



eThekweni Bay Rapid Budget Response

Informal settlement taps and toilets are communal and are used by many families, and require more regular maintenance than other municipal infrastructure. **We therefore welcome the 8% increase in eThekweni's overall budget for repairs and maintenance, especially the 13% and 9% increases for water supply and sanitation infrastructure repairs and maintenance.**

However, we would like clarity on some of the details:

- What are the specific allocations for the repair of ablution blocks in informal settlements? Without dedicated funding, there is a risk that their maintenance will be crowded out.
- Given the increases for water supply and sanitation infrastructure repairs and maintenance, it is not clear why the total repairs and maintenance operating budgets for these two functions, as shown in the narrative budget discussion, are smaller than last year.

Sanitation

We are concerned about the lack of capital funding for ablution blocks in informal settlements. Last year's budget allocated R15 million for new communal ablution facilities and, according to the Metro's draft 2024/25 IDP, the current sanitation backlog stands at 296,133 households.

Solid Waste Removal

We are happy to see an 18% increase in the budget for refuse bags. How much of that is set aside for informal settlements specifically?

The increase of 1% in the budget for community-based contractors responsible for refuse removal and litter picking in informal settlements raises concerns. Many residents report irregular and non-existent services. How will such a small increase ensure regular refuse removal and litter picking across all informal settlements?