



# **MSINGA MUNICIPALITY**

## ***VIREMENT POLICY***

Policy Number:	Date of Approval:
Date of Effect:	Date of Review:

Notwithstanding the review date as shown, this policy shall remain effective until approved otherwise by Council and may be reviewed on an earlier date as deemed necessary.

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## 1. Definitions

**“Accounting officer”** The municipal manager of a municipality is the accounting officer of the municipality in terms of section 60 of the MFMA;

**“Approved budget”** means an annual budget approved by a municipal council;

**“Budget-related policy”** means a policy of a municipality affecting or affected by the annual budget of the municipality;

**“Capital Budget”** This is the estimated amount for capital items in a given fiscal period. Capital items are fixed assets such as facilities and equipment, the cost of which is normally written off over a number of fiscal periods;

**“Chief financial officer”** means a person designated in terms of the MFMA who performs such budgeting, and other duties as may in terms of section 81 of the MFMA be delegated by the accounting officer to the chief financial officer;

**“Council”** means the council of a municipality referred to in section 18 of the Municipal Structures Act;

**“Financial year”** means a 12-month year ending 30 June;

**“Line Item”** an appropriation that is itemized on a separate line in a budget adopted with the idea of greater control over expenditures [**See appendix “B” for current item structure**];

**“Municipal budget and reporting regulation”** its main aim is to secure sound and sustainable management of the budgeting & reporting practices of municipalities;

**“Operating Budget”** it is financial plan which outlines proposed expenditures for the financial year and estimates of revenues that finance them;

**“Service delivery and budget implementation plan”** means a detailed plan approved by the Mayor of a municipality in terms of section 53(1) (c) (ii) of the MFMA, for implementing the municipality’s delivery of municipal services and its annual budget;

“**Virement**” is the process of transferring an approved budget allocation from one operating line item or capital project to another, with the approval of the relevant Manager. To enable budget managers to amend budgets in the light of experience or to reflect anticipated changes;

“**Vote**” means one of the main segments into which a budget of a municipality is divided for the appropriation of funds for the different departments or functional areas of the municipality; and which specifies the total amount that is appropriated for the purposes of the department or functional area concerned. **[See appendix “A” for current Vote structure];**

“**Vote holder**” means any manager with authorised financial delegations.

## **2. List of abbreviations**

**AO** – Accounting Officer

**MLM**– Msinga Local Municipality

**CFO** – Chief Financial Officer

**IDP** – Integrated Development Plan

**MFMA** – Municipal Finance Management Act No. 56 of 2003

**SDBIP** - Service delivery and budget implementation plan

**MBRR** – Municipal budget and reporting regulations

## **3. Preamble**

The MFMA and the Municipal Budget and Reporting Regulations (MBRR) seek to move municipalities away from the traditional approach of appropriating/approving budgets by line item. MLM undertakes to establish a consistent and efficient virement process to ensure efficient financial management and also service delivery to the people.

## **4. Purpose**

The aim is to give the heads of municipal departments and programmes greater flexibility in managing their budgets. The policy must enhance the process of sustainable service delivery.

## **5. Objectives**

To allow limited flexibility in the use of budgeted funds to enable management to act on occasions such as disasters, unforeseen expenditure or savings, etc. as they arise to accelerate service delivery in a financially responsible manner.

## **6. Legislative Framework**

MLM shall manage its budgetary controls cautiously and conduct its virement policy in compliance with the provisions of the MFMA Act No. 56 of 2003. The virement policy is established in terms of the MFMA Circular No.51 of the Municipal Budget Circular for 2010/11 MTREF of 19 February 2010. The following pieces of legislation further inform the backbone of the policy:

- 6.1. Municipal Finance Management Act, Act 56 of 2003
- 6.2. Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, Act 58 of 1999
- 6.3. MFMA Circular No.13 - Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan
- 6.4. MFMA Circular No.51 – Municipal Budget Circular for 2010/11 MTREF (19/02/10)

## **7. Virement Clarification**

Virement is the process of transferring budgeted funds from one line item to another, with the approval of the relevant Manager, CFO and AO, to enable budget managers to amend budgets in the light of experience or to reflect anticipated changes. (Section 28 (2) (c) MFMA). Virement is a measure of flexibility that allows budget-holding managers to reflect budget variances within a year.

## **8. Virement Procedure**

- 8.1. All virement requests must be completed on the appropriate documentation (i.e. the virement template) and forwarded to the relevant Budget Officer for checking and implementation.
- 8.2. All virements must be signed by the Vote holder (per department) and the CFO. The virement must be approved by the Accounting Officer.
- 8.3. A virement form must be completed for all Budget Transfers.
- 8.4. A virement must include changes to the SDBIP.
- 8.5. All documentation must be in order and approved before any expenditure can be committed or incurred. (Section 79 MFMA).

- 8.6. The Municipal Manager must report to the Mayor on a quarterly basis on those virements that have taken place during that quarter.

## **9. Financial Responsibilities**

Strict budgetary control must be maintained throughout the financial year in order that potential overspendings within individual departments are identified at the earliest possible opportunity, (Section 100 MFMA). The CFO has statutory duty to ensure that adequate policies and procedures are in place to ensure effective financial control system. The budget virement process is one of these controls.

It is the responsibility of each manager or head of department or activity to which funds are allocated in terms of the section 78 of the MFMA, to exercise financial management by planning and conducting assigned operations so as not to spend more funds than budgeted. In addition, they have the responsibility to identify and report any irregular or fruitless and wasteful expenditure sec 102 of the MFMA. A virement must not be an excuse for not planning properly.

## **10. Virement Restrictions**

- 10.1. Virements is not permitted in relation to the revenue side of the budget;
- 10.2. No virements allowed between votes where the proposed shifts in funding facilitate sound risk and financial management (e.g. the management of central insurance funds and insurance claims from separate votes);
- 10.3. Virements not permitted from the capital budget to the operating budget;
- 10.4. Virements towards personnel expenditure will not be permitted;
- 10.5. Virements to or from the following items will not be permitted: bulk purchases; debt impairment, interest charges; depreciation, grants, revenue foregone, insurance and VAT;
- 10.6. Virements of conditional grant funds to purposes outside of that specified in the relevant conditional grant framework will not be allowed;
- 10.7. No budget may be moved to or from a vote, programme, project etc. that will exceed 5% of that vote or sub-vote:

*(a) This refers to virement within a section or department must not exceed 5% of that section or department's total approved budget;*

- 10.8. A virement may not create new policy, significantly vary current policy, or alter the approved outcomes/outputs as approved in the IDP for the current or subsequent years. (Section 19 and 21 MFMA);
- 10.9. Virements resulting in adjustments to the approved SDBIP need to be submitted with an adjustments budget to the Council with altered outputs and measurements for approval (MFMA Circular 13 page 3 paragraph 3);
- 10.10. No virement may commit the Municipality to increase recurrent expenditure, which commits the Council's resources in the following financial year, without the prior approval of the Mayoral Committee;

*(a) This refers to expenditures such as entering into agreements into lease or rental agreements such as vehicles, photo copier's or fax machines;*

- 10.11. No virement may be made where it would result in over expenditure (Section 32 MFMA);
- 10.12. No virement shall add to the establishment of the Municipality without the approval of Municipal Manager;
- 10.13. If the virement relates to an increase in the work force establishment, then the Council's existing recruitment policies and procedures will apply;
- 10.14. Budget may only be transferred to and from within a section/unit in a department;
- 10.15. Virements in capital budget will not be permitted; any changes to be made to the capital budget will only be done during adjustment budget;
- 10.16. No virements are permitted in the first three (3) months of the financial year;
- 10.17. Virement amounts may not be rolled over to subsequent years, or create expectations on following budgets (Section 30 MFMA);
- 10.18. An approved virement does not give expenditure authority and all expenditure resulting from approved virements must still be subject to the supply chain management policy of Council as periodically reviewed;
- 10.19. Virements may not be made between Expenditure and Income.

## **11. Implementation & Monitoring**

The implementation of this policy will be done by all relevant officials within MLM and monitoring will be done by Budget & Treasury Office.

## **12. Sources**

Definition of Virement

<http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageld=1121364> 26/01/2011

Municipal Finance Management Act No. 56 Of 2003

MFMA Circular No.13 - Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan

MFMA Circular No.51 – Municipal Budget Circular for 2010/11 MTREF  
(19/02/10)

## **Appendix A**



## Vote Classification

DEPARTMENT	SECTION / UNIT	COST CENTRE	VOTE HOLDER
<b>EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT (EM)</b>	Office of the Executive mayor	C-000001	<i>MANAGER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECTION &amp; SENIOR MANAGER (EM)</i>
	Office of the Chief Whip	C-000002	
	Office of the Speaker	C-000008	
	Committees	C-000034	
	HIV/AIDS office	C-000007	
	Special focus	C-000075	
<b>MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S OFFICE</b>	Municipal Manager	C-000003	<i>MANAGER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECTION &amp; SENIOR MANAGER (EM)</i>
	Communications	C-000004	
	Internal Audit & Risk	C-000005	
	Performance Management	C-000006	
	Intergovernmental relations	C-000079	
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	Manager's office	C-000010	<i>MANAGER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECTION &amp; SENIOR MANAGER</i>
	Water services	C-000011	
	Water O&M	C-000012	
	Quantity Surveyor	C-000014	
	Transport	C-000029	
	Roads	C-000076	
	Energy	C-000077	
	Project ISD	C-000078	
<b>CORPORATE SERVICES</b>	Manager's Office	C-000030	<i>MANAGER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECTION &amp; SENIOR MANAGER</i>
	Information & Knowledge Management	C-000031	
	Human Resources	C-000032	
	Administration & Logistics	C-000033	
	Legal & Contracts	C-000063	
<b>FINANCE</b>	CFO's Office	C-000040	<i>MANAGER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECTION &amp; CFO</i>
	Budget & Treasury Office	C-000041	
	Expenditure	C-000044	
	Supply Chain Management	C-000046	
	Income	C-000047	
<b>STRATEGIC PLANNING &amp; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>	Manager's Office	C-000060	<i>MANAGER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECTION &amp; SENIOR MANAGER</i>
	Integrated Development Plan	C-000061	
	Institutional Policy & Research	C-000062	
	Town & Regional Planning	C-000063	
	Local Economic Development	C-000028	
<b>COMMUNITY SERVICES</b>	Manager's Office	C-000070	<i>MANAGER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECTION &amp; SENIOR MANAGER</i>
	Fire & Rescue	C-000071	
	Disaster Management	C-000072	
	Environmental Management	C-000073	
	Environmental Health	C-000074	

## Appendix B

## Item Classification

GL account & Description	Virement from	Virement to
<b><u>PERSONNEL COSTS</u></b>		
420000 Temporary Workers	Yes	No
430000 Basic Salaries	Yes	No
430010 Acting Allowance	Yes	No
430300 Standby Allowance	Yes	No
430315 Shift allowance	Yes	No
430320 Telephone Allowance	Yes	No
430400 Sunday& Holiday shift	Yes	No
431000 Overtime premiums	Yes	No
431100 Variant shift	Yes	No
431200 Workplace bonus 13th Cheque	Yes	No
434000 Leave Bonus	Yes	No
439300 Housing Assistance	Yes	No
439310 Housing Subsidy	Yes	No
439330 Car allowance	Yes	No
445000 Pension Fund-Employe	Yes	No
446000 Workers' comp.assoc.	Yes	No
510340 U.I.F	Yes	No
447000 Medical Contr.-Emplo	Yes	No
447500 Group Insurance	Yes	No
500030 Performance Bonus	Yes	No
<b><u>COUNCILLOR'S ALLOWANCES</u></b>		
448010 Councillor Allowance	Yes	No
448020 Car Allowance-Counc	Yes	No
448040 Housing Allow-Counc	Yes	No
448050 Medical Fund - Counc	Yes	No
448060 Pension Fund - Counc	Yes	No
446010 Industrial Council L	Yes	No
<b><u>MAINTENANCE COSTS</u></b>		
513010 Maint - Air Condit.	Yes	Yes
513020 Maint - Build&Stand	Yes	Yes
513030 Maint - Compt Equip	Yes	Yes
513040 Maint - Fencing	Yes	Yes
513050 Maint - Off Furn&Equ	Yes	Yes
513060 Maint - Off Mach&Equ	Yes	Yes
513080 Maint - Plant&Equip	Yes	Yes
513100 Maint - Vehicles	Yes	Yes
513110 Maint - LED Projects	Yes	Yes
513140 R&Mnt - Roads Ops	Yes	Yes

<b>GL account &amp; Description</b>	<b>Virement from</b>	<b>Virement to</b>
<b><u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u></b>		
412080 Fleet payments	Yes	Yes
412100 Groceries & Cleaning	Yes	Yes
412110 Consumables	Yes	Yes
412112 Furniture & Fittings	Yes	Yes
412120 O&M	Yes	Yes
413000 Fire & Disaster Proj	Yes	Yes
414220 Capacity building	Yes	Yes
414310 Strategic Planning	Yes	Yes
416300 Water & Electricity	Yes	Yes
473120 Telephone (calls)	Yes	Yes
476901 LED Projects mainten	Yes	Yes
477010 Corporate Image Buil	Yes	Yes
479000 Bank charges	Yes	Yes
500010 Advertising	Yes	Yes
500020 Labour Relations	Yes	Yes
500023 IGR Conference	Yes	Yes
500024 Road Safety Educatio	Yes	Yes
500025 Media Relations	Yes	Yes
500026 Publications	Yes	Yes
500027 Stakeholder Particip	Yes	Yes
500028 Blouberg LBSC	Yes	Yes
500029 Lepell-Nkumpi LBSC	Yes	Yes
500040 Books and Periodical	Yes	Yes
500070 Catering	Yes	Yes
500090 Cleaning Services	Yes	Yes
500510 Computer Services	Yes	Yes
500520 Conf and Delegtn Cst	Yes	Yes
500550 Employee Assist Prog	Yes	Yes
500580 Food & Water Sample	Yes	Yes
500590 Policy and Strategy	Yes	Yes
510020 Laboratory Tests	Yes	Yes
510030 Legal Expenses	Yes	Yes
510100 Membership Fees	Yes	Yes
510120 Pest Control	Yes	Yes
510130 Postage	Yes	Yes
510140 Refreshments	Yes	Yes
510170 Printing and Station	Yes	Yes
510180 Professional Fees	Yes	Yes
510190 Publicity	Yes	Yes

<b>GL account &amp; Description</b>	<b>Virement from</b>	<b>Virement to</b>
<b><u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u></b>		
510200 Rental- External Equ	Yes	Yes
510220 Rental - Offices	Yes	Yes
510250 Socio-Economic Surve	Yes	Yes
510270 Subscriptions	Yes	Yes
510280 Subsistence & Travel	Yes	Yes
510285 S & T Councillors	Yes	Yes
510300 Telephone	Yes	Yes
510310 Training	Yes	Yes
510320 Training Councillors	Yes	Yes
510350 Uniforms & Overalls	Yes	Yes
510370 Recruitment Services	Yes	Yes
510600 Sports, Arts&Culture	Yes	Yes
511010 Audit Services - Rch	Yes	Yes
511020 Audit Fees External	Yes	Yes
511030 Forensic Investg	Yes	Yes
511070 Insurance	No	No
511120 Skills Developpt Levy	Yes	Yes
511140 IMATU Levies	Yes	Yes
511141 Non Members	Yes	Yes
511142 SAMWU Levies	Yes	Yes
512010 Audit Services(Int)	Yes	Yes
512030 Security Services	Yes	Yes
512035 Electionic Access Co	Yes	Yes
512050 Fraud Prevention	Yes	Yes
513610 School Competition	Yes	Yes
520040 Audit Committee expenses	Yes	Yes
525010 CONTR-Prov- Bad Debt	Yes	Yes
525020 CONTR-Prov- Lve Pay	Yes	Yes
525030 Bursary Fund Interna	Yes	Yes
525040 Bursary Fund Externa	Yes	Yes
540020 Disaster Provision	Yes	Yes
<b><u>DEPRECIATION</u></b>		
211120 Depr. buildings	No	No
211130 Depr.-machy/equipmnt	No	No
211150 Depr.-vehicles	No	No
211160 Depr.-fixts/fittings	No	No
211195 Depreciation Hardwar	No	No
211210 Deprec Software	No	No
211230 Deprec Water Infracst	No	No
211250 Deprec Sanit Infracst	No	No
211260 Depreciation Roads	No	No

<b>GL account &amp; Description</b>	<b>Virement from</b>	<b>Virement to</b>
<b>GRANTS</b>		
800142 Other Income	No	No
800260 Tender Fees income	No	No
800263 Medical Aids	No	No
800264 Taxi Rank Branding	No	No
805510 Equitable Share	No	No
805540 Fin Management Grant	No	No
805551 DWAF Opex grant spen	No	No
805552 Health Grant	No	No
805553 LG Seta Grant	No	No
805554 RBIG spent	No	No
940307 MIG - Conditions Met	No	No

<b>RECURRING OPERATING PROJECTS</b>		
<b>PROJECT NAMES</b>	<b>Virement from</b>	<b>Virement to</b>
Social responsibility(Maponto hall and Nobody crech:buildings)	Yes	Yes
Political Leadership & Good Governance	Yes	Yes
Stakeholder Participation	Yes	Yes
Public participation & oversight	Yes	Yes
Children Development Programmes	Yes	Yes
Disability development programmes	Yes	Yes
Gender development programmes	Yes	Yes
Older persons developemnt programmes	Yes	Yes
Youth Development programmes	Yes	Yes
Special project Support centers	Yes	Yes
Prevention programmes	Yes	Yes
Co-ordination programmes	Yes	Yes
Capacity Building	Yes	Yes
Care & Support	Yes	Yes
Planning	Yes	Yes
IGR meetings	Yes	Yes
O & M refurbishment	Yes	Yes
Operations & maintenance support programme	Yes	Yes
O & M Transfer to LMs	Yes	Yes
FBW	Yes	Yes
Bulk Water purchases	Yes	Yes
Water Stores	Yes	Yes
Water Quality Monitoring & Sampling	Yes	Yes
Inline Disinfection installation	Yes	Yes

<b>RECURRING OPERATING PROJECTS</b>		
<b>PROJECT NAMES</b>	<b>Virement from</b>	<b>Virement to</b>
Implementation of water safety and security plans	Yes	Yes
World Water Monitoring day	Yes	Yes
Water coversation strategy	Yes	Yes
By-Law enforcement	Yes	Yes
Blouberg Water summit	Yes	Yes
Capacity Building in the Taxi Industry	Yes	Yes
Alignment of ITP with Public Transport Strategy	Yes	Yes
Enforcement of Public Transport –By-Laws	Yes	Yes
Community awareness campaign	Yes	Yes
Capacity Building & Training(Steerng Committee)	Yes	Yes
Customer Care	Yes	Yes
Health & Hygiene	Yes	Yes
Steering commitee meetings	Yes	Yes
SAP Support Training & Maintanance	Yes	Yes
SAP System upgrade	Yes	Yes
Service delivery call centre	Yes	Yes
Offsite records achivers(Finance,HR & Legal)	Yes	Yes
Asset Management	Yes	Yes
Implement Revenue collection strategy	Yes	Yes
Development of Bylaws	Yes	Yes
Awareness on the bylaws	Yes	Yes
Cash Management	Yes	Yes
Municipal billing support	Yes	Yes
Development and Review of credible Integrated Development Plan	Yes	Yes
Ward committees confrence	Yes	Yes
Community Based Planning (CBP) linked to IDP	Yes	Yes
Socio-Economic Impact Study	Yes	Yes
Planning Management Tools (e.g. GIS)	Yes	Yes
Implementation of SDF(Planning model)	Yes	Yes
Support to Category B Locals:Establishment of LUMS	Yes	Yes
Land Audit: Lepelle, blouberg and Aganang Local Municipalities	Yes	Yes
Rural Livelihood Development Programme:Training and Capacity Buildings	Yes	Yes
LUMS training for tribal offices officials	Yes	Yes
Database for unemployed database	Yes	Yes
Capacity Building for Small Traders	Yes	Yes
SMME and cooperatives support	Yes	Yes
Investment promotion	Yes	Yes
Implementation of CEDA	Yes	Yes
Agricultural programmes	Yes	Yes
Fiesibility study for zebedila estate cluster projects	Yes	Yes

**RECURRING OPERATING PROJECTS**

<b>PROJECT NAMES</b>	<b>Virement from</b>	<b>Virement to</b>
Revamping of mafefe tourist camp	Yes	Yes
Revamping of motumo tourist camp	Yes	Yes
Exhibition of tourism product	Yes	Yes
Tourism promotions	Yes	Yes
Awareness campaigns and marketing	Yes	Yes
Volunteers Equipments & Protective clothing	Yes	Yes
Disaster relieve material & shelters	Yes	Yes
Disaster plans,district & LMS	Yes	Yes
Disaster Fund	Yes	Yes
Training of coucillors & voluteers	Yes	Yes
Laboratory analysis air quality	Yes	Yes
Implementation of community based waste collection services in 2x local municipalities	Yes	Yes
Enviromental management awareness training for CDM official	Yes	Yes
Development of material for enviroment training	Yes	Yes
Outsourcing of municipal four landfill sites	Yes	Yes
Revitalisation of Bicycles	Yes	Yes
Food control	Yes	Yes
Applying relevant legislation to enforce compliance	Yes	Yes
Embark on health education	Yes	Yes
Water sampling	Yes	Yes
Planting of morepad of cholera monitoring	Yes	Yes
Collection of specimen from suspect	Yes	Yes
Health and hygiene awareness	Yes	Yes
Heritage events celebrarion	Yes	Yes
Indigenous Games Festivals and O.R Tambo Games	Yes	Yes
District Mayors Tournaments	Yes	Yes
Crime prevention programmes	Yes	Yes
Education and Sports aganist alcohol abuse & crime	Yes	Yes