

15 December 2022

The Municipal Manager  
Kouga Local Municipality  
P.O. Box 21  
Jeffreys Bay  
6330

**WITHOUT PREJUDICE**

Sir

**RE. MUNICIPAL RATES AND POLICY**

Your letter dated 15 December 2022, refers.

Thank you that the tone of your letter is now in sync with the tone and attitude in which the meetings and negotiations between us took place.

We are definitely making progress and would like to respond to the content of the above mentioned letter as follows:

Ad par. A

Whilst we acknowledge the need for individual SLA's, we have no idea of the content thereof and in that regard reserve our rights. The different AGM's of the individual HOA's start early next week and therefore we request that **all relevant HOA's must receive their letters by latest Monday, 19 December '2022.**

Ad par. B

Thank you for your attitude to strive to have as close as possible to zero% increases on property rates for Business-, Industrial- and vacant properties, but we can not wait for the 2023/2024 budget consultation phase and must agree in principle on the way forward at our meeting in January 2023.

The fact that all Public- and Private Open Spaces (POS's) will be zero rated as from 1 July 2023, is good news. Although we believe that the rates on POS's should be back dated to 1 July '22, we have an understanding for the cashflow problems such a decision might have. Therefore, in good faith we will accept this decision.



We recognise your financial concerns for Old Age Homes, Frail Care Centres and Pensioners in general and will support your application to the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs for a new category on property rates.

Ad par. C

We welcome the proposed meeting in January 2023 to pull together all loose ends and discuss possible policy changes. Can we set aside the 11<sup>th</sup> of January 2023 for this meeting?

With your permission, we would like to publish your letter on our website as proof of the positive negotiations between the parties.

We reiterate again that our efforts are in good faith with a view to resolving all concerns to the benefit of members of KBF and all ratepayers.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dries du Preez'.

Dries du Preez  
Chairman – Kouga Business Forum