Financial Position after deducting any accumulated depreciation thereon
CFO	Chief Financial Officer
Cost	Is the amount of cash or cash equivalent paid or the fair value of the consideration given to acquire an asset at the time of its acquisition or construction plus costs incidental to the acquisition or acquirement. Also known as historical cost/value.
Cost of acquisition	Are all the costs incurred in bringing an item of plant, property or equipment to the required condition and location for it's intended use
Deemed cost	Deemed cost is a surrogate value for the cost or fair value of an asset at its initial acquisition, and is determined by reference to the fair value of the asset at the date of adopting the Standards of GRAP measurement date).
Deferred maintenance	Is the extent of preventative maintenance that has not been performed
Depreciation	Is the systematic allocation of the depreciable amount of an asset over its useful life
Depreciable amount	Is the cost of an asset, or the other amount of an asset, or other amount substituted for cost in the financial statements, less its residual value
Fair value	Is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an 'arms length' transaction
ALM	Amahlathi Local Municipality

Terminology	Definition
Fixed asset register	Is the controlled register recording the financial and other key details for all municipal assets recognised in accordance with this policy
GAMAP	Generally Accepted Municipal Accounting Practice
GRAP	Generally Recognised Accounting Practice
IAS	International Accounting Practice
Impairment	Impairment is a loss in the future economic benefits or service potential of an asset, over and above the systematic recognition of the loss of the asset's future economic benefits or service potential through depreciation.
PPE - Property, plant and equipment	<p>Are tangible assets that:</p> <p>(a) Are held by a municipality for use in the production of goods and services, for rental to others, for administrative purposes and</p> <p>(b) Are expected to be used during more than one period</p>
Recognition	Is the process by which expenditure is included in the Fixed Asset Register as an asset
Recoverable amount	Is the amount that the municipality expects to recover from the future use of an asset, including its residual value on disposal
Replacement value	Is the amount which is needed in current terms to replace an asset
Residual value	Is the net amount that the municipality expects to obtain for an asset at the end of its useful life after deducting the expected costs of disposal
Stewardship	Is the act of taking care of and managing property, plant or equipment on behalf of others
Useful life	<p>Is either:</p> <p>(a) The estimated period of time over which the future economic benefits or future service potential embodied in an asset are expected to be consumed by the municipality, or</p>

Terminology	Definition
	(b) The estimated total service potential expressed in terms of production or similar units that is expected to be obtained from the asset by the municipality

5. Statutory and Regulatory Framework

The following policies, processes and procedures should be in place to ensure an effective and efficient asset management system:

- Supply Chain Management Policy
- Delegations of authority
- Payment Policy
- Fleet Management Policy
- Insurance Policy
- Security Policy
- Property portfolio management

This policy must comply with all relevant legislative requirements including:

- The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996
- Municipal Structures Act, 1998
- Municipal Systems Act No. 32 of 2000
- The Municipal Supply Chain Management Regulations of 2005
- Division of Revenue Act, 2007 - DoRA (enacted annually)
- Municipal Finance Management Act No. 56 of 2003

Also, this policy must comply with the standards specified by the Accounting Standards Board (GAMAP/GRAP).

This policy will be updated whenever legislative or accounting standard amendments significantly change the requirements pertaining to asset management in general and the administration of property, plant and equipment.

This policy supersedes all previous asset policies.

This policy does not overrule the requirement to comply with other policies like Supply Chain Management, Tender or Budget policies.

6. Responsibilities and Accountabilities

The **Municipal Manager** as Accounting Officer is responsible for the management of assets of the municipality, including the safeguarding and the maintenance of those assets.

The Municipal Manager must ensure that:

- The municipality has and maintains a management, accounting and information system that accounts for the assets of the municipality;
- The municipality's assets are valued in accordance with standards of GRAP and GAMAP;
- The municipality has and maintains a system of internal control of assets, including a fixed asset register;
- The senior managers and their teams comply with this policy; and
- Approve temporary and/or permanent transfers of a movable asset between departments as determined in the "Powers of Delegation" of the municipality.

The **Chief Financial Officer** is responsible to the Municipal Manager to ensure that the financial investment in the municipality's assets is safeguarded and maintained.

The Chief Financial Officer must ensure that:

- Appropriate systems of financial management and internal control are established and carried out diligently;
- The financial and other resources of the municipality are utilized effectively, efficiently, economically and transparently;
- Any unauthorized, irregular or fruitless and wasteful expenditure, and losses resulting from criminal or negligent conduct, are prevented;
- The systems, processes and registers required to substantiate the financial values of the municipality's assets are maintained at standards sufficient to satisfy the requirements of the Auditor-General;
- Financial processes are established and maintained to ensure that the municipality's financial resources are optimally utilized through an appropriate asset plan, budgeting, purchasing, maintenance and disposal decisions;
- The senior managers are appropriately advised on their powers and duties pertaining to the financial administration of assets;
- The chief financial officer may delegate or otherwise assign responsibility for performing these functions but they will remain accountable for ensuring these activities are performed;
- The policy and supporting procedures or guidelines are established, maintained and effectively communicated; and
- Approve the temporary or permanent transfers of movable assets between departments as determined in the "Powers of Delegation" of the municipality.

Section 78(1) of the MFMA prescribes the following areas of responsibility for **Senior Managers** (also referred to as **HOD's**) relating to asset management.

“Each senior manager of a municipality and each official of a municipality exercising financial management responsibilities must take all reasonable steps within their respective areas of responsibility to ensure:

- That the system of financial management and internal control established for the municipality is carried out diligently;
- That the financial and other resources of the municipality are utilised effectively, efficiently economically and transparently;
- That any unauthorised, irregular or fruitless and wasteful expenditure and any other losses are prevented;
- That the assets of the municipality are managed effectively and that assets are safeguarded and maintained to the extent necessary;
- That all information required by the AO for compliance with the provisions of this Act is timeously submitted to the AO; and
- That the provision of this Act, to the extent applicable to that senior manager or official including any delegations in terms of section 79, are complied with.”

The provision of section 78(1) must be performed subject to the directions of the AO.

In addition to the above, the HOD's are responsible to ensure that all employees within their respective department adhere to the approved Asset Policy and Procedures.

It is the responsibility of the HOD to ensure that all asset-related changes that take place within their divisions/directorates have been properly authorised and communicated to the Asset Controller.

The **Asset Controller** must ensure that:

- Appropriate physical management and control systems are established and maintained for all assets in their area of responsibility;
- The municipal resources assigned to them are utilized effectively, efficiently, economically and transparently;
- Any unauthorized, irregular or fruitless or wasteful utilization and losses of assets resulting from criminal or negligent conduct are prevented;
- Their asset management system and controls can provide an accurate, reliable and up to date account of assets under their control;
- They are able to justify that their asset plans, budgets and purchasing, maintenance and disposal decisions optimally achieve the municipality's strategic objectives;
- The Asset Controller may delegate or otherwise assign responsibility for performing these functions but will remain accountable for ensuring these activities are performed;

- Certify in writing at the end of each financial year-end, that he/she has assessed and identified impairment losses on all assets under his/her control;
- Report in writing to the Chief Financial Officer the full facts in the event of an asset being demolished, destroyed, damaged or occurrence of any other event materially affecting its value;
- Approve the temporary or permanent transfers of a movable asset between departments as determined in the “Powers of Delegation” of the municipality;
- Ensure inventory lists are verified and kept current in collaboration with the Finance Department; and
- Identify obsolete and redundant assets once per financial year, compile a report and obtain the necessary approval for the disposal thereof.

7. Financial Management

7.1 Pre-acquisition Planning

Before a capital project is included in the draft municipal budget for approval, the Asset Controller must prove that they have considered:

- The projected acquisition and implementation cost over all the financial years until the project is operational;
- The future operational costs and revenue on the project, including tax and tariff implications;
- The financial sustainability of the project over its life including revenue generation and subsidisation requirements;
- The physical and financial stewardship of the asset through all stages in its life including acquisition, installation, maintenance, operations, disposal and rehabilitation;
- The inclusion of the capital project in the Integrated Development Plans and future budgets; and
- Alternatives to this capital purchase.

The Chief Financial Officer is accountable to ensure that the Asset Controllers receive all reasonable assistance, guidance and explanation to enable them to achieve their planning requirements.

7.2 Approval to acquire assets

Funds can only be spent on a capital project if:

- The money has been approved in the capital budget;
- The project, including the total cost, has been approved by the Council;
- The Chief Financial Officer confirms that funding is available for that specific project; and
- Any contract that will impose financial obligations more than two years after the budget year is appropriately disclosed.

7.3 Funding of assets

Within the municipality's ongoing financial, legislative or administrative capacity, the Chief Financial Officer will establish and maintain the funding strategies that will optimise the municipality's ability to achieve its strategic objectives as stated in the Integrated Development Plan.

The acquisition of assets will not be funded over a period longer than the useful life of that asset.

8. Fixed Asset Register Management

8.1 Establishment and management of the FAR

- The Chief Financial Officer will establish and maintain the Fixed Asset Register (FAR) containing key financial data on each item of Property, Plant or Equipment that satisfies the criterion for recognition;
- The Asset Controller is responsible for establishing and maintaining of additional registers or databases such as Inventory Register, required to demonstrate the physical management of their assets;
- The Asset Controller is responsible to ensure that sufficient controls exist to substantiate the quantity, value, and location and condition of all assets in the FAR as well as other additional registers or databases.

8.2 Contents of the FAR

The FAR will include the following information pertaining to individual assets:

- ✓ Asset number (bar code) 8-digit number, eg. 00000001
- ✓ Brief but meaningful description of the asset as per naming convention
- ✓ Physical location (bar code) 8-digit number, eg. 10000001
- ✓ Responsible asset user (room occupant)
- ✓ Date of acquisition
- ✓ Date and price of disposal (if relevant)
- ✓ Cost Centre of user department
- ✓ Function code
- ✓ Asset type
- ✓ The measurement base used
- ✓ The depreciation methods used
- ✓ The useful life
- ✓ Depreciation charges (current year)
- ✓ The carrying amount
- ✓ The accumulated depreciation
- ✓ Increase or the decrease resulting from re-valuations (if relevant)
- ✓ Identification number where applicable
- ✓ Valuation
- ✓ Impairment losses
- ✓ Source of finance

8.3 Internal controls over the FAR

- Controls around the asset register should be sufficient to provide an accurate, reliable and up to date account of assets under control to the standards specified by the CFO and required by the Auditor General;
- These controls will include physical management and recording of all acquisitions, assignments, transfers, losses and disposals of assigned asset as well as regular stock-takes and system audits to confirm the adequacy of controls.
- operating budget

9. Operations and Maintenance

9.1 Physical receipting and management

- The Budget & Treasury Office will manage the receipting of property, plant and equipment.
- The process of receipting by the Budget & Treasury Office will include:
 - ✓ Review of the authority to purchase including compliance with all procurement policies and budgetary limits; and
 - ✓ Assignment of the asset to the appropriate Asset Controller.
- The date of acquisition of property, plant and equipment is deemed to be the time when legal title and control passes to the municipality. This may vary for different categories of assets but will usually be the point of time when payment for that item of property, plant and equipment is made.

9.2 Purchase of new assets

The process to be followed when assets are acquired shall be in accordance with the Council's Procurement, Delegation of Authority policies and payment procedures.

- Purchase Requisition Form (*Annexure A*) to be completed and signed by the official requesting the asset and the HoD;
- Quotations are to be obtained in accordance with the procurement procedures;
- A Cheque Requisition (*Annexure B*) is to be completed and signed by the Creditors Clerk [as preparer] and by the Principal Clerk [as checker] and 2 authorized signatories [authorized to sign on the municipal cheques];
- Once the asset is received the Asset Acquisition Form (*Annexure C*) is completed and signed by Asset Clerk and the Principal Clerk;
- The Asset Transfer Form (*Annexure D*) is completed and dispatched with the asset to the Asset Controller who signs the form;
- The tax invoice (to contain order number) and delivery note is received (endorsed with the asset number at a later stage) and payment is generated by the Expenditure Section

9.3 Asset take-on (existing assets)

The Asset Controller and his/her team visits all municipal offices and records all assets found in the offices:

- Room labels are attached to each location (room/office) and a note is made of the room label number/bar code (location code), occupant, phone, dept and cost centre.
- All assets are then bar-coded and scanned in the following manner:
 - ✓ Remove the blue/white grease paper from the label
 - ✓ Douse the label liberally with acetone (pour the solvent into a saucer)

- ✓ Hold the label by the edge between thumb and index finger in exactly the grip with which you are going to affix it and immerse it into the activator for about 4 - 5 seconds and then remove it
- ✓ Place the label in the required position, without moving it laterally (firmly, but not hard)
- ✓ If placing the label on curved surfaces, curve the label first before placing the glue on it
- ✓ Ensure that the labels are affixed to the assets in a manner that is standardized to prevent damage and to ensure that it is easy to find and scan the label as per guide below:
 - Label on the side from which asset is used
 - Chairs - right and high on the back
 - Desks - under ledge on left side above drawers
 - Avoid sides which could be moved against a wall or other assets
 - Avoid positions low on the ground
 - Avoid labeling on top surfaces where damage could occur
 - Label the major part of asset, not a replaceable drawer or door
 - Do not label higher than 2.3 m above floor level
- Inventory sheets (see *Appendix E*) are then printed per room.
- The occupant of the room is then requested to confirm the items listed on the inventory sheet and if satisfied, signs the inventory sheet (in cases where the occupant is not available, the Asset Controller signs on the occupant's behalf)
- All the assets are uploaded into the BAUD system from the scanners;
- Officials utilizing their own equipment (personal items) to ensure that this is communicated (declared) to the Asset Management team (the municipality reserves the right to verify the information provided).
- All personal computers (PC's) are classified as one unit comprising of central processing unit (CPU), monitor, keyboard, speakers, internal CD-writer, DVD-CD ROM and any other attachments the PC could not function without. External CD-writer is considered a separate unit. The CPU (only) is bar-coded when the PC is numbered; the other components are not numbered as they are part of a bigger operating unit - PC. Depreciation of the PC is based on the CPU and the replacement of other components is recognized as expenses.

9.4 Transfer of assets

The Asset Controller retains managerial accountability and control for a particular asset unless:

- Another Senior manager agrees in writing to accept responsibility for that asset in accordance with financial limits as laid down in the Delegation of Authority
- The CFO appropriately amends the Financial Asset register for all approved transfers, whereafter such physical transfers are permitted to take place.

9.5 Management of individual inventory items

Assets costing less than R1 000 are deemed to be individual inventory items, unless that type of asset is specifically included or excluded by the Chief Financial Officer depending on the type. The requirements to manage individual inventory items include:

- Receipting these items through specified control points;
- Maintaining and updating an individual inventory register for these receipts;
- Delivery and assignment of an inventory item to a specified position;
- Regular stock takes by the Asset Controller to ensure that the individual inventory items are being appropriately safeguarded;
- Regular audits by the finance department to ensure individual inventory items are being appropriately managed by the assigned persons;
- Recording and reporting of any disposal or loss of these inventory items to the CFO and adjustment of the Inventory items register.

Individual Inventory items:

- Will be capitalized as an asset
- Will not be depreciated
- Will not be re-valued
- Will not be impaired
- Will not be recorded in the Fixed Asset Register
- Will be treated as an asset.

9.6 Measurement after recognition

Subsequent to initial recognition inventory will be calculated on the FIFO basis.

The FIFO formula assumes that the items of inventory that were purchased or produced first are sold first, and consequently the items remaining in inventory at the end of the period are those most recently purchased or produced.

9.7 Asset threshold

- All assets with a cost price less than R1 000 are classified as inventory items and will be recorded in the Inventory Register as such;
- Such assets are fully depreciated/written-off to R1.00 at time of acquisition irrespective of their estimated useful life;
- The depreciation of such assets is expensed to current expenditure in the statement of financial performance;

9.8 Ownership

- Property, plant and equipment with the municipality immediately upon acquisition and are recorded through Sebata to the Asset Module, except where assets are sponsored or donated by institutions or foreign entities.

- Leased equipment, mainly photocopier machines are funded through operating leases; and these are thus not considered to be fixed assets to be recorded in the municipality's books.

9.9 Re-instatement of assets

- Deleted assets or assets retired in error can be re-instated into the FAR only by the Asset Controller.

9.10 Re-allocation or re-assignment of assets

- The Asset Controller must ensure that the asset is appropriately safeguarded for loss, damage or misuse wherever it is located. Safeguarding includes ensuring reasonable physical restrictions and delegated management is implemented;
- The Asset Controller must advise the Chief Financial Officer whenever an asset is permanently relocated or reassigned from one location (or base) or cost centre recorded in the Financial Asset Register.
- The Asset Controller must advise the Chief Financial Officer whenever an asset is temporarily relocated or reassigned from the location (or base) or cost centre recorded in the Financial Asset Register. In this case, the Asset Controller must also advise the Chief Financial Officer when this asset is returned.

9.11 Disposal / retirement of assets

- The municipality may not transfer ownership as a result of a sale or other transaction or otherwise permanently dispose of property, plant and equipment needed to provide the minimum level of basic municipal services unless after the Council, in a meeting open to the public:
 - ✓ *Had decided on reasonable grounds that the asset is not needed to provide the minimum level of basic municipal services; and*
 - ✓ *Has considered the fair market value of the asset and the economic and community value to be received in exchange for the asset.*
- The decision that a specific property, plant and equipment is not needed to provide the minimum level of basic municipal services, may not be reversed by the municipality after that asset been sold, transferred or otherwise disposed of.
- The municipal manager may approve the disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment as delegated by the municipal Council. The municipal manager will approve the write-off of all assets prematurely (including those assets classified as un-used).
- The disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment must be fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost effective and comply with the municipality's Supply Chain Management Policy. The Council must give fourteen (14) days notice in the newspaper circulating in its area. Such notice shall be affixed to all notice boards at the Council's offices.

- Land and buildings are to be auctioned at the reserved prevailing market prices as indicated by the valuers at the time of the disposal.
- A technical report by the Information Technology Department (IT) is to be obtained to confirm that an item of computer equipment is beyond economic repair or does not conform to set specifications. An asset can only be written-off with approval of the Accounting Officer (MFMA sec 14 and Delegation of Authority).
- Infrastructure assets are to be handled by the relevant technical resources to advise on appropriate means of disposal which does not compromise the safety of the community, etc as well as to provide expertise on the condition of the asset with recommendations to the municipal manager.
- Transfer of assets to another municipality, municipal entity, national department or provincial department is excluded from these provisions, but must be done in accordance with a prescribed framework.
- An item of property, plant and equipment should be eliminated from the balance sheet upon disposal or when the asset is permanently withdrawn from use.
- Gains or losses arising from the retirement or disposal of an item of property plant and equipment should be determined as the difference between the actual or estimated net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and should be recognised as revenue or expense in the financial statement

9.12 Method of valuation

- Existing Fixed Assets: The method of determining the values of existing fixed assets will be decided by the Municipal Manager in consultation with Provincial and National Treasuries. The value of the existing asset will depend on whether performance by an asset is adequate to support the selected service delivery strategy.
- New Fixed Assets: These assets are recognized at original cost.

9.13 Financial disclosure

The financial statements should disclose, in respect of each class of property, plant and equipment classified under the categories of land and buildings, infrastructure, community, heritage and other assets:

- The measurement base used for determining the gross carrying amount (when more than one basis has been used, the gross carrying amount for that basis in each category should be disclosed);
- The depreciation methods used;
- The useful lives or the depreciation rates used;
- Depreciation charged in arriving at net surplus or deficit for the period;
- The gross carrying amount and the accumulated depreciation at the beginning and the end of the period;
- A reconciliation of the carrying amount at the beginning and end of the period showing:

- ✓ Additions
- ✓ Disposals
- ✓ Acquisition through business combinations
- ✓ Increases or the decreases resulting from revaluations
- ✓ Deductions in carrying amount
- ✓ Amounts written back
- ✓ Depreciation
- ✓ Other movements

The financial statements should also disclose:

- Whether or not, in determining the recoverable amount of items of property, plant and equipment, expected future cash flows have been discounted to their present values;
- The existence and amounts of restriction on title and property, plant and equipment pledged as security for liabilities;
- The accounting policy for restoration costs relating to items of property, plant and equipment;
- The amount of expenditures on account of property, plant and equipment in the course of construction; and
- The amount of commitments for the acquisition of property, plant and equipment.

When items of property are stated at re-valued amounts, the financial statements should disclose:

- The basis used to revalue the assets;
- The effective date of revaluation;
- Whether an independent value was involved;
- The nature of any indices used to determine replacement cost;
- The carrying amount of each class of property, plant and equipment that would have been included in the financial statements had the assets been carried at cost less depreciation;
- The revaluation surplus, detailing the movement for the period; and
- The portion of the depreciation charge relating to the revaluation.

The Table below shows depreciation rates recommended by GAMAP 113 as a guide.

ASSET CLASS	CODE	YEARS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	MONTHS
INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS	10101	30	POWER STATIONS	360
	10102	30	COOLING TOWERS	360
	10103	30	TRANSFORMER KIOSKS	360
	10104	20	ELECTRICITY METERS	240
	10105	20	LOAD CONTROL EQUIPMENT	240
	10106	20	SWITCHGEAR EQUIPMENT	240
	10107	20	ELECTRICITY SUPPLY AND RETICULATION	240
	10108	20	ELECTRICITY MAINS	240
	10201	15	MOTORWAYS	180
	10202	10	ROADS GRAVEL	120
	10203	10	TRAFFIC ISLANDS	120
	10204	20	TRAFFIC LIGHTS	240
	10205	25	STREET LIGHTING	300
	10206	30	OVERHEAD BRIDGES	360
	10207	20	STORMWATER DRAINS	240
	10208	30	BRIDGES SUBWAYS AND CULVERTS	360
	10209	20	CAR PARKS	240
	10210	20	BUS TERMINALS	240
	10301	15	WATER METERS	180
	10302	20	WATER MAINS	240
	10303	20	WATER RIGHTS	240
	10304	20	WATER SUPPLY AND RETICULATION	240
	10305	20	WATER RESERVOIRS AND TANKS	240
	10401	20	GAS METERS	240
	10402	20	GAS MAINS	240
	10403	20	GAS STORAGE TANKS	240
	10404	20	GAS SUPPLY AND RETICULATION	240
	10501	20	SEWERS	240
	10502	20	OUTFALL SEWERS	240
	10503	20	PURIFICATION WORKS	240
	10504	15	SEWERAGE PUMPS	180
	10505	15	SEWERAGE SLUDGE MACHINES	180
	10601	20	FOOTWAYS	240
	10602	20	KERBING	240
	10603	20	PAVING	240
	10701	20	APRONS	240
	10702	20	RUNWAYS	240
	10703	20	TAXIWAYS	240
	10704	20	RADIO BEACONS	240
	10801	3	FENCING	36
10802	5	SECURITY SYSTEMS	60	
10803	5	ACCESS CONTROL	60	

ASSET CLASS	CODE	YEARS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	MONTHS
COMMUNITY ASSETS	20101	30	AMBULANCE STATIONS	360
	20102	30	AQUARIUMS	360
	20103	30	BEACH DEVELOPMENTS	360
	20104	30	CARE CENTRES	360
	20105	30	CEMETERIES	360
	20106	30	CIVIC THEATRES	360
	20107	30	CLINICS AND HOSPITALS	360
	20108	30	COMMUNITY CENTRES	360
	20109	30	FIRE STATIONS	360
	20110	30	GAME RESERVES AND REST CAMPS	360
	20111	30	INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES	360
	20112	30	LIBRARIES	360
	20113	30	MUSEUMS AND ART GALLERIES	360
	20114	30	PARKS	360
	20115	30	PUBLIC CONVENIENCES & BATHHOUSES	360
	20116	30	RECREATION CENTRES	360
	20117	30	STADIUMS	360
	20118	30	ZOOS	360
	20201	20	BOWLING GREENS	240
	20202	20	TENNIS COURTS	240
	20203	20	SWIMMING POOLS	240
	20204	20	GOLF COURSES	240
	20205	20	JUKSKEI PITCHES	240
	20206	20	OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES	240
	20207	20	ORGAN AND CASE	240
	20208	20	LAKES AND DAMS	240
	20209	20	FOUNTAINS	240
	20210	20	FLOODLIGHTING	240

ASSET CLASS	CODE	YEARS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	MONTHS
OTHER ASSETS	30101	30	ABATTOIRS	360
	30102	30	ASPHALT PLANT	360
	30103	30	CABLE STATIONS	360
	30104	30	CARAVAN PARKS	360
	30105	30	CINEMAS	360
	30106	30	COMPACTING STATIONS	360
	30107	30	HOSTELS - PUBLIC AND TOURIST	360
	30108	30	HOSTELS WORKERS	360
	30109	30	HOUSING SCHEMES	360
	30110	30	KILNS	360
	30111	30	LABORATORIES	360
	30112	30	MARKETS	360

ASSET CLASS	CODE	YEARS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	MONTHS
	30113	30	NURSERIES	360
	30114	30	OFFICE BUILDINGS	360
	30115	30	OLD AGE HOMES	360
	30116	30	QUARRIES	360
	30117	30	TIP SITES	360
	30118	30	TRAINING CENTRES	360
	30119	30	TRANSPORT FACILITIES	360
	30120	30	WORKSHOPS AND DEPOTS	360
	30201	5	COMPUTER HARDWARE	60
	30202	5	COMPUTER SOFTWARE	60
	30203	5	FFICE MACHINES	60
	30204	7	AIR CONDITIONERS	84
	30301	10	CHAIRS	120
	30302	10	TABLES AND DESKS	120
	30303	10	CABINETS AND CUPBOARDS	120
	30304	10	FURNITURE AND FITTINGS OTHER	120
	30401	5	HOUSEHOLD REFUSE BINS	60
	30402	10	BULK CONTAINERS	120
	30501	15	FIRE EQUIPMENT	180
	30502	10	AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT	120
	30503	5	FIRE HOSES	60
	30504	5	EMERGENCY LIGHTS	60
	30601	20	FIRE ENGINES	240
	30602	15	BUSES	180
	30603	7	MOTOR VEHICLES	84
	30604	3	MOTOR CYCLES	36
	30605	7	LDV's	84
	30700	15	AIRCRAFT	180
	30800	15	WATERCRAFT	180
	30901	15	GRADERS	180
	30902	15	TRACTORS & SELF PROPELLED MOWERS	180
	30903	15	MECHANICAL HORSES	180
	30904	5	FARM EQUIPMENT	60
	30905	2	LAWNMOWERS	24
	30906	5	COMPRESSORS	60
	30907	5	LABORATORY EQUIPMENT	60
	30908	5	RADIO EQUIPMENT	60
	30909	5	FIRE ARMS	60
	30910	5	TELECOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT	60
	30911	5	PLANT AND EQUIPMENT GENERAL	60
	30912	15	CABLE CARS	180
	30913	15	IRRIGATION SYSTEMS	180
	30914	15	CREMATORS	180
	30915	15	LATHES	180
	30916	15	MILLING EQUIPMENT	180

ASSET CLASS	CODE	YEARS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	MONTHS
	30917	15	CONVEYORS	180
	30918	15	FEEDERS	180
	30919	15	TRUCKS & TIPPERS	180
	30920	15	PULVERISING MILLS	180

ASSET CLASS	CODE	YEARS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	MONTHS
INVEST- MENTS	40100	0	LAND MAIN INVESTMENT	0
	40200	0	FARMS	0
	40300	0	MINERAL RIGHTS	0
	40400	0	OFFICE PARKS	0
	40500	0	SHOPPING CENTERS	0
	40600	0	HOUSING SCHEMES	0

ASSET CLASS	CODE	YEARS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	MONTHS
HERITAGE ASSETS	50100	0	MUSEUM EXHIBITS	0
	50200	0	PUBLIC STATUES	0
	50300	0	HISTORICAL BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES	0
	50400	0	HISTORICAL SITES	0
	50500	0	PAINTINGS	0
	50600	0	SCULPTURES	0

GAMAP 113 provides a schedule of useful lives. These should be used as a guide to the minimum useful lives only because actual asset lives experienced greatly exceed those recommend lives.

- Each Asset Controller needs to determine the useful life of a particular item of property, plant and equipment (using the GAMAP 17 recommendations as a guide);
- The useful life of the item of property, plant and equipment should be reviewed annually.

9.14 Carrying amount on property, plant and equipment

- Subsequent to initial recognition as an asset, an item of property, plant and equipment should be carried at its cost less any accumulated depreciation, subject to the requirement to write an asset down to its recoverable amount or any subsequent revaluation.

9.15 Impairment

The Municipality shall assess at each reporting date whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the Municipality shall estimate the recoverable amount of the asset.

In assessing whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired, the Municipality shall consider, as a minimum, the following indications:

External sources of information

- a) During the period, an asset's market value has declined significantly more than would be expected as a result of the passage of time or normal use.
- b) Significant changes with an adverse effect on the Municipality have taken place during the period, or will take place in the near future, in the technological, market, economic or legal environment in which the Municipality operates or in the market to which an asset is dedicated.
- c) Market interest rates or other market rates of return on investments have increased during the period, and those increases are likely to affect the discount rate used in calculating an asset's value in use and decrease the asset's recoverable amount materially.

Internal sources of information

- a) Evidence is available of obsolescence or physical damage of an asset.
- b) Significant changes with an adverse effect on the Municipality have taken place during the period, or are expected to take place in the near future, in the extent to which, or manner in which, an asset is used or is expected to be used. These changes include the asset becoming idle, plans to discontinue or restructure the operation to which an asset belongs, plans to dispose of an asset before the previously expected date, and reassessing the useful life of an asset as finite rather than indefinite.
- c) Evidence is available from internal reporting that indicates that the economic performance of an asset is, or will be, worse than expected.

Compensation from third parties for items of property, plant and equipment that were impaired, lost or given up shall be included in surplus or deficit when the compensation becomes receivable.

Reversing an impairment loss

A Municipality shall assess at each reporting date whether there is any indication that an impairment loss recognised in prior periods for an asset may no longer exist or may have decreased. If any such indication exists, the Municipality shall estimate the recoverable amount of that asset.

In assessing whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired, the Municipality shall consider, as a minimum, the following indications:

External sources of information

- a) The asset's market value has declined significantly more than would be expected as a result of the passage of time or normal use.
- b) Significant changes with an adverse effect on the Municipality have taken place during the period, or will take place in the near future, in the technological, market, economic or legal environment in which the Municipality operates or in the market to which an asset is dedicated.

- c) Market interest rates or other market rates of return on investments have increased during the period, and those increases are likely to affect the discount rate used in calculating an asset's value in use and decrease the asset's recoverable amount materially.

Internal sources of information

- a) Evidence is available of obsolescence or physical damage of an asset.
- b) Significant changes with an adverse effect on the Municipality have taken place during the period, or are expected to take place in the near future, in the extent to which, or manner in which, an asset is used or is expected to be used. These changes include the asset becoming idle, plans to discontinue or restructure the operation to which an asset belongs, plans to dispose of an asset before the previously expected date, and reassessing the useful life of an asset as finite rather than indefinite.
- c) Evidence is available from internal reporting that indicates that the economic performance of an asset is, or will be, worse than expected.

9.16 The application of deemed cost in the instances where historical cost is not known

- When the Municipality initially recognises an asset using the Standards of GRAP, it measures such assets using either cost or fair value at the date of acquisition (acquisition cost). Where the acquisition cost of an asset is not available on the adoption of the Standards of GRAP, acquisition cost is measured using a surrogate value (deemed cost) at the date a Municipality adopts the Standards of GRAP (measurement date). Deemed cost is determined as the fair value of an asset at the measurement date.
- The Municipality may have determined a deemed cost for an asset under another basis of accounting where information about the acquisition cost of the asset was unavailable.
- In the absence of information about the acquisition cost of an asset, deemed cost is used for the following assets:
 - (a) Property, plant and equipment.
 - (b) Investment property, only if a Municipality elects to use the cost model in the Standard of GRAP on *Investment Property*. If a Municipality adopts the fair value model for investment property, it measures investment property at fair value at the date the Municipality adopts the Standards of GRAP.
 - (c) Intangible assets that meet:
 - (i) the recognition criteria in the Standard of GRAP on *Intangible Assets*; and
 - (ii) the criteria in the Standard of GRAP on *Intangible Assets* for revaluation (including the existence of an active market).
 - (d) Heritage assets (see the Standard of GRAP on *Heritage Assets*).

A Municipality shall not use deemed cost for other assets or for liabilities.

With the exception of (b) above, a Municipality applies this Directive irrespective of whether it applies the cost or revaluation model in accordance with the Standards of GRAP on *Property, Plant and Equipment, Intangible Assets* or *Heritage Assets*.

If fair value at the measurement date cannot be determined for an item of property, plant and equipment, investment property or a heritage asset, a Municipality may estimate such fair value using:

- (a) depreciated replacement cost at the measurement date for an item of property, plant and equipment;
- (b) depreciated replacement cost at the measurement date for an investment property, but only if the investment property is of such a specialised nature that there is no market-based evidence of fair value; and
- (c) replacement cost at the measurement date for heritage assets.

If a Municipality uses deemed cost for an item of property, plant and equipment, an investment property, an intangible asset or a heritage asset, in its first statement of financial position prepared using Standards of GRAP, the Municipality's financial statements shall disclose:

- (a) for each line item:
 - (i) the aggregate of those items valued using deemed cost;
 - (ii) the aggregate adjustment to the carrying amounts previously reported; and
- (b) a description of whether deemed cost was determined:
 - (i) using fair value or depreciated replacement cost for items of property, plant and equipment and investment properties; and
 - (ii) using fair value or replacement cost for heritage assets.

9.17 Land donated for low cost housing

Land and/or buildings used to provide social services, for example, free or low cost housing are deemed to be property, plant and equipment as they are used in the provision of goods and services. Land and/or buildings used to provide employee housing are also deemed to be property, plant and equipment as they contribute towards a Municipality's provision of goods and services.

9.18 Reduction of the carrying amount

- The carrying amount of an asset should be reviewed annually to assess whether or not the recoverable amount has declined below the carrying amount;
- When such a decline has occurred, the carrying amount should be reduced to the recoverable amount.

9.19 Classification, aggregation & components

Classification of property, plant and equipment

- Any asset recognized as an asset under this policy will be classified according to national recognized categories;

- These categories have been specified by the Accounting Standards Board and currently are included in GAMAP 17 and GRAP 17;
- The Chief Financial Officer may agree to subdivide these classifications further.

Investment Property

- Investment assets shall be accounted for separately and shall not be classified as property, plant and equipment;
- Investment assets shall comprise land or buildings (or parts thereof) both held by the municipality, as owner or as lessee under a finance lease to earn rental income or for capital appreciation or both;
- Investment assets shall not depreciate but shall be annually valued (balance sheet date to determine their fair (market) value);
- Adjustments to the previous year's recorded fair value shall be accounted for either gains or losses in the accounting records of the department or service controlling the asset.

Inventory Asset

- Any land or building owned or occupied by the municipality with the intention of selling such property in the ordinary course of business, or any land or building owned or acquired by the municipality with the intention of developing such property for the purpose of selling it in the ordinary course of business, shall be accounted for as inventory assets.

Optional Treatment for major component

- An Asset Controller may, with agreement of the Chief Financial Officer, treat specified major components of an item of property, plant and equipment as a separate asset for the purposes of this policy.
- These major components may be defined by its physical parameters (e.g. reservoir roof) of its financial parameters (e.g. road surface).
- In agreeing to these treatments the CFO must be satisfied that these components:
 - ✓ Have a significantly different useful life or usage pattern to the main asset;
 - ✓ Align with the asset management plans;
 - ✓ The benefits justify the costs of separate identification;
 - ✓ It is probable that future economic benefits or potential service delivery associated with the asset will flow to the municipality;
 - ✓ The cost of the asset to the municipality can be measured reliably;
 - ✓ The municipality has gained control over the asset;
 - ✓ The cost is above the recognition threshold; and
 - ✓ The asset is expected to be used during more than one financial year.
- Once a major component is recognized as a separate asset, it may be acquired, depreciated and disposed of as if it were a separate asset.
- All other replacements, renewals of refurbishments of components will be expensed.

Recognition of network asset

- A network asset is a collection of assets that work together as a whole to deliver specified service or economic benefit, egg. computer systems, office furniture or security camera system.
- A network asset should be recognised as an asset on the asset register.
- The Asset Controller is accountable for the management of the registers required to financially verify the value of a network asset.

9.20 Donations or exchanges

- Where an item of property, plant and equipment is acquired at no cost, or for a nominal cost, it will be initially measured at its fair value as at the date of acquisition and included in the asset register if the fair value is greater than the asset threshold.

9.21 Monthly Asset Reconciliation

- The monthly asset reconciliation entails the comparison of the electronic asset register to the payment report for that particular period;
- The difference between these two reports should be investigated and corrected;
- The CFO must check and approve the reconciliation every month;
- The Finance Department will provide the Heads of Department with a monthly report on asset movements.

9.22 Stolen assets

- A stolen item of asset should be reported to the police and a police case must be obtained (MFMA prescripts to be followed);
- The Municipal Manager should authorize the write-off after following the necessary processes;
- The Asset Controller should then retire the asset from the fixed asset register.

9.23 Missing and broken assets

- The Asset Controller must compile a list of all broken and missing assets after thorough investigation following the physical asset verification;
- The CFO should verify the list and submit a motivation to Municipal Manager for write-off.
- The Asset Controller must then retire the asset.

9.24 Insurance of asset

- The Finance Department shall ensure that all assets are insured in accordance with the amount reflected in the fixed asset register.

9.25 Asset count / stock-take (annual or bi-annual)

With the assets bar-coded, conducting electronic asset counts or stock takes on an annual or bi-annual basis is facilitated.

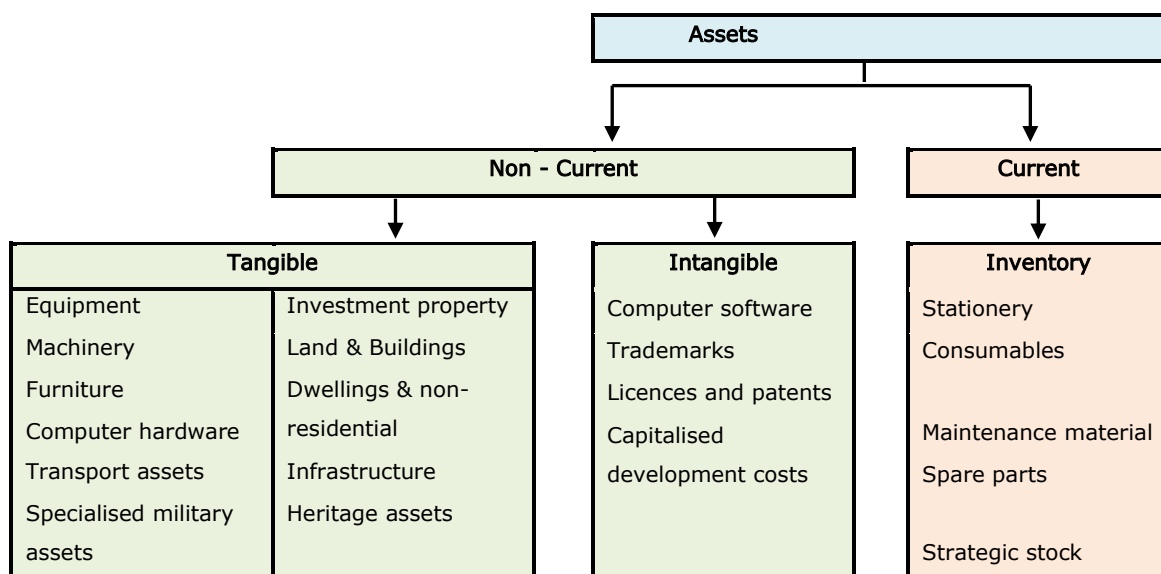
- Due to the fact that rooms or locations are bar coded as described above, the asset count starts by electronically scanning a room or location, thereafter scanning all assets inside the room and then scanning outside of the room.
- After all the rooms or locations have been scanned, the data is downloaded and electronically compared with the database as per the original installation or the previous asset count.
- The following management reports will then be generated:
 - ✓ Assets verified in the correct room or location
 - ✓ Assets not verified during the asset count
 - ✓ Missing assets
 - ✓ Assets in the incorrect room or location
- The reports will enable the municipality to determine problem areas and assist in developing actions to address these problem areas;

10. Classification of Assets

The CFO must ensure that all assets are, as prescribed by the current standards, classified under the following headings in the asset register and

Statement of Financial Position:

- PPE (infrastructure, community, heritage and other assets)
- Investment property
- Inventory (classified as PPE)
- Intangible assets
- Biological Asset
- Finance lease assets



10.1 Property, plant and equipment

Recognition Criteria

PPE shall be recognised as an asset when the following conditions are met:

- It is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the asset will flow to the Municipality, and
- The cost or fair value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Initial Measurement

Purchased assets

An item of PPE which qualifies for recognition as an asset shall initially be measured at its cost.

Donated assets

Where an asset is acquired at no cost, or for a nominal cost, its deemed cost is its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Components of Cost

The cost of an item of PPE comprises its purchase price, including import duties and non-refundable purchase taxes, and any directly attributable costs of bringing the asset to working condition for its intended use. All trade discounts and rebates are deducted in arriving at the purchase price.

Subsequent expenditure

Subsequent expenditure relating to PPE should be added to the carrying amount of the asset when it is probable that: future economic benefits or service potential over the total life of the asset in excess of the most recently assessed standard of performance of the existing asset will flow to the Municipality. Otherwise, all other subsequent expenditure not meeting the definition above will be accounted for as repairs and maintenance expense in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Measurement subsequent to initial recognition

Subsequent to the initial recognition as an asset, an item of PPE should be measured on the cost model i.e. Carried at its cost less any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation

- The depreciable amount of an item of property, plant and equipment should be allocated on a systematic basis over its useful life;
- The depreciation method used should reflect the pattern in which economic benefits or potential service provisions are consumed by the municipality;
- The depreciation charge for each period will be recognized as an expense against the budget or the relevant Asset Controller unless it is included in the carrying amount of another asset; and
- The depreciation method will be straight-line unless the CFO is convinced that another method is more appropriate.
- All PPE, except land and heritage assets, shall be depreciated.
- The depreciation method applied to PPE shall be reviewed periodically and, if there has been a significant change in the expected pattern of economic benefits or service potential from those assets, the method shall be changed to reflect the changed pattern.
- When a change in depreciation method is necessary the change shall be accounted for as a change in accounting estimate.

Useful life

The CFO shall assign a useful life to each depreciable asset that must be recorded on the municipality's asset register. In determining such a useful life the CFO shall adhere to the useful lives set out in this policy. In the case of a fixed asset which is not listed in the policy, the CFO shall determine a useful life. The useful life of an item of PPE shall be reviewed periodically.

Land and buildings

Land traditionally has an unlimited lifespan and is not be depreciated. Buildings have a limited life and are depreciate.

Retirement and disposals

In accordance with GRAP, PPE shall be eliminated from the Statement of Financial Position on disposal or when the asset is permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its disposal. Any gain or loss shall be included in the statement of financial performance as an item of revenue or expense, whichever is applicable.

Heritage Assets

Some assets are described as "heritage assets" because of their

- cultural,
- environmental,
- educational or
- historical significance.

GRAP 17 does not require a Municipality to recognise heritage assets that would otherwise meet the definition of, and recognition criteria for, PPE.

If the Municipality does recognise heritage assets, it must apply the disclosure requirements of GRAP 17 and may, but is not required to, apply the measurement requirements of GRAP 17.

10.2 Investment property

Investment property is held to earn rentals or for capital appreciation or both. Therefore, an investment property generates cash flows largely independently of the other assets held by a Municipality. This distinguishes investment property from other land or buildings controlled by entities, including owner-occupied property. The production or supply of goods or services (or the use of property for administrative purposes) can also generate cash flows that are attributable not only to property, but also to other assets used in the production or supply process.

The following are examples of investment property:

- (a) land held for long-term capital appreciation rather than for short-term sale in the ordinary course of operations. For example, land held by the Municipality for capital appreciation which may be sold at a beneficial time in the future.

- (b) a building owned by the Municipality (or held by the Municipality under a finance lease) and leased out under one or more operating leases on a commercial basis.
- (d) a building that is vacant but is held to be leased out under one or more operating leases on a commercial basis to external parties.

Recognition criteria

GRAP states that investment property shall be recognised as an asset when and only when:

- (a) it is probable that the future economic benefits that are associated with the investment property will flow to the Municipality; and
- (b) the cost of the investment property can be measured reliably.

Measurement at initial recognition

GRAP states that:

- Investment property shall be measured initially at its cost (including transaction costs).
- The initial cost of a property interest held under a lease and classified as an investment property shall be as prescribed for a finance lease by GRAP. I.e. the asset shall be recognised at the lower of the fair value of the property and the present value of the minimum lease payments. An equivalent amount shall be recognised as a liability in accordance with that same paragraph.

After initial recognition

The Municipality chooses the cost model to measure investment subsequent to initial recognition.

Disposals

An investment property shall be derecognised (eliminated from the statement of financial position) on disposal or when the investment property is permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its disposal. Gains or losses arising from the retirement or disposal of investment property shall be determined as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and shall be recognised in surplus or deficit in the period of the retirement or disposal.

Transfers

Transfers to, or from, investment property shall be made when, and only when, there is a change in use, evidenced by:

- (a) commencement of owner-occupation, for a transfer from investment property to owner-occupied property,
- (b) commencement of development with a view to sale, for a transfer from investment property to inventories,
- (c) end of owner-occupation, for a transfer from owner-occupied property to investment property,

- (d) commencement of an operating lease (on a commercial basis) to another party, for a transfer from inventories to investment property, or
- (e) end of construction or development, for a transfer from property in the course of construction or development

10.3 Inventory

Inventories encompass goods purchased and held for resale including, for example, merchandise purchased by a Municipality and held for resale, or land and other property held for sale. Inventories also encompass finished goods produced, or work in progress being produced, by the Municipality. Inventories also include materials and supplies awaiting use in the production process and goods purchased or produced by a Municipality, which are for distribution to other parties for no charge or for a nominal charge;

Recognition

Inventories shall be recognised as an asset if, and only if,

- (a) it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Municipality, and
- (b) the cost of the inventories can be measured reliably.

Measurement at recognition

Inventories that qualify for recognition as assets shall initially be measured at cost. Where inventories are acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, their costs shall be their fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Measurement after recognition

Inventories shall be measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value Inventories shall be measured at the lower of cost and current replacement cost where they are held for:

- (a) distribution at no charge or for a nominal charge, or
- (b) consumption in the production process of goods to be distributed at no charge or for a nominal charge.

Cost of inventories

The cost of inventories shall comprise all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the inventories to their present location and condition.

Costs of purchase

The costs of purchase of inventories comprise the purchase price, import duties and other taxes (other than those subsequently recoverable by the Municipality from the taxing authorities), and transport, handling and other costs directly attributable to the acquisition of finished goods, materials and

supplies. Trade discounts, rebates and other similar items are deducted in determining the costs of purchase.

10.4 Intangible assets

Identifiably

An asset meets the identifiably criterion in the definition of an intangible asset when it:

- (a) is separable, i.e. is capable of being separated or divided from the Municipality and sold, transferred, licensed, rented or exchanged, either individually or together with a related contract, asset or liability; or
- (b) arises from contractual rights (including rights arising from binding arrangements) or other legal rights (excluding rights granted by statute), regardless of whether those rights are transferable or separable from the Municipality or from other rights and obligations.

Recognition

An intangible asset shall be recognised if, and only if:

- (a) it is probable that the expected future economic benefits or service potential that are attributable to the asset will flow to the Municipality; and
- (b) the cost or fair value of the asset can be measured reliably.

The Municipality shall assess the probability of expected future economic benefits or service potential using reasonable and supportable assumptions that represent management's best estimate of the set of economic conditions that will exist over the useful life of the asset.

Initial Measurement

An intangible asset shall be measured initially at cost. Expenditure on an intangible item shall be recognised as an expense when it is incurred unless it forms part of the cost of an intangible asset that meets the recognition criteria. Expenditure on an intangible item that was initially recognised as an expense shall not be recognised as part of the cost of an intangible asset at a later date.

Measurement after recognition

The Municipality adopts the cost model. After initial recognition, an intangible asset shall be carried at its cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Useful life

The Municipality will assess whether the useful life or service potential of an intangible asset is finite or indefinite and, if finite, the length of, or number of production or similar units constituting, that useful life. An intangible asset shall be regarded by the Municipality as having an indefinite useful life when, based on an analysis of all of the relevant factors, there is no foreseeable limit to the period over which the asset is expected to generate net cash inflows or service potential for the Municipality.

Review of amortisation period and amortisation method

The amortisation period and the amortisation method for an intangible asset with a finite useful life shall be reviewed at least at each reporting date. If the expected useful life of the asset is different from previous estimates, the amortisation period shall be changed accordingly. If there has been a change in the expected pattern of consumption of the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset, the amortisation method shall be changed to reflect the changed pattern. Such changes shall be accounted for as changes in accounting estimates in accordance with the Standard of GRAP on Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors

10.5 Biological assets

Accounting for biological assets (living animals or plants) shall take place in accordance with the requirements of IAS 41 where applicable.

The CFO, in consultation with the head(s) of department concerned, shall ensure that all biological assets, such as livestock and crops, are valued at 30 June each year at fair value less estimated point-of-sales costs. Such valuation shall be undertaken by a recognised valuer in the line of the biological assets concerned.

Any losses on such valuation shall be debited to the department or vote concerned as an operating expense, and any increase in the valuation shall be credited to the department or vote concerned as operating revenue.

If any biological asset is lost, stolen or destroyed, the matter - if material - shall be reported in writing by the HOD concerned in exactly the same manner as though the asset were an ordinary asset.

Records of the details of biological assets shall be kept in a separate section of the asset register or in a separate accounting record altogether and such details shall reflect the information which the CFO, in consultation with the HOD concerned and the internal auditor, deems necessary for accounting and control purposes.

The CFO shall annually insure the municipality's biological assets, in consultation with the HOD's concerned, provided the Council of the municipality considers such insurance desirable and affordable.

Annexure A: PURCHASE REQUISITION FORM

Annexure B: CHEQUE REQUISITION

Annexure C: ASSET ACQUISITION FORM

Annexure D: ASSET TRANSFER FORM

Annexure E: INVENTORY SHEET/LIST