

George Local Municipality, hereby, in terms of section 6 of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004, has by way of (no 4.2 of the resolution) adopted the Municipality's Property Rates By-law set out hereunder.

GEORGE MUNICIPALITY

PROPERTY RATES BY-LAW

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS section 229(1) of the Constitution requires a Municipality to impose rates on property and surcharges on fees for the services provided by or on behalf of the Municipality.

AND WHEREAS section 13 of the Municipal Systems Act read with section 162 of the Constitution require a municipality to promulgate municipal by-laws by publishing them in the gazette of the relevant province.

AND WHEREAS section 6 of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004 requires a Municipality to adopt by-laws to give effect to the implementation of its property rates policy; the by-laws may differentiate between the different categories of properties and different categories of owners of properties liable for the payment of rates;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS ENACTED by the Council of the George Municipality, as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS

In this by-law, any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Local Government: Municipality Property Rates Act, 2004 (Act No. 6 of 2004), shall bear the same meaning unless the context indicates otherwise.

'Municipality' means the George Municipality duly established in terms of Section 12 of the Municipal Structures Act, 117 of 1998;

'Customer Care, Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy' means the Municipality's Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy made in terms of section 96(b) of the Systems Act;

'Property Rates Act' means the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act. 2004 (Act No 6 of 2004);

'Rates Policy' means the George Local Municipality's property rates policy adopted by Council in terms of section 3(1) of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004.

2. OBJECTIVES

The Object of this by-law is to give effect to the implementation of the Rates Policy as contemplated in section 6 of the Municipal Property Rates Act.

3. RATES POLICY

The Municipality prepared and adopted a Rates Policy as contemplated in terms of the provisions of section 3(1) of the Municipal Property Rates Act. The Rates Policy outlines the Municipality's rating practices; therefore, it is not necessary for this By-law to restate and repeat same. The Rates Policy is hereby incorporated by reference in this By-law. All amendments to the Rates Policy as the Council may approve from time to time, shall be deemed to be likewise incorporated. The Municipality does not levy rates other than in terms of its Rates Policy and the annually promulgated resolution levying rates which reflects the cent amount in the Rand rate for each category of rateable property.

The Rates Policy is available at:

The Finance Department, First floor, Municipal Offices, York Street, George;
All libraries within the Municipality of George; and the
Municipal website.

4. CATEGORIES OF RATEABLE PROPERTIES

The Rates Policy provides for categories of rateable properties determined in terms of section 8 of the Act.

5. CATEGORIES OF PROPERTIES AND CATEGORIES OF OWNERS OF PROPERTIES

The Rates Policy provides for categories of properties and categories of owners of properties for the purposes of granting relief measures (exemptions, reductions and rebates) in terms of section 15 of the Act.

6. ENFORCEMENT

The Municipality's Rates Policy shall be enforced through the Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy and further enforcement mechanisms stipulated in the Act and the Municipality's Rates Policy.

7. REPEAL

The Municipality's Property Rates By-Law published in Provincial Gazette No. 7712 dated 9 December 2016 is hereby repealed and replaced with this By-Law.

8. SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT

This By-law is called the George Local Municipality Property Rates By-law, and takes effect on the date on which it is published in the Provincial Gazette.