



**Western Cape Government**  
**Provincial Treasury**

**Socio-economic Profile**  
**Laingsburg Municipality**

**2015**

Working Paper

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# Laingsburg: At a Glance

## Demographics, 2015



Population

**8 383**



Households

**2 490**

## Education



Matric Pass Rate 2014 75.0%

Literacy Rate 2011 70.0%

## Poverty



Households earning less than R400 in 2011 7.3%

Per Capita Income 2013 R17 364

## Health, 2015



Primary Health Care Facilities

1

Immunisation Rate

72.1%

Maternal Mortality Ratio  
(per 100 000 live births)

1 030.9

Teenage Pregnancies -  
Delivery rate to women U/18

10.2%

## Safety and Security Actual number of crimes in 2014/15 year



Residential Burglaries

101

DUI

55

Drug-related

353

Murder

1

Sexual Crimes

10

## Access to Basic Service Delivery, 2014 Minimum service level



Water

98.6%

Refuse Removal

56.1%



Electricity

77.4%



Sanitation

81.9%



## Economy

GDP Growth  
2005 - 2013

2.6%

## Labour

Employment Growth  
2005 - 2013

-2.1%



## Broadband



Percentage of HH with access  
to Internet 2011

25.4%

Wi-Fi Hotspots by 2017

4

## Largest 3 Sectors, 2013

Finance, Insurance and  
Business Services

**22.9%**

Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing

**18.9%**

Wholesale and Retail Trade, Catering  
and Accommodation Services

**14.9%**



## Introduction

Regional profiles provide the Western Cape municipalities with valuable data and information which assist in planning, budgeting and the prioritisation of municipal services. It is acknowledged that municipalities across the Western Cape have different capacities and therefore will use the information in this publication to suit their own needs.

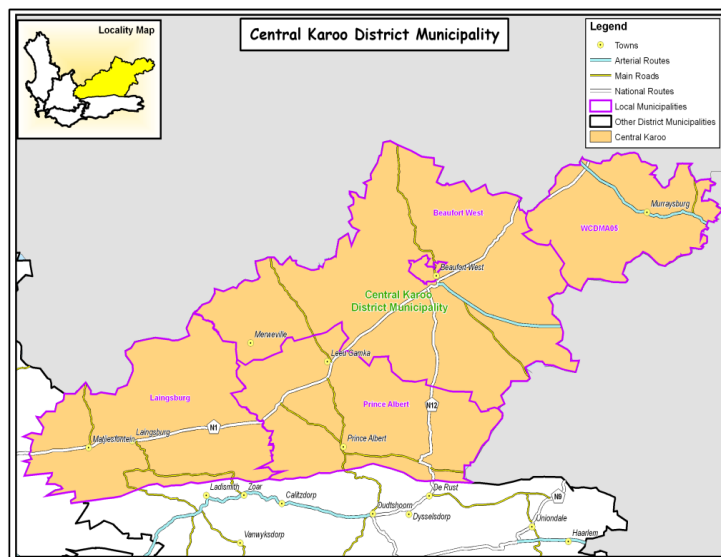
The 2015 Socio-economic Profiles builds upon the success of previous editions by providing updated information relating to demographics, education, health, poverty, safety and security, basic service delivery, economy, labour market and environmental management. New information has also been added in the form of ward specific basic service delivery statistics, broadband penetration rates as well as municipal specific Wi-Fi roll-out data.

The profile furthermore complements the socio-economic performance analysis of the Municipal Economic Review and Outlook (MERO) 2015 which was published in October 2015.

In all, the profile reflects the socio-economic reality of municipalities. As such, valuable insight can be gained as to the developmental challenges faced by communities residing within a specific geographical area.

This profile primarily uses data sourced from Statistics South Africa, administrative data from sector departments, the 2015 MERO and Quantec. The data sourced from sector departments are the most recent that is available. The latest survey data available at municipal level from Statistics South Africa includes the 2011 Census. The updated population forecasts by the Department of Social Development will assist municipalities with future planning.

The information contained in this profile therefore highlights information for **Laingsburg Municipality** in relation to the broader Western Cape Province.



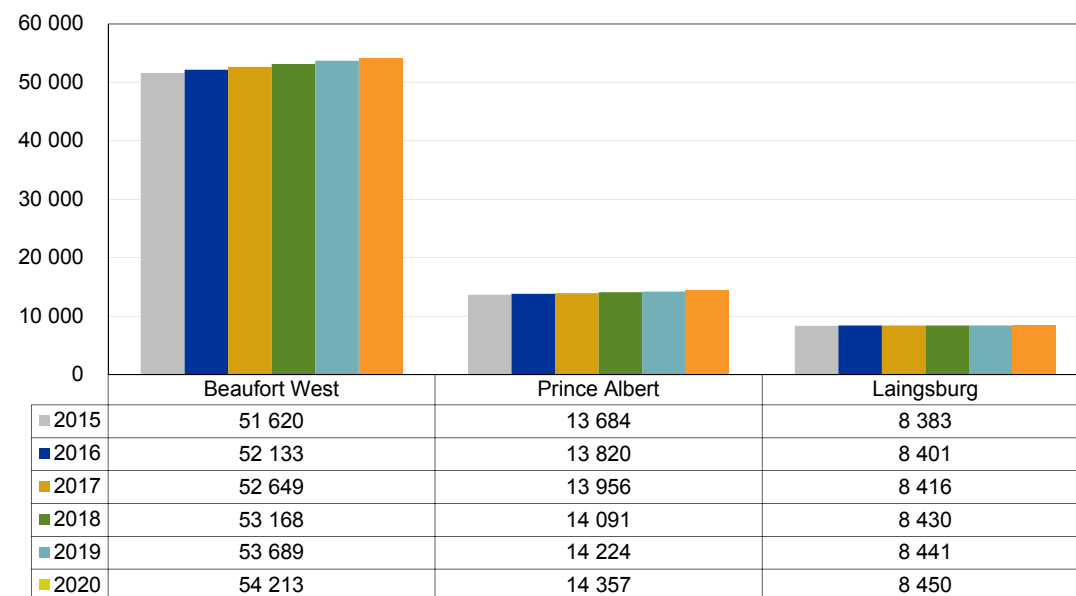
# 1. Demographics

## 1.1 Population

According to Census 2011 data, the Western Cape population grew at a rate of 2.6 per cent per annum between 2001 and 2011. This rate, which was higher than the national population growth rate of 1.5 per cent, can largely be attributed to an influx of individuals from other provinces that move to the Western Cape in search of job opportunities.

From this strong growth base, the Western Cape Department of Social Development was able to make accurate population growth projections for each municipality for the period 2015 - 2020. These projections will assist municipalities to align their budget allocations with basic service delivery priorities.

**Figure 1 Central Karoo District municipalities: Population projections, 2015 - 2020**

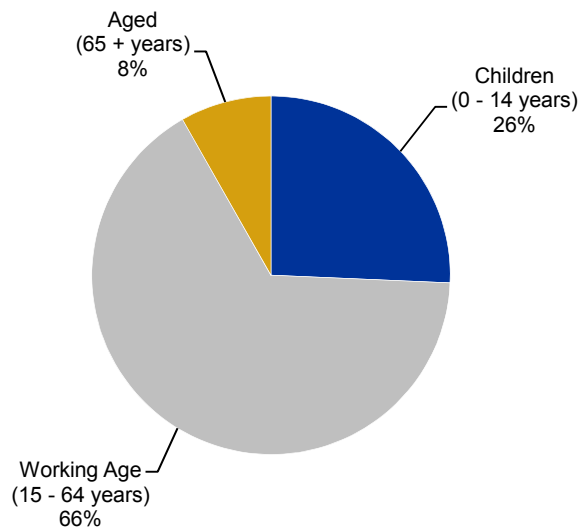


Source: Western Cape Department of Social Development, 2015

Of the three local municipalities within the Central Karoo District, Laingsburg Municipality has the lowest population which is currently estimated to be 8 383. This total gradually increases and is projected to reach 8 450 by 2020. This total equates to an approximate 0.79 per cent growth off the 2015 base estimate.



**Figure 2 Laingsburg: Population age cohort, 2015**

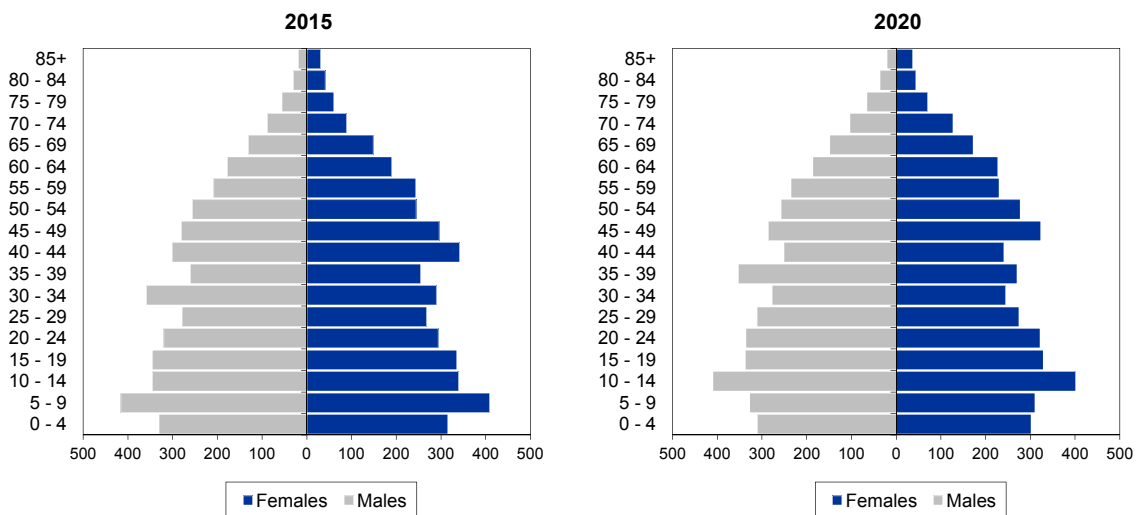


Source: Western Cape Department of Social Development, 2015

Figure 2 reflects the population age distribution of Laingsburg for 2015 and reveals that approximately 66 per cent of the 8 383 inhabitants of the Municipality are currently considered to be within the working age.

These figures reveal that Laingsburg has a total dependency ratio of 45.3 which is slightly lower than the 2013 total of 50.9 per cent. As higher dependency ratios imply greater strain on the working age to support their economic dependants (children and aged), this decrease bodes well for improved social security and enhanced economic growth.

**Figure 3 Laingsburg: Population pyramids, 2015 and 2020**



Source: Western Cape Department of Social Development, 2015

A population pyramid is a visual representation of a society's age and gender distribution and provides policymakers and scholars alike with valuable insight as to fertility, mortality and immigration rates. The population growth patterns between 2015 and 2020 are relatively similar in terms of age and gender with the exception of a decline in the 0 - 4 age group in this period. This is an indication that the Laingsburg population is ageing rapidly with more people approaching retirement age.

## 1.2 Households

In addition to population estimates, household projections form the basis of municipal service delivery planning and essentially inform budget allocations towards basic services such as water, electricity, sanitation and refuse removal. It is therefore vital that for budget planning and implementation purposes a municipality rely on credible and accurate household estimates.

**Table 1 Central Karoo District: Household estimates, 2011 - 2015**

| Municipality           | 2011   | 2012   | 2013   | 2014   | 2015   |
|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Central Karoo District | 19 576 | 19 860 | 20 147 | 20 434 | 20 730 |
| Laingsburg             | 2 363  | 2 394  | 2 426  | 2 458  | 2 490  |
| Prince Albert          | 3 709  | 3 753  | 3 797  | 3 842  | 3 887  |
| Beaufort West          | 13 504 | 13 713 | 13 924 | 14 134 | 14 353 |

Source: Quantec Research, 2015

As per Table 1, the total number of households in the Laingsburg Municipality was estimated to be 2 490 in 2015 which equates to a 1.3 per cent growth from 2014.

## 2. Education

Education and training improves access to employment opportunities and helps to sustain and accelerate overall levels of human and economic development. It expands the range of options available from which a person can choose to create opportunities for a fulfilling and accomplished life. Through indirect positive effects on health and life expectancy, the level of education of a population also influences its welfare and general well-being.

### 2.1 Literacy

Literacy is used to indicate a minimum education level attained. In laymen's terms, it is defined as the ability to read and write, but from a more theoretical perspective, literacy refers to the successful completion of a minimum of 7 years of formal education. Since most learners start school at the age of 7 years, the literacy rate is calculated as the proportion of those 14 years and older who have successfully completed a minimum of 7 years of formal education.

As per Census 2011 data, the literacy rate for Laingsburg was recorded at 70 per cent in 2011. This rate is substantially lower than the Western Cape average for the same year (87.2 per cent) and is also the second lowest literacy rate in the District.

## 2.2 Learner enrolment, the learner-teacher ratio and learner dropout rate

Population dynamics, which include knowledge of the current population profile and projected learner growth, provide a basis for sound education planning. By knowing the learner enrolment numbers of a municipality, the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) is not only able to determine current and future the demand levels for a particular school.

School exit-level statistics equip the WCED to plan more effectively in their effort to provide Further Education and Training (FET) opportunities.

In addition, learner-teacher ratios provide a good indication of how educational resources are allocated i.e. the amount of money spent to provide a child with formal education. Learner-teacher ratios are therefore also closely related to educational outcomes.

**Table 2 Central Karoo District municipalities: Education indicators**

| Municipality  | Learner enrolment          |          | Dropout rate              |  | Learner-teacher ratio              |   |
|---------------|----------------------------|----------|---------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---|
|               | 2013<br>(Gr 1 - 12 + LSEN) | ASS 2014 | Average dropout rate 2012 | Crude dropout rate using Yr 2013 - Gr 10 and Yr 2015 - Gr 12 | Average learner-teacher ratio 2012 | ASS 2014: ALL state+sgb+ substitutes teachers excl. practitioners and other |
| Laingsburg    | 2 154                      | 1 220    | 39.20%                    | 64.60%   | 30.8                               | 31.3  |
| Prince Albert | 1 221                      | 2 097    | 65.90%                    | 40.00%   | 21.9                               | 31.8  |
| Beaufort West | 10 688                     | 10 834   | 41.00%                    | 33.40%   | 30.8                               | 32.2  |

Source: Western Cape Department of Education, Annual Survey of public and independent Schools (ASS) 2014

According to the Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS) conducted by the WCED in 2014, **learner enrolment** in Laingsburg decreased from 2 154 students in 2013 to 1 220 in 2014. This decrease in learner enrolment could be due to a lack of finances and teenage pregnancies.

The average 2012 **learner dropout rate** for Laingsburg was recorded at 39.2 per cent. WCED records further indicate that 64.6 per cent of students that were in Grade 10 in 2013 dropped out of school by the time they reached Grade 12 in 2015. This is a particularly concerning trend given the ever increasing demand for skilled and highly skilled labour within the region.

The average **learner-teacher ratio** for Laingsburg increased from 30.8 in 2012 to 31.3 in 2014. This increase can, amongst other factors, be attributed to the higher learner enrolment figures coupled with lower teacher employment. The increase is nonetheless reason of concern as it is commonly assumed that children receive less personalised attention in larger class environments and that high learner-teacher ratios are detrimental to educational outcomes.

## 2.3 Education facilities

The availability of adequate education facilities such as schools, FET colleges and learning facilities equipped with libraries and media centres will have a positive effect on academic outcomes.

In 2014, there were a total of 4 schools in Laingsburg that had to accommodate 1 220 children. Given the current extent of economic hardship, increasing living costs are putting additional strain on parents to afford school fees. In an effort to alleviate some of the funding challenges and to grant children access to their fundamental right to basic education, the Western Cape Department of Education offered certain fee-paying schools to become no fee schools. To this extent, the majority of schools within Laingsburg (75 per cent) were considered no fee schools 2014 which bodes well to improve access to quality education. However, there are no FET colleges in Laingsburg municipal area. This is a concern as there is a demand of skills and high levels of unemployment within the municipal area.

As it has been well documented that there is a strong relationship between access to media centres and academic achievement, the fact that 2 out of 5 schools in Laingsburg had a media/library centre in 2014, bodes considerably well for future improved educational outcomes.

**Table 3 Central Karoo District municipalities: Education facilities, 2012 and 2014**

| Municipality  | Total number of schools<br>2014 Dec | Number/proportion of no fee schools |          | Public FET colleges - main + sat<br>ASS 2014 Lib | Education facilities: Number of schools with libraries/media centres |      |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|--|--|------|
|               |                                     | 2012                                | 2014 Dec |  | 2012   | 2014 |
| Laingsburg    | 4                                   | 100.00%                             | 75.00%   | 0  | 4  | 2    |
| Prince Albert | 5                                   | 60.00%                              | 80.00%   | 3  | 3  | 4    |
| Beaufort West | 20                                  | 80.00%                              | 80.00%   | 8  | 17   | 17   |

Source: Western Cape Department of Education, Annual Survey of public and independent Schools (ASS) 2014

## 2.4 Educational outcomes (Matric pass rate)

The matric pass rate for Laingsburg decreased from 100 per cent in 2013 to 75 per cent in 2014. This decrease could be attributed to several socio-economic factors such as increased teenage pregnancies, extent of substance abuse, learner-teacher ratios etc.

**Table 4 Central Karoo District municipalities: Education outcomes, 2013 - 2014**

| Municipality  | Education outcomes: Matric pass rate |       |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|-------|
|               | 2013                                 | 2014  |
| Laingsburg    | 100.0%                               | 75.0% |
| Prince Albert | 88.9%                                | 85.5% |
| Beaufort West | 78.4%                                | 67.6% |

Source: Western Cape Department of Education, Annual Survey of public and independent Schools (ASS) 2014

### 3. Health<sup>1</sup>

Good health is vital to achieve and maintain a quality of life. A diverse range of factors play a role in ensuring the good health of communities and that disease (especially preventable and contagious/communicable diseases) are kept at bay. Some of the factors include lifestyle features that also depend on the provision of high quality municipal services, such as clean water, sanitation and the removal of solid waste.

It should be noted that the information provided by the Department of Health as detailed in this section, only relates to public sector healthcare institutions. Any privately provided facilities or services are not reflected in below data.

#### 3.1 Healthcare services: Facilities and personnel

Access to healthcare facilities is directly dependent on the number and spread of facilities within a geographic space. South Africa's healthcare system is based on a three-tier system where patients must move from primary, with a referral system, to secondary and tertiary levels.

The Central Karoo has a range of primary healthcare facilities which includes 8 fixed clinics, 9 mobile/satellite clinics, 1 community day centre and 4 district hospitals.

**Table 5 Central Karoo District: Healthcare facilities, 2015**

| Municipality           | Number of PHC clinics - fixed | Number of PHC clinics - non-fixed (mobile/satellite) | Community Health centres | Community Day centres | Total number of PHC facilities (fixed clinics, CHCs and CDCs, excluding non-fixed) | Number of district hospitals | Number of regional hospitals | Emergency medical services: Number of operational ambulances per 100 000 population |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Central Karoo District | 8                             | 9  | 0                        | 1                     | 18   | 4                            | 0                            | 2.08  |
| Laingsburg             | 1                             | 2  | 0                        | 0                     | 3  | 1                            | 0                            | 3.56  |
| Prince Albert          | 2                             | 2  | 0                        | 0                     | 4  | 1                            | 0                            | 3.73  |
| Beaufort West          | 5                             | 5  | 0                        | 1                     | 11   | 2                            | 0                            | 1.39  |

Source: Western Cape Department of Health, 2015

Of these facilities, 1 fixed clinic, 2 mobile/satellite clinics and 1 district hospital are situated within Laingsburg. There are no regional hospitals in Laingsburg municipal area.

Emergency medical services (EMS) provide essential medical care, basic pre-hospital assistance and transport to healthcare facilities for injured individuals. To ensure availability and rapid response times in rural communities, where distances between towns are greater and where population densities are less than in the metropole, authorities commit more emergency medical services. To this end, there are an average of 2 ambulances per 100 000 population within the greater Central Karoo

<sup>1</sup> Information received from the Western Cape Department of Health including information from the Department's 2015/16 Annual Performance Plan and the Department's website.

District. Laingsburg has the second highest number of ambulances (3.56) per 100 000 people.

In comparison to the other 5 district areas of the Western Cape (including the City of Cape Town), the Central Karoo District has a relatively below average healthcare personnel dispensation. For example, there are 19.4 medical officers per 100 000 people in the municipal area (3<sup>rd</sup> lowest). Similarly, there are 38.7 staff nurses per 100 000 people (again, 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest). The Central Karoo does however have the highest number of professional nurses (132.8) of all other districts in the Province.

**Table 6 Western Cape: Healthcare personnel, 2015**

| Regional area           | Number of medical officers* | Number of professional nurses* | Number of staff nurses* | Number of nursing assistants* |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Western Cape            | 33.4                        | 99.2                           | 40.3                    | 66.5                          |
| City of Cape Town       | 42.1                        | 107.8                          | 42.4                    | 79.1                          |
| West Coast District     | 9.3                         | 63.8                           | 31.8                    | 34.8                          |
| Cape Winelands District | 22.3                        | 84.8                           | 41.4                    | 49.2                          |
| Overberg District       | 11.5                        | 70.6                           | 24.7                    | 31.9                          |
| Eden District           | 20.7                        | 97.1                           | 39.0                    | 45.8                          |
| Central Karoo District  | 19.4                        | 132.8                          | 38.7                    | 74.7                          |

\* Per 100 000 people

Source: Western Cape Department of Health, 2015

### 3.2 HIV, AIDS and Tuberculosis treatment and care

Although treatment and care is essential in the management of HIV and AIDS, the need for and importance of preventative care cannot be over-emphasised, especially since to date, there is no known cure.

**Table 7 Central Karoo District: HIV, AIDS and Tuberculosis prevalence, 2015**

| Municipality           | HIV - Antiretroviral treatment |                             |                             |                                   |   | Tuberculosis                  |                               |                               |  |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
|                        | ART patient load March 2013    | ART patient load March 2014 | ART patient load March 2015 | Mother-to-child transmission rate | Number of ART clinics/ treatment sites 2015 | Number of TB patients 2012/13 | Number of TB patients 2013/14 | Number of TB patients 2014/15 | Number of TB clinics/ treatment sites 2015 |
| Central Karoo District | 949                            | 1 174                       | 1 418                       | 3.4%                              | 11  | 621                           | 590                           | 644                           | 22   |
| Laingsburg             | 78                             | 119                         | 117                         | 0.0%                              | 1   | 61                            | 52                            | 73                            | 3  |
| Prince Albert          | 131                            | 151                         | 242                         | 0.0%                              | 3   | 130                           | 119                           | 124                           | 6  |
| Beaufort West          | 740                            | 904                         | 1 059                       | 3.7%                              | 7   | 430                           | 419                           | 447                           | 13   |

Source: Western Cape Department of Health, 2015

As at June 2013, anti-retroviral treatment (ART) was provided to over 130 000 persons in the Western Cape of whom 949 were in the Central Karoo District. By March 2015, the Central Karoo District share of ART increased to 1 418. In comparison, 78 people received ARV treatment in Laingsburg in 2013. This number increased slightly to 119 in 2014. Treatment to these patients was in 2015 administered from 1 treatment site within Laingsburg Municipality.

In addition to improving the quality of life of the patient, anti-retroviral treatment to mothers both before and at birth, also significantly decreases the chances of infants contracting HIV from their infected mothers. Recent data obtained from the Western Cape Department of Health reveals that for the 2014/15 year, Laingsburg had a zero mother-to-child transmission rate. This low figure can possibly be attributed to the occurrences were mothers living in Laingsburg and Prince Albert seek treatment in Beaufort West where the transmissions are then recorded.

Tuberculosis (TB), a highly infectious yet curable bacterial disease, poses a significant threat to the long-term health of South African citizens, especially those in the Western Cape. It is estimated that approximately one out of ten people contract this disease and if not treated, the infectious person can affect 20 other people or more in a year. TB can only be cured if the full course of treatment, which can be from six to eight months, is completed. People who stop treatment are likely to develop multi-drug resistance, making the TB more difficult to cure. These cases are treated at TB specialist clinics. TB can be fatal if not treated.

The HIV epidemic has led to an enormous increase in the number of TB cases as people living with HIV are far more susceptible to TB infection, and are less able to fight it off. TB is responsible for a third of all deaths in HIV-infected people.

The number of registered TB patients in the Central Karoo decreased slightly from 621 in 2012/13 to 590 in 2013/14 before gradually increasing again to 644 in 2014/15. Laingsburg mirrored this pattern as the number of patients decreased from 61 in 2012/13 to 52 in 2013/14 before rising slightly to 124 in 2014/15.

There are currently 22 TB treatment centres in the Central Karoo of which 3 are located within the Laingsburg municipal area.

### **3.3 Child health: Immunisation<sup>2</sup>, malnutrition, neonatal mortality, low birth weight**

**Immunisation:** Immunisation protects both adults and children against preventable infectious diseases. Low immunisation rates speak to the need for parents to understand the critical importance of immunisation, as well as the need to encourage parents to have their young children immunised. In the 2014/15 financial year, the full child immunisation coverage rate for the Central Karoo was 77 per cent. Laingsburg maintained a slightly lower rate of 72 per cent.

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<sup>2</sup> The immunisation rate is calculated as the number of children immunised as a percentage of the total number of children less than one year of age. If children who are one year or older are immunised, the immunisation rate for that year could be greater than 100 per cent because more than 100 per cent of children aged less than one year would have been immunised in that particular year.

**Malnutrition:** Malnutrition (either under- or over nutrition) refers to the condition whereby an individual does not receive adequate amounts, or receives excessive amounts, of nutrients. The number of malnourished children under five years in the Central Karoo was 10.78 per 100 000 in 2014/15. No children under 5 years of age were malnourished in Laingsburg – the lowest rate amongst all local municipalities in the Western Cape.

**Table 8 Central Karoo District: Child and maternal health, 2014/15**

| Municipality           | Child health                            |  |                         |                  | Maternal health          |                                       |                               |
|------------------------|---|--|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                        | Full immunisation coverage under 1 year | Severely malnutrition rate under 5 years | Neonatal mortality rate | Low birth weight | Maternal mortality ratio | Delivery rate to women under 18 years | Termination of pregnancy rate |
| Central Karoo District | 77%                                     | 10.78                                    | 14.8                    | 21%              | 371.1                    | 9.2%                                  | 0.0%                          |
| Laingsburg             | 72%                                     | 0.00                                     | 30.9                    | 25%              | 1 030.9                  | 10.2%                                 | 0.0%                          |
| Prince Albert          | 76%                                     | 16.25                                    | 7.8                     | 31%              | 781.3                    | 14.3%                                 | 0.0%                          |
| Beaufort West          | 78%                                     | 11.05                                    | 14.1                    | 19%              | 234.5                    | 8.4%                                  | 0.0%                          |

Source: Western Cape Department of Health, 2015

**Neonatal mortality rate:** The first 28 days after birth - the neonatal period - represent the most vulnerable time for a child's life. The neonatal mortality rate reflect the number of neonates dying before reaching 28 days of age, per 1 000 live births in a given year. The neonatal mortality rate for Laingsburg was 30.9 for the 2014/15 year. This is the highest compared to other municipalities in the District which places the Municipality in a disadvantaged position to achieve the Province's target of limiting deaths to 6 per 1 000 live births by 2019.

**Low birth weight:** Low birth weight is defined as weight at birth of less than 2 500 g. Low birth weight is associated with a range of both short and long term consequences. In the Central Karoo, 21 per cent of babies had a low birth weight. At 25 per cent, Laingsburg had the second highest percentage of babies with a low birth weight in the District in 2014/15.

### 3.4 Maternal health: Maternal mortality, births to teenage mothers, termination of pregnancy

Maternal health refers to the health of women during pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period.

**Maternal mortality<sup>3</sup>:** Maternal death is death occurring during pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium<sup>4</sup> of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of pregnancy and irrespective of the cause of death (obstetric and non-obstetric). Statistics for Laingsburg reveal a maternal mortality ratio of 1 030.9 per 100 000 live births. This is the highest maternal mortality rate of all local municipalities in the Western Cape.

<sup>3</sup> Maternal deaths per 100 000 live births in health facilities.

<sup>4</sup> Puerperium is defined as the time from the delivery of the placenta through the first few weeks after the delivery. This period is usually considered to be 6 weeks in duration.



**Births to teenage mothers:** Teenage pregnancy is almost always unplanned. As a result when young parents are placed in a position to care for their children, life can become particularly tough, especially if they do not have family or social support. In the 2014/15 financial year, the delivery rate to women under 18 years in the Central Karoo was 9.2 per cent. Laingsburg's rate of 10.2 per cent was the second highest in the District.

**Termination of pregnancy:** Government hospitals designated private doctors and gynaecologists as well as non-profit service providers offer safe and legal termination of pregnancy procedures. To have an abortion done without any costs to the patient, the request must be made at a primary healthcare clinic, where the pregnancy will be confirmed, counselling provided, an appointment made, and a referral letter be given to a facility where the procedure can be performed.

All of the municipalities in the Central Karoo had a zero termination of pregnancy rate<sup>5</sup> in 2014/15.

### 3.5 Community based services

Community based services (CBS) in the Western Cape are provided by non-profit organisations (NPOs). Home CBS does not replace the family as the primary caregiver; it is meant to be a complementary and supportive service to the family to prevent 'burn-out' for family caregivers who care for sick relatives.

**Table 9 Central Karoo District: Community based services, 2015**

| Municipality           | Community based services                                      |                        |  |
|------------------------|---|------------------------|--|
|                        | Total number of non-profit organisation appointed home carers | Total number of visits | Average number of monthly visits per carer |
| Central Karoo District | 75  | 361 549                | 402  |
| Laingsburg             | 0   | 0                      | 0  |
| Prince Albert          | 30  | 71 550                 | 199  |
| Beaufort West          | 45  | 289 999                | 537  |

Source: Western Cape Department of Health, 2015

The total number of NPO appointed carers in the Central Karoo during 2014/15 was 75, on average carrying out 402 monthly visits. There are currently no home carers within Laingsburg.

<sup>5</sup> Termination of pregnancy rate is calculated as the percentage of terminations as a proportion of the female population aged 15 to 44 years.

## 4. Poverty

In an effort to alleviate poverty and reduce inequality, the National Development Plan has set the objective of having zero households earn less than R418 per month by 2030.

As per Table 10, Laingsburg Municipality was in 2011 still behind this target with approximately 5.3 per cent of its 2 363 households that earned less than R400 a month. Lower levels of household income increases indigent dependency on municipal support. Municipal resources are therefore strained in an effort to provide free basic services.

**Table 10 Central Karoo District: Household income, 2011**

| Municipality           | None income | R1 - R4 800 | R4 801 - R9 600 | R9 601 - R19 600 | R19 601 - R38 200 | R38 201 - R76 400 | R76 401 - R153 800 | R153 801 - R307 600 | R307 601 - R614 400 | R614 001 - R1 228 800 | R1 228 801 - R2 457 600 | R2 457 601 or more |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Central Karoo District | 8.4         | 3.1         | 5.5             | 21.2             | 24.5              | 16.5              | 9.7                | 6.8                 | 3.2                 | 0.7                   | 0.3                     | 0.2                |
| Laingsburg             | 5.3         | 2.0         | 2.9             | 20.9             | 25.4              | 21.8              | 11.0               | 6.6                 | 2.9                 | 0.7                   | 0.5                     | 0.1                |
| Prince Albert          | 6.3         | 3.3         | 6.1             | 19.7             | 26.7              | 17.1              | 9.4                | 6.5                 | 3.6                 | 0.6                   | 0.3                     | 0.3                |
| Beaufort West          | 9.5         | 3.3         | 5.8             | 21.7             | 23.8              | 15.3              | 9.5                | 6.9                 | 3.2                 | 0.7                   | 0.2                     | 0.2                |

Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2011

Measuring levels of poverty and inequality for the period 2006 to 2011, Statistics South Africa's 2014 Poverty Trends Report specifies that the lower-bound poverty line (LBPL) for March 2011 was set at R443 (per capita, inflation adjusted poverty line) meaning that any individual earning less than R443 a month would have to sacrifice essential food items in order to obtain non-food goods. Compared to the above specified average household income data, it is concerning to note that approximately 125 households (5.3 per cent of 2 363) in Laingsburg earned less than R400 a month in 2011 therefore had to survive on less than what an individual person requires as per the LBPL measure. It is National Government's NDP goal to have zero per cent of household to earn less than R418 per month by 2030 of which Laingsburg is lagging behind. The high levels of poverty imply great strain on municipal resources to provide free basic services.

**Table 11 Central Karoo District: Per capita income, 2011 - 2013**

| Regional area          | Per capita income (R) |        |        |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------|--------|
|                        | 2011                  | 2012   | 2013   |
| Western Cape           | 43 614                | 44 291 | 44 553 |
| Central Karoo District | 21 415                | 21 755 | 21 917 |
| Laingsburg             | 17 021                | 17 210 | 17 364 |
| Prince Albert          | 16 328                | 16 633 | 16 786 |
| Beaufort West          | 21 036                | 21 401 | 21 485 |

Source: Own calculations, Department of Social Development, 2015 and Quantec, 2015

Income per capita has nevertheless been on the rise within Laingsburg, even though very small at 0.89 per cent between 2012 and 2013, as a result of the economy growing at a faster rate than the population, but is only R17 364 per annum compared to the 2030 NDP goal of R110 000.

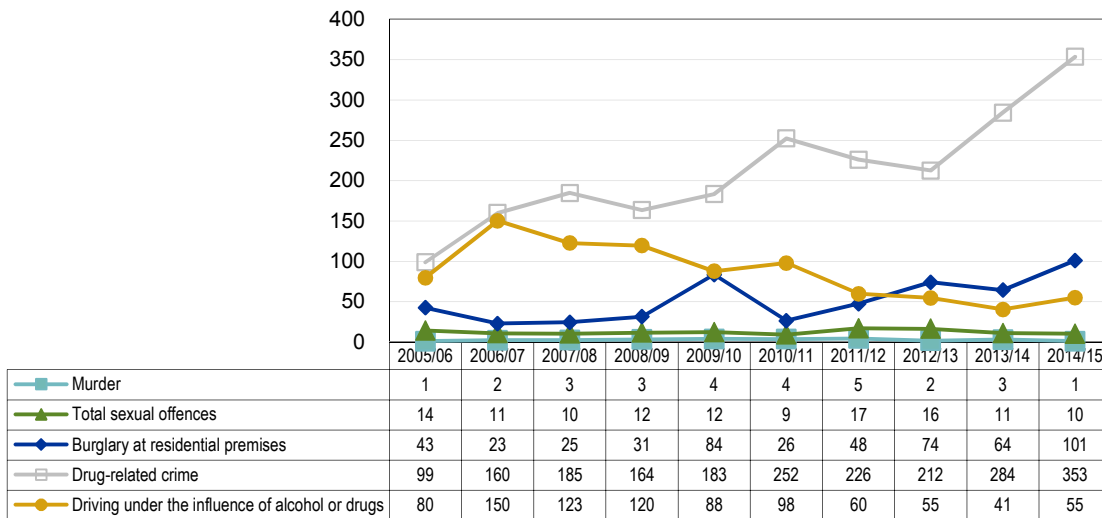
## 5. Safety and security

The Constitution upholds the notion that everybody has the right to freedom and security of the person. The safety of persons and property is therefore vitally important to the physical and emotional well-being of people and business. Without the respect of person and property, it would be impossible for people to live peacefully, without fear of attack and for businesses to flourish.

The extent of crime in South Africa does however not only have a significant impact on the livelihood of citizens, but also affects the general economy. Crime hampers growth and discourages investment and capital accumulation. If not addressed with seriousness, it has the potential to derail both social and economic prosperity.

People's general impressions, as well as official statistics on safety and crime issues, mould perceptions of areas as living spaces or place in which to establish businesses. The discussion in this section that follows is limited to the reported contact and property-related crime such as murder and sexual crimes, as well as crime heavily dependent on police action for detecting drug-related crimes and driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

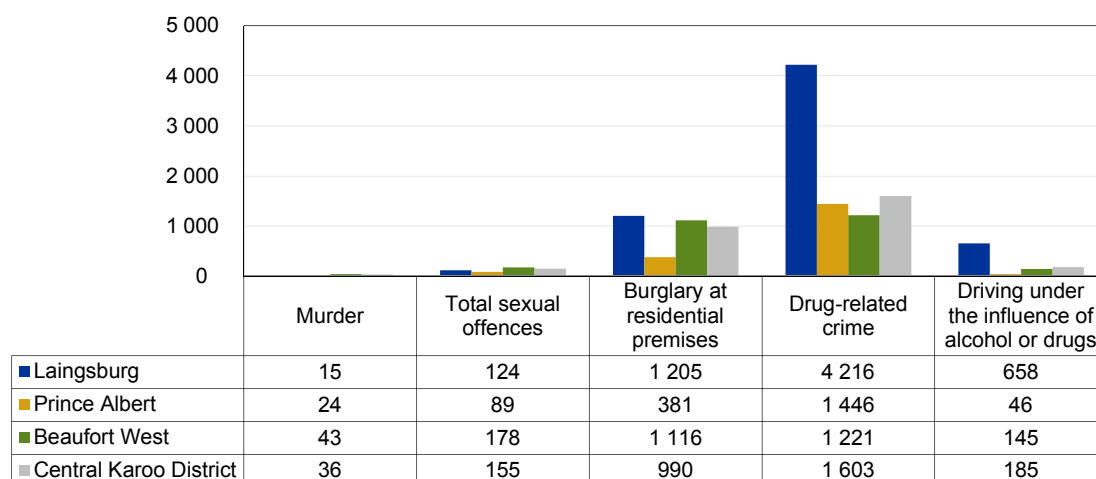
**Figure 4 Laingsburg: Crime statistics, 2005/06 - 2014/15**



Source: Quantec Research, 2015

The categories pertaining to drug-related offences and burglary at residential premises are dominant in relation to crime within Laingsburg during 2014/15. Drug-related crimes quite significantly increased from 284 in 2013/14 to 353 in 2014/15 financial year, whilst burglaries at residential properties also increased from 64 in 2013/14 to 101 in the 2014/15 financial year.

The number of sexual crimes declined from 11 in 2013/14 to 10 in 2014/15 financial year. Murder decreased from 3 in 2013/14 to 1 in 2014/15 financial year.

**Figure 5 Central Karoo District: Crime statistics per 100 000, 2014/15**

Source: Quantec Research, 2015

It is customary to express occurrences of crime per 100 000 as to allow for an easy comparison between areas with different population densities.

In comparison to the other local municipalities in the region and the District average, crime per 100 000 population has been relatively high in Laingsburg in 2014/15. To this extent, Laingsburg had the highest occurrences of drug-related crime, residential burglaries, as well as driving whilst under the influence.

Drug-related crimes - possession, manufacturing, distribution of illegal substances (including alcohol related transgressions) – does however remain a major concern throughout the Central Karoo with an average of 1 603 crimes per 100 000. Drug-related crimes has a severe negative impact on human development by degrading the quality of life as it infiltrates all aspects of society including families, health, the work environment and the economy. Laingsburg have the highest incidence of such crimes at 4 216 per 100 000.

Given its regular occurrence and the psychological impact on victims, residential burglaries are an obstinate concern in South Africa. The Central Karoo is no exception, with residential burglaries being the second most prominent criminal offence among all local municipalities at an average of 990 occurrences per 100 000. Laingsburg has the highest rate in the District at 1 205 per 100 000.

## 6. Basic services

Access to basic services within South Africa is a fundamental human right. It is also an indication of the quality of life of the inhabitants in the country. Access to basic services has a wider impact on education and health and therefore also on the economy. The 2015 Municipal Economic Review and Outlook further highlight the positive economic impact of basic infrastructure spending on the overall economy.

The levels of access to basic services will be discussed below in terms of access to water, sanitation, energy, refuse removal and housing.

The 2015 Socio-economic Profile also contains a breakdown of access to basic services for each ward within the Laingsburg Municipality, hereto attached as an Annexure. This information provides the Municipality with a detailed overview of ground-level access to basic services that will assist in the allocation of resources towards the areas of most need. This data will also in future inform the Municipality's service delivery budget and implementation plan which, as per MFMA Circular 3, must contain a ward-specific capital works plan.

## 6.1 Access to water

According to the National Development Plan (NDP) all households must by 2030 have access to potable water above the minimum service level. This minimum service level is defined as any household with access to piped water less than 200 meters from their dwelling.

Table 12 reflects household access to potable water amongst the local municipalities of the Central Karoo District in 2014.

**Table 12 Central Karoo District: Access to water, 2014**

| Regional area          | Piped water inside dwelling | Piped water inside yard | Piped water less than 200 m from dwelling | Piped water more than 200 m from dwelling | Borehole/ rain-water tank/well | Dam/river stream/spring | Water-carrier tanker/water vendor | Other/ Unspecified |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Western Cape           | 74.1                        | 13.8                    | 8.7                                       | 2.5                                       | 0.1                            | 0.1                     | 0.1                               | 0.6                |
| Central Karoo District | 77.0                        | 20.0                    | 1.1                                       | 1.3                                       | 0.2                            | 0.1                     | 0.1                               | 0.2                |
| Laingsburg             | 62.9                        | 34.2                    | 1.5                                       | 0.6                                       | 0.4                            | 0.0                     | 0.2                               | 0.1                |
| Prince Albert          | 69.9                        | 25.8                    | 2.7                                       | 1.0                                       | 0.2                            | 0.3                     | 0.1                               | 0.1                |
| Beaufort West          | 81.2                        | 16.2                    | 0.5                                       | 1.5                                       | 0.2                            | 0.1                     | 0.0                               | 0.3                |

Source: Quantec Research, 2015

As per Table 12, 62.9 per cent of households within Laingsburg had access to piped water inside their dwelling with an additional 34.2 per cent of households having access to piped water within the parameters of their yard. In turn, a total of 1.5 per cent of households had access to piped water less than 200 meters from their dwelling. A total of 98.6 per cent of the 2 458 households in Laingsburg therefore had access to potable water above the minimum service level in 2014. This figure is relatively on par with the District's 98.1 per cent and slightly higher than the Provincial total of 96.6 per cent.

The Municipality is therefore on track to achieve the minimum service level target as envisaged by the NDP.

Blue Drop Certification reflects on the actual quality of tap water within a municipality. It further acknowledges a municipality's ability to sustain this quality and provides an indication of preparedness to deal with any incident that may pose a water related health risk to the public. The certification process attributes a weighted score according to a municipality's performance measured against a specific set of water management criteria such as water safety planning, drinking water quality process management and control, drinking water quality compliance etc. Municipalities that overall scores above 95 per cent are officially awarded the prestigious Blue Drop Status.

Laingsburg achieved a 71.16 per cent percentage score for 2011. Although the Municipality can be commended for this compliance achievement given its limited resources and revenue base, there is significant room to improve its rating.

## 6.2 Access to refuse removal

Inadequate waste services lead to unpleasant living conditions and a contaminated, unhealthy physical environment. For this reason municipalities across the country provide their inhabitants with waste removal services.

**Table 13 Central Karoo District: Access to refuse removal, 2014**

| Regional area          | Removed at least once a week | Removed less often | Communal refuse dump | Own refuse dump | No rubbish disposal | Unspecified/other |
|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Western Cape           | 89.8                         | 1.2                | 2.8                  | 4.6             | 1                   | 0.6               |
| Central Karoo District | 78.9                         | 1                  | 1.6                  | 16.5            | 1.3                 | 0.6               |
| Laingsburg             | 56.1                         | 6.6                | 5.5                  | 29.7            | 1.5                 | 0.6               |
| Prince Albert          | 73.8                         | 0.6                | 1.4                  | 19.5            | 3.2                 | 1.4               |
| Beaufort West          | 84.0                         | 0.2                | 1.1                  | 13.5            | 0.8                 | 0.5               |

Source: Quantec Research, 2015

From a refuse removal perspective, the minimum service level is considered to be the removal of refuse at least once a week. Table 13 indicates that 56.1 per cent of the households within Laingsburg had their refuse removed at least once a week.

This service level is lower than the Central Karoo and Western Cape averages. It is further concerning to note that 29.7 per cent of the households in Laingsburg make use of their own refuse dumps. It is however assumed that these figures are influenced by households residing on outlying privately-owned farms that are not serviced by the Municipality.

## 6.3 Access to electricity

Table 14 reflects the different sources of energy used for lighting by households in the Central Karoo during 2014.

**Table 14 Central Karoo District: Access to electricity, 2014**

| Municipality           | Electricity | Gas | Paraffin | Candles | Solar/other/<br>unspecified |
|------------------------|-------------|-----|----------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Central Karoo District | 89.8        | 0.3 | 0.5      | 6.5     | 2.9                         |
| Laingsburg             | 77.4        | 0.4 | 0.9      | 12.9    | 8.3                         |
| Prince Albert          | 86.8        | 0.0 | 0.3      | 8.6     | 4.3                         |
| Beaufort West          | 92.6        | 0.3 | 0.4      | 4.9     | 1.7                         |

Source: Quantec Research, 2015

Table 14 indicates that 77.4 per cent of households in Laingsburg relied on electricity as their main source of energy in 2014. This is the lowest compared to other municipalities in the District.

There is however a concerning trend throughout the District where several households' only source of lighting is candles. In Laingsburg, 12.9 per cent of households in 2014 still relied on candles as their primary lighting source. In comparison, 4.9 per cent of households in Beaufort West suffered the same fate. The Central Karoo average is 6.5 per cent. This is the highest in the District compared to other municipalities.

## 6.4 Access to sanitation

Access to sanitation is one of the most essential basic services as it concerns the health and dignity of human beings. Table 15 shows the type of sanitation facilities available to households in the Central Karoo in 2014.

**Table 15 Central Karoo District: Access to sanitation, 2014**

| Municipality           | Flush or<br>chemical toilet | Pit latrine | Bucket latrine | Not listed<br>elsewhere |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| Central Karoo District | 89.2                        | 4.9         | 1.3            | 4.6                     |
| Laingsburg             | 81.9                        | 9.2         | 1.6            | 7.2                     |
| Prince Albert          | 81.4                        | 7.0         | 4.2            | 7.4                     |
| Beaufort West          | 92.4                        | 3.6         | 0.5            | 3.4                     |

Source: Quantec Research, 2015

In 2014, 81.9 per cent of households in Laingsburg had access to flush toilets connected to a sewerage/septic tank. Laingsburg's access level was lower than the District average of 89.2 per cent.

There is however a major concern regarding the presence of the bucket/pit latrine system. Table 15 indicates that there were in 2014 still 10.8 per cent of all households in the municipal area that relied on a bucket/pit latrine.

## 6.5 Housing

Decent housing with the relevant basic services is essential for human security, dignity and well-being.

**Table 16 Central Karoo District: Types of housing structures, 2014**

| Municipality           | House or brick structure on a separate stand or yard | Traditional dwelling | Flat in a block of flats | Town/cluster/semi-detached house (simplex, duplex or triplex) | House/flat/room in backyard | Informal dwelling/s shack in backyard | Informal dwelling/shack NOT in backyard, e.g. in an informal/squatter settlement | Room/flatlet not in backyard but on a shared property | Other |
|------------------------|--|----------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|-------|
| Central Karoo District | 86.0   | 0.4                  | 0.8                      | 7.9   | 2.0                         | 0.9                                   | 0.9  | 0.4   | 0.7   |
| Laingsburg             | 77.6   | 1.0                  | 0.3                      | 15.8  | 1.4                         | 1.1                                   | 0.3  | 1.1   | 1.4   |
| Prince Albert          | 91.0   | 0.6                  | 0.3                      | 1.2   | 0.9                         | 1.5                                   | 2.6  | 0.9   | 1.0   |
| Beaufort West          | 86.0   | 0.3                  | 1.0                      | 8.4   | 2.3                         | 0.7                                   | 0.5  | 0.1   | 0.5   |

Source: Quantec Research, 2015

Table 16 indicates that the majority of households in Laingsburg had access to sufficient housing structures within 2014.

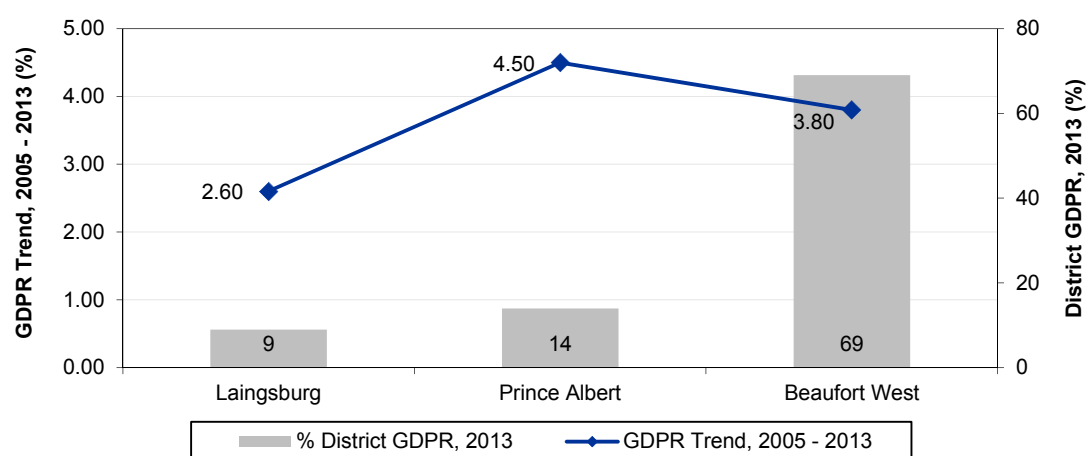
A total of 77.6 per cent of households within the Municipality had access to a house or brick structure on a separate stand or yard whilst 15.8 per cent of households occupied a town/cluster/semi-detached house. In addition, 0.3 per cent of households occupied a flat in a block of flats whilst 1.4 per cent of households stayed in a house, flat or room in a backyard.

A total of 95.1 per cent of households therefore had access to adequate housing within Laingsburg.

There is however a concern that 1.4 per cent of households occupied an informal dwelling.

## 7. Economy

Laingsburg is the smallest municipal economy in the Central Karoo and in the Province, generating R256 million (or 9.5 per cent) of the District's R2.7 billion GDPR in 2013.

**Figure 6 Central Karoo District municipalities: GDPR growth, 2005 - 2013**

Source: Municipal Economic Review and Outlook (MERO), 2015



This growth is not only above the District's average of 3.9 per cent, but also significantly above that of the Province on 3.4 per cent over the same period. The overall economic growth and employment performance of the municipal economy has been weak. Growth averaged 2.6 per cent per annum, 2005 - 2013 and the region witnessed net job losses in each calendar year over this period, except during 2008 and 2013.

**Table 17 Central Karoo District: GDP growth, 2000 - 2013**

| Municipality           | Real GDP growth (average yoy %) |             |             |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                        | Expansion                       | Recession   | Recovery    |
|                        | 2000 - 2007                     | 2008 - 2009 | 2010 - 2013 |
| Central Karoo District | 4.3                             | 3.4         | 2.6         |
| Laingsburg             | 2.4                             | 2.7         | 2           |
| Prince Albert          | 4.2                             | 4.9         | 3.1         |
| Beaufort West          | 4.6                             | 2.8         | 2.6         |

Source: *Municipal Economic Review and Outlook (MERO), 2015*

As per Table 17, Laingsburg managed to grow by 2.7 per cent per annum during the recessionary period (2008 - 2009). The growth rate of the Municipality contracted during the recovery period (2010 - 2013) to 2 per cent which is significantly off the trend rate of 4.5 per cent.

Above growth is underscored by significant variations in industry-specific growth rates. Growth in a particular industry depends on a number of factors (economies of scale, technological developments and demand trends among others) which often diverge among industries. Table 18 displays the industry-specific growth rates for each municipality in the Central Karoo District.

**Table 18 Central Karoo District, Sectoral growth, 2005 - 2013**

| Industry   | Laingsburg | Prince Albert | Beaufort West | Central Karoo District |
|--|------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------|
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing                              | -0.6       | -1.6          | -1.1          | -0.7                   |
| Manufacturing  | 11.6       | 1.3           | 8.4           | 8.8                    |
| Construction   | 8.9        | 11.6          | 7.3           | 8.6                    |
| Commercial services  | 2.2        | 6.8           | 3.4           | 3.9                    |
| General government and Community, social and personal services | 1.5        | 2.2           | 4.2           | 3.5                    |
| Other  | 4.9        | 0             | -2.1          | 0.7                    |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>2.6</b> | <b>4.5</b>    | <b>3.8</b>    | <b>3.9</b>             |

Source: *Municipal Economic Review and Outlook (MERO), 2015*

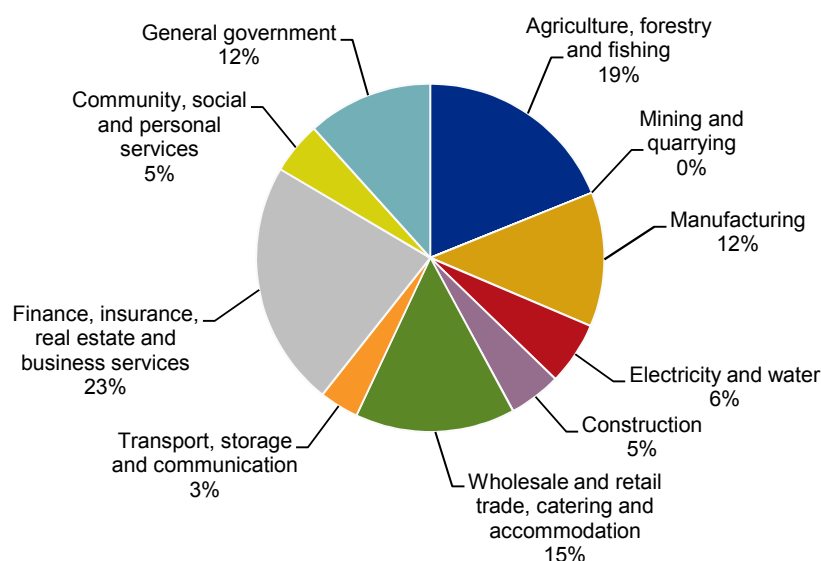
As mentioned previously, Laingsburg has been the lowest growing municipality in the District at 2.6 per cent for the period 2005 - 2013.

This performance was largely supported by strong growth within the manufacturing and construction who maintained average growth of 11.6 and 8.9 per cent respectively – the two fastest growing sectors within Laingsburg.

Growth within the commercial services sector (2.2 per cent) and general government and community, social and personal (CSP) services sector (1.5 per cent) were less favourable. At 2.2 per cent, commercial services growth was particularly weak in comparison to the other local municipalities and the District average of 3.9 per cent.

Laingsburg experienced contracted growth within the agriculture sector which, in particular the declining real income generated from the agriculture sector, potentially influenced growth in other service sectors. The retracting trend within the agriculture sector was notable throughout the District.

**Figure 7 Laingsburg: Sectoral composition, 2013**



Source: *Municipal Economic Review and Outlook (MERO), 2015*

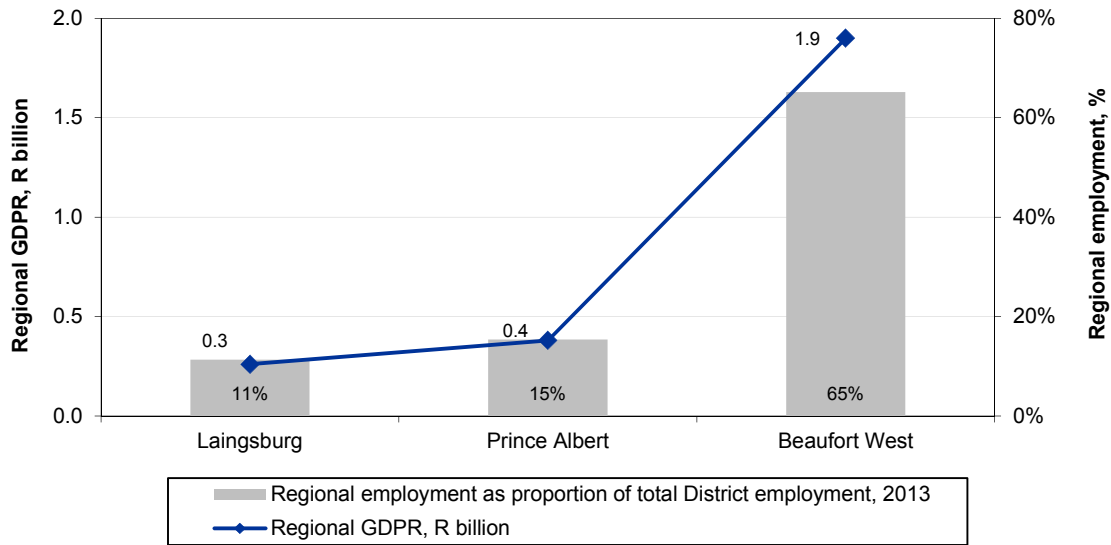
As per Figure 7, the three largest contributors to GDP in 2013 for Laingsburg were the finance, insurance, real estate and business services (23 per cent), agriculture, forestry and fishing (19 per cent) as well as the wholesale and retail trade, catering and accommodation (15 per cent) sectors. The former two sectors are grouped within the broader commercial services sector which, as per Table 18, maintained the second highest growth rate throughout the period 2005 - 2013.

## 8. Labour market

In terms of contributions to GDP, Laingsburg is the smallest regional economy in the Central Karoo (9.5 per cent in 2013). This contribution is however eclipsed by the economy of Beaufort West which contributed 69 per cent to GDP. Figure 8 reveals that Laingsburg employs 1 650 (or 11.2 per cent) of the CKD's 14 600 strong workforce.

Compared to Beaufort West and Prince Albert, the Laingsburg economy has a relatively larger agriculture sector, accounting for close to a third of employment in the region, and a relatively smaller commercial services sector (employing another almost third of the workforce).

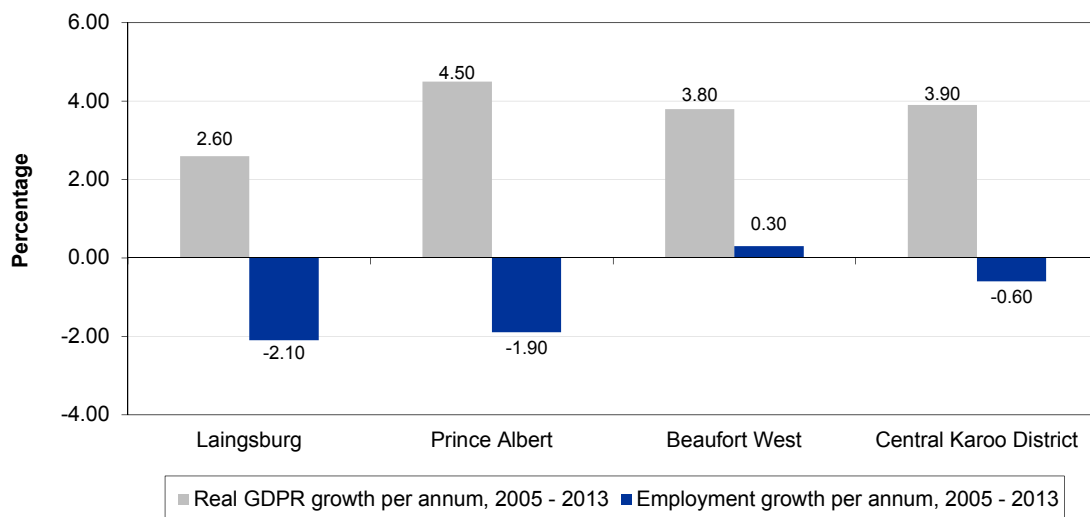
**Figure 8 Central Karoo District municipalities: Municipal GDPR vs municipal employment, 2013**



Source: *Municipal Economic Review and Outlook (MERO), 2015*

Figure 9 provides a comparison of the annual municipal GDPR growth rate and annual employment growth rate of the local municipalities within the District. Apart from 2008, when real economic growth peaked at 6 per cent, overall economic growth and employment performance of the regional economy has been weak. Growth averaged 2.6 per cent per annum, 2005 - 2013, and the region witnessed net job losses in each calendar year over this period, except during 2008 and 2013.

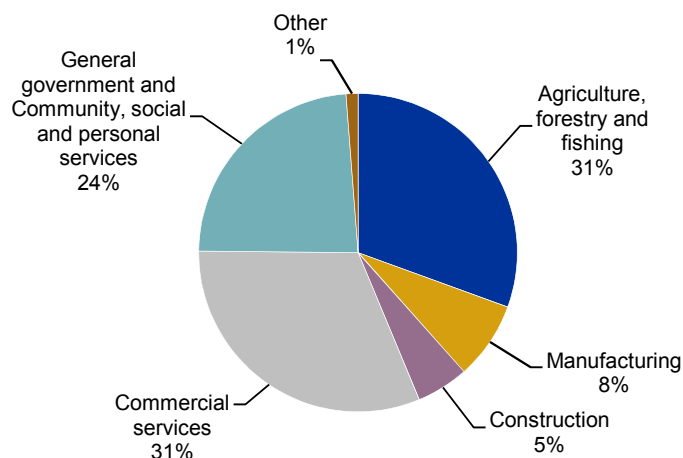
**Figure 9 Central Karoo District: Municipal GDPR vs municipal employment, 2005 - 2013**



Source: *Municipal Economic Review and Outlook (MERO), 2015*

Figure 10 illustrates that the commercial service and the agriculture sectors are the largest employer in the Laingsburg, employing 31 per cent respectively of the Municipality's working population in 2013. This is followed by general government and CSP services (24 per cent) and manufacturing (8 per cent) respectively. The construction sector was among the Municipality's bottom 3 employers, employing (5 per cent) of the Municipality's working population.

**Figure 10 Laingsburg: Employment by sector, 2013**



Source: Municipal Economic Review and Outlook (MERO), 2015

Consequent to the negative GDPR growth for the agriculture sector in Laingsburg for the period 2005 - 2013, net employment within this sector decreased by 370. Although only the manufacturing sector further shed jobs (2) across this period, job creation within the other sectors were not sufficient enough to compensate for the losses within the agriculture sector. Despite its positive growth, employment creation within Laingsburg has been relatively poor.

As expected, the fastest two growing sectors in Laingsburg (manufacturing and construction) generated the most jobs. However, the construction sector, which grew by an impressive 11.6 per cent, only managed to create an additional 46 jobs.

**Table 19 Central Karoo District: GDPR growth vs net employment, 2005 - 2013**

| Industry   | Laingsburg   |                | Prince Albert |                | Beaufort West |                | Central Karoo District |                |
|--|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|
|  | GDPR trend   | Net employment | GDPR trend    | Net employment | GDPR trend    | Net employment | GDPR trend             | Net employment |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing                              | -0.60%       | -370           | -1.60%        | -661           | -1.10%        | -805           | -0.70%                 | -2 175         |
| Manufacturing  | 11.60%       | 46             | 1.30%         | -2             | 8.40%         | 138            | 8.80%                  | 269            |
| Construction   | 8.90%        | -5             | 11.60%        | 48             | 7.30%         | -104           | 8.60%                  | -88            |
| Commercial services  | 2.20%        | -17            | 6.80%         | 166            | 3.40%         | 493            | 3.90%                  | 727            |
| General government and Community, social and personal services | 1.50%        | -20            | 2.20%         | 19             | 4.20%         | 503            | 3.50%                  | 432            |
| Other  | 4.90%        | 8              | 0.00%         | 0              | -2.10%        | 3              | 0.70%                  | 11             |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>2.60%</b> | <b>-358</b>    | <b>4.50%</b>  | <b>-430</b>    | <b>3.80%</b>  | <b>228</b>     | <b>3.90%</b>           | <b>-824</b>    |

Source: Municipal Economic Review and Outlook (MERO), 2015

Laingsburg has a relatively larger agriculture sector, where real income growth has been under pressure over the past ten years. Whilst its commercial services sector accounts for 40 per cent of GDP, this sector did not expand as fast as in Beaufort West, for instance, and contributed to unemployment. Manufacturing and construction activities, on the other hand, have been more buoyant. The overall employment tendency has been negative in Laingsburg, with the demand for labour contracting in all three segments of the labour market.

**Table 20 Central Karoo District municipalities: Employment per skills sector, 2005 - 2013**

| Sector composition      | Laingsburg   |                         | Prince Albert |                         | Beaufort West |                         |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
|                         | Number       | Growth p.a. 2005 - 2013 | Number        | Growth p.a. 2005 - 2013 | Number        | Growth p.a. 2005 - 2013 |
| Highly skilled          | 178          | -0.3%                   | 228           | 0.8%                    | 1 289         | 1.3%                    |
| Skilled                 | 421          | -1.2%                   | 552           | 0.4%                    | 3 000         | 0.2%                    |
| Semi- and unskilled     | 702          | -4.8%                   | 887           | -5.9%                   | 2 822         | -3.1%                   |
| Informal                | 348          | 2.9%                    | 573           | 4.2%                    | 2 400         | 5.8%                    |
| <b>Total employment</b> | <b>1 650</b> | <b>-2.1%</b>            | <b>2 240</b>  | <b>-1.9%</b>            | <b>9 511</b>  | <b>0.3%</b>             |

Source: *Municipal Economic Review and Outlook (MERO), 2015*

The semi- and unskilled sectors employed nearly half of the Municipality's workforce but contracted by 4.8 per cent per annum. This pattern is prevalent across the District with the majority of job losses emanating from the semi- and unskilled sector. The job losses in this sector are congruent with the job losses experienced in the agriculture and construction sectors and represent an increasing trend in the demand for skilled employment (and thus employment in the tertiary sector) over unskilled labour.

## 9. Environment

The 2011 National Strategy for Sustainable Development for South Africa describes the concept of sustainability as composing of three overlapping developmental spheres namely, the natural environment, social context and economic activity. These spheres, which are underpinned by a system of governance, are interlinked and fully dependent on the extent and functionality of the others. A trade-off in one sphere will compromise the functionality of another with significant knock-on effects.

The natural environment, inclusive of elements such as land, inland water, biodiversity and oceans and coastlines are increasingly under pressure as a result of certain socio-economic factors such as population growth rates and increased land use. These pressures on natural resources also pose limitations to economic growth. Climate change also poses significant bio-physical and economic risks and as such, sustainable and effective resource-use and climate change response, should be both a provincial as well as municipal strategic priority.

The Environmental section outlines key focus areas relevant to the current state of the natural environment and the associated need for environmental management, specifically, within the sphere of local government. These broad focus areas – legislative reform, integrated waste management, climate change – are briefly discussed in the following section and where available, include a municipal specific overview.

This information is intended to strengthen municipal planning support, inform future budget allocations and promote resource efficiency and effectiveness to ultimately preserve the natural environment for future generations.

## **9.1 Law reform - Implementation of SPLUMA/LUPA in municipalities**

It is paramount that municipalities have planning and decision-making mechanisms in place to support its service delivery obligations and growth objectives. The Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, Act No. 16 of 2013 (SPLUMA), implemented on 1 July 2015, and the Western Cape Land Use Planning Act 2014 (LUPA) ushers in a new era of planning and development decision-making where the responsibility rests largely on local municipalities to fulfil their role as land use planning decision-makers as per Constitutional mandates and obligations. Section 24(1) of SPLUMA determines that a municipality must, after consultation as prescribed in the Act, adopt and approve a single land use scheme for its entire area within five years from the commencement of this Act.

This land use scheme serves as a tool for municipalities to guide and manage development according to their vision in terms of its Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and Spatial Development Framework (SDF). This will provide potential developers and land users with a clear indication of developable land and its associated land uses within the municipal space. Clarity in land use zones can avoid any future confusion and lengthy delays in terms of prospective developments/uses.

Currently many municipalities have a Land Use Management Scheme in place in the form of Zoning Schemes, which are compliant with the provisions of the Land Use Planning Ordinance, 1985 (Ordinance 15 of 1985) (LUPO). These are known as LUPO section 7 and 8 Schemes. The process has commenced to replace these schemes to meet the requirements for Integrated Zoning Schemes (Land Use Schemes) in terms of section 24 of SPLUMA.

Transitional arrangements following the planning law reform should be noted. The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRD&LR) and SALGA Circular 1 of 2015 noted that a municipality can continue to operate within old order legislative parameters in so far as that legislation does not conflict with SPLUMA. The Circular proposed that the decision-making structures associated with SPLUMA must be applied.

The Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning sought a legal opinion in this regard and subsequently adopted a different approach. After consultation, the Provincial Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning has decided against a blanket implementation of LUPA in the Western Cape. Instead, a staggered implementation approach will be adopted. LUPA will be implemented, and LUPO will be repealed, in a staggered manner as and when municipalities are ready.

During the transition period, Western Cape municipalities were advised not to adopt the 'hybrid' solution proposed by DRD&LR and SALGA (Circular 1 of 2015). Instead, municipalities were advised to utilise the old-order legislation in its entirety (including decision-making structures) until the Western Cape Land Use Planning Act, Act No. 3 of 2014 (LUPA) and the LUPA Municipal Planning By-law is adopted. This was communicated in WCG: EADP Departmental Circular 0009/2015.

In order to determine a municipality's readiness, the Department developed a set of actions that each Municipality must complete before the Minister will consider recommending that the Premier repeal LUPO and implement LUPA in a particular municipality.

These actions, as communicated in WCG: EADP Departmental Circular 0006/2015, are as follows:

- a) Municipalities must have adopted and gazetted their By-law on Municipal Land Use Planning.
- b) Municipalities must be at an advanced stage of establishing their Municipal Planning Tribunal. An advanced stage is regarded as having completed Step 7 of the 'Municipal Planning Tribunal Establishment Manual'.
- c) Municipalities must have Council adopted delegations. This includes appointing the Authorised Official(s) and adopting their categorisation of land use applications.
- d) Municipalities must have Council adopted tariff structures in place for receiving land use management applications in terms of the new legislation.

On completion of these actions, the Municipal Manager must submit a letter to the Department noting the completion thereof in addition to providing the Department with the necessary supporting documentation/proof. The Department will then initiate the process of LUPA implementation by the Premier in that particular municipality. Municipalities should note that this process may take 4 – 6 weeks to complete. Laingsburg Municipality has not yet implemented LUPA. However, they have gazetted the municipal land use planning by-law. The Municipality currently has a Land Use Management Scheme in the form of Zoning Schemes compliant with the provisions of the Land Use Planning Ordinance No. 15 of 1985 (LUPO).

The Municipality intends to use the proposed standard draft zoning scheme (with or without possible amendment).

## **9.2 From waste management to integrated waste management**

There is a shortage of available landfill airspace across the Province. The recovery of waste material for the waste economy is only at 9 per cent. It is paramount to move away from the landfill bias to integrated waste management. To achieve this, more integrated waste management infrastructure is urgently needed. This will increase the recovery of waste material and thereby save landfill airspace, promote the waste economy, reduce the environmental impacts of waste management and create jobs. A mind shift also is needed from municipalities to move away from seeing waste just as a nuisance and risk to realise the intrinsic value of waste and to utilise the potential value of it.

Due to the landfill airspace shortage, municipalities are exploring regional waste disposal options. Such options are however costly due to the high transport cost. The effective management of such regional facilities is also problematic due to the multi-party involvement. These regional facilities have to be operated by the district municipalities and unfortunately these municipalities do not receive any MIG Funding, which makes these facilities difficult to construct and operate. However, regionalisation of not just waste disposal facilities, but integrated waste management facilities have to be encouraged and alternative business cases such as private public ventures have to be explored.

All the waste disposal facilities except one (application to obtain a waste management licence is currently in process) have waste management licences. Since 2013 the requirements for landfill operation has increased dramatically, therefore making it difficult and very expensive for municipalities to comply with. The compliance of landfills in the Province has to increase dramatically which means that more resources are needed to meet the new legislative requirements. The majority of the landfills in the Province has by now reached full capacity must be closed and rehabilitated. Due to the strict environmental requirements set by the national government for closure and rehabilitation of waste disposal facilities, it is very expensive to comply and municipalities find them in the difficult position that it does not have the necessary resources to rehabilitate these facilities.

Cost reflective waste tariffs are in general not charged by municipalities and combined with the high level of poverty with people who cannot afford high service charges, impacts negatively on the sustainability of the waste management service. Waste management should also be regarded as bulk infrastructure. If not, it further puts this service at a funding disadvantage. This is a perception that must be changed urgently so that waste management can also benefit equally from government funding for development and building of houses.

In general, the skill levels of municipal waste managers should be improved as well as the staff capacity available to render an effective and efficient waste management service. A further priority area for municipalities is to either align its waste management by-laws with national legislation or to publish a waste management by-law which will assist in the management of this service and facilitate interaction which



the private sector to improve service delivery and to benefit from the waste economy and job creation.

### 9.3 Climate change

The science of human-caused climate change is undisputable<sup>6</sup>. The average global temperature has already increased by 0.8°C; at this rate we are on track to reach a 4°C global average warming by 2100. Evidence suggests Africa is warming faster than the global average which is having severe impacts for hard-won developmental gains across an already vulnerable continent. Climate change impacts are already evident in the Western Cape and are negatively impacting and undermining economic and social development. Infrastructure, basic resources (water, food and energy) and livelihoods will all be impacted on and these impacts will affect all sectors and stakeholders, with a particular impact on the poor and vulnerable sectors of our community. Substantial responses are required by all role-players in order to adapt to the changes that will be experienced.

To date, the implementation of climate change responses to this changed climate has been slow. Many stakeholders do not perceive that it is their responsibility or mandate to prepare for climate change, and state limited resources and the delivery of other basic services as a challenge. Climate change is everyone's business and has to be incorporated into every facet of spatial and land use planning, service delivery, infrastructure development and economic planning. Failure would compromise basic service delivery, exacerbate poverty and undermine the most vulnerable communities.

The following are some recent observed trends in the Western Cape:

| Climate Variable | Observed trends  | Outlook and Comments  |
|------------------|--|---|
| Temperature      | <p>General trend of rising temperatures, including both minimum and maximum temperatures.</p> <p>Increased temperatures and increased evapotranspiration result in dry soils and vegetation which becomes more readily fire-prone.</p> <p>Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015 was the highest temperature ever recorded (in 100 years) in Cape Town at 42°C. This coincided with severe fires.</p> | <p>For example there has been a decrease in the number of very cold days to create the cold (or chill) units required for deciduous fruit cultivars to grow.</p> <p>Number and intensity of fires seem to be on the increase. Disaster funds for fires will need to increase, but more importantly proactive protection of ecosystems and water is the required long term response.</p> |

<sup>6</sup> The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released its 5<sup>th</sup> global assessment report in 2013, and states "warming of the climate system is unequivocal, and since the 1950s, many of the observed changes are unprecedented over dates to millennia. The atmosphere and ocean have warmed, the amounts of snow and ice have diminished, sea level has risen, and the concentrations of greenhouse gasses have increased".

| Climate Variable                 | Observed trends  | Outlook and Comments  |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Precipitation<br>(Rain, snow)    | Reduction in rain days in autumn and summer especially on the Southern Coast.<br><br>Evidence of a trend in increasing severity of rainfall events (i.e. more rain falls in a shorter time).<br><br>Winter rainfall season starting later each year.<br><br>Anecdotal information of reduction of winter snow in Karoo – may result in decreased groundwater recharge. Current status unknown. | City of Cape Town responding with increase flood preparedness plans in winter, and increasing standard requirements for storm water flows in infrastructure.<br><br>Late onset of rainfall in winter of 2015 was very close to causing a major problem for wheat farmers (documented in SmartAgri Status Quo Assessment – DOA and DEADP). |
| Wind                             | Wind velocity expected to increase, with stronger South Easterly. Impacts currently unknown.   | Impacts on tourism: e.g. Table Mountain cable car operations, Robben Island ferry operations, beach usability etc.  |
| Sea level rise                   | Sea level has been rising at the same rate as global trends. See discussion on 'sea storm surges' below.   | There is global concern that previous estimates of the rates of sea level rise may have been too optimistic, and that decision makers need to be aware that worst case scenarios in this century may be possible.   |
| Ocean temperature                | The Agulhas current has warmed by 1.5°C since 1980. Changes in the distributional range of fish and other marine species. Climate change is also responsible for shifts in the distribution of the West Coast rock lobster. However the full understanding of these changes is complex and cannot necessarily all be attributed to a changing climate. <sup>7</sup>                            | Impacts of shifting marine resources have implications for social and economic fabric of coastal communities.   |
| Ocean Acidification <sup>8</sup> | Ocean acidification would have severe impacts on most ocean life. Currently the ocean has already acidified by 0.1 pH points as a global average (this varies from region to region).  | Current impacts not evidently well described.   |

Between 2003 and 2008, direct damage (predominantly from floods and drought in the Eden and Central Karoo Districts), caused approximately R3 billion of damage in the Western Cape. If not closely monitored and managed, above variables could potentially cause other severe natural disasters which will be detrimental to human life. These include:

<sup>7</sup> SAEON. 2011 Observations in Environmental Change in South Africa.

<sup>8</sup> As the ocean absorbs CO<sub>2</sub> its pH changes.

| Climate Variable                    | Observed trends   | Outlook and Comments  |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Floods/Droughts                     | <p>Numerous flood and drought events have occurred in the Western Cape in the past decades with frequency seeming to increase. Difficult to determine if these are all attributable to a changing climate, but likely, given similar trends globally.</p> <p>There is currently a drought in the north of South Africa which is impacting sugar and maize commodities. The Central Karoo might be entering a drought scenario (although some climate responses such as the water reuse plant in Beaufort West might be reducing these impacts currently).</p> | <p><b>ALERT:</b> As at 20 September 2015 the Western Cape had a 72% dam capacity. This will increase to 92% at the end of the wet season.</p>   |
| Sea Storm Surges (big storm events) | <p>In the past 15 years various big storm events have caused infrastructure damage along the Western Cape coastline. Studies reflect that the sea level has risen on the Western Cape coastline in accordance with global trends. Most impacts are due to inappropriate coastal development.</p>  | <p>Coastal municipalities potentially having a big role to play here. Insurance companies are starting to withdraw from some vulnerable coastal areas.</p>  |
| Fire                                | <p>Observed increased fire incidences<sup>9</sup> and potential increase in extent and severity of fires.</p> <p>2015 fires occurred in record breaking heat temperatures: Economic implications to the Tourism industry unknown; costs to CapeNature and SANParks not yet documented.</p>  | <p>Challenging to differentiate how much of increase in fires and intensity is climate change related but global trends indicate climate change has a role to play.</p> <p><b>GLOBAL ALERTS:</b> Fires in the USA and Canada in 2015 are unprecedented in scale and costs; also on the back of a prolonged drought.</p> |
| Hail                                | <p>There is anecdotal evidence that more hail storms are occurring in new areas of the Western Cape, causing economic losses to agriculture (SmartAgri Status Quo Report).</p>  | <p>Increase likelihood of hail storms is not well understood.</p>   |

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/western-cape/cape-fire-insurance-firms-brace-for-claims-1.1827557#.VfnA8RGeDGc>

There is thus a unique opportunity in the immediate short term to radically shift our planning and infrastructure development to become climate resilient, and to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions that are directly driving the problem. The window of opportunity is however short and closing rapidly, implying that climate change response is urgent if the Western Cape aims to continue with a thriving local economy and to reducing inequality and poverty.

Current disaster funding approaches are not sufficient for responding to climate change. These funds are generally reactive. Disaster funding is often utilised to rebuild the exact same infrastructure in the exact same places. In order to respond effectively and responsibly to climate change all departments need to integrate climate change into infrastructure build, and planning, and to utilise standards appropriate for a changed climate regime. Furthermore, critical ecological infrastructure is required to support and buffer built infrastructure (such as dune barriers, wetlands and mountain catchments – our “natural water towers”).

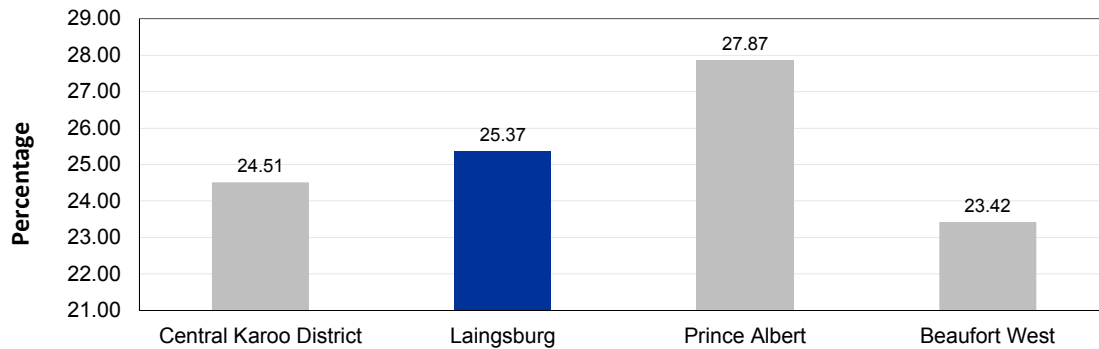
## **10. Broadband penetration**

Broadband penetration offers immense economic benefits by fostering competition, encouraging innovation, developing human capital and by building infrastructure. Improved connectivity will attract new business and investments, reduce the cost of doing business and will offer small, medium and micro enterprises access to new markets.

The World Bank found that for every 10 per cent increase in broadband penetration in developing countries, there is an increase of 1.38 per cent in GDP growth. Municipal broadband initiatives (internet services provided by a municipality) also offer great potential for enhanced economic growth and development, provided they address the key pillars of access, readiness (skills) and usage (stimulating demand for the Internet).

Improved internet penetration and accessibility also offers direct benefits for local government entities to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of public services. These benefits include the roll-out of e-services that will allow for the online payment of municipal accounts, motor vehicle registrations, animal registrations, reporting of infrastructure defects, free indigent services applications, career applications as well as tender applications. Online feedback mechanisms via social media will also support the facilitation of public participation during the annual reporting process and will offer constituents a platform to express public satisfaction.

Greater connectivity will also allow public servants remote access to information such as previous traffic infringements, building plan applications and outstanding accounts, for example.

**Figure 11 Central Karoo District: Internet access, 2011**

Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2011

In the Central Karoo, 24.51 per cent of households had access to the internet in 2011. In comparison, 25.37 per cent of households in Laingsburg had access to the internet – the second highest penetration rate in the District. This high rate bodes well for enhanced economic growth by improving access, readiness and usage of the Internet.

In order to improve access and stimulate usage of the Internet, the Western Cape Broadband Initiative will be implementing Wi-Fi hotspots at a provincial government building in every ward across the Province over the next three years. These hotspots will allow limited free access (250 Mb per month) to any citizen, as well as allow all gov.za websites to be accessed free of charge. Wi-Fi hotspots will be installed in 15 wards across the Central Karoo, including a hotspot in each of the 4 wards in Laingsburg.

## 11. Concluding remarks

Laingsburg Municipality has shown much improvement over the years with regard to all areas of its socio-economic environment except the levels of access to refuse removal, the matric pass rates and crime and **educational challenges**, the most noteworthy being a very **high learner dropout rate** which was estimated to be 64.6 per cent on average in 2013. This rate is particularly concerning given the low employment opportunities on offer for semi-skilled and unskilled workers.

The low population growth rates in conjunction with the faster growing economy have led to declining levels of unemployment and increasing household and per capita income. These have translated to declining poverty levels or indigent support required within the municipal area. However, there is still room for improvement with regard to poverty reduction, skills development, basic service delivery and job creation.

The improvements are an indication that the inhabitants of the Municipality are reaping social benefits from the growing economy. Laingsburg has a relatively larger agriculture sector, where real income growth has been under pressure. The overall employment tendency has been negative in the Municipality, with the demand for labour contracting in all three segments of the labour market.



## Annexure

## Laingsburg: Ward specific access to basic services, 2011

| Water                 |   |                                     |   |   |  |   |                                      |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| Municipality/<br>Ward | Piped (tap)<br>water inside<br>dwelling/<br>institution | Piped<br>(tap) water<br>inside yard | Piped (tap)<br>water on<br>community<br>stand: distance<br>less than 200 m<br>from dwelling/<br>institution | Piped (tap) water<br>on community<br>stand: distance<br>between 200 m<br>and 500 m<br>from dwelling/<br>institution | Piped (tap) water<br>on community<br>stand: distance<br>between 500 m and<br>1 000 m (1 km)<br>from dwelling/<br>institution | Piped (tap) water<br>on community<br>stand: distance<br>greater than<br>1 000 m (1 km)<br>from dwelling/<br>institution | No access<br>to piped (tap)<br>water |
| Laingsburg            | 1 597   | 744                                 | 40  | 12  | 0  | 0   | 15                                   |
| Ward 1                | 620   | 131                                 | 13  | 9   | 0  | 0   | 9                                    |
| Ward 2                | 242   | 50                                  | 3   | 0   | 0  | 0   | 0                                    |
| Ward 3                | 126   | 1                                   | 0   | 0   | 0  | 0   | 0                                    |
| Ward 4                | 609   | 562                                 | 23  | 3   | 0  | 0   | 7                                    |

| Electricity           |             |     |          |                                 |       |      |
|-----------------------|-------------|-----|----------|---------------------------------|-------|------|
| Municipality/<br>Ward | Electricity | Gas | Paraffin | Candles<br>(not a valid option) | Solar | None |
| Laingsburg            | 1 911       | 9   | 11       | 281                             | 193   | 4    |
| Ward 1                | 661         | 6   | 0        | 78                              | 35    | 1    |
| Ward 2                | 246         | 0   | 7        | 18                              | 21    | 2    |
| Ward 3                | 126         | 0   | 0        | 0                               | 1     | 0    |
| Ward 4                | 878         | 3   | 5        | 184                             | 135   | 1    |

| Refuse removal        |  |  |                         |                    |                        |       |
|-----------------------|--|--|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------|
| Municipality/<br>Ward | Removed by local<br>authority/private<br>company at least<br>once a week | Removed by local<br>authority/private<br>company less<br>often | Communal<br>refuse dump | Own refuse<br>dump | No rubbish<br>disposal | Other |
| Laingsburg            | 1 433  | 149  | 114                     | 666                | 37                     | 10    |
| Ward 1                | 584  | 12   | 9                       | 147                | 21                     | 8     |
| Ward 2                | 251  | 0  | 0                       | 40                 | 3                      | 0     |
| Ward 3                | 127  | 0  | 0                       | 0                  | 0                      | 0     |
| Ward 4                | 470  | 137  | 105                     | 478                | 14                     | 2     |

| Sanitation            |  |                                       |                    |   |                                      |                  |       |      |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------|------|
| Municipality/<br>Ward | Flush toilet<br>(connected to<br>sewerage<br>system) | Flush toilet<br>(with septic<br>tank) | Chemical<br>toilet | Pit toilet with<br>ventilation<br>(VIP) | Pit toilet<br>without<br>ventilation | Bucket<br>toilet | Other | None |
| Laingsburg            | 1 641  | 351                                   | 25                 | 134                                     | 95                                   | 33               | 11    | 117  |
| Ward 1                | 589  | 72                                    | 6                  | 26                                      | 29                                   | 22               | 1     | 37   |
| Ward 2                | 236  | 27                                    | 3                  | 20                                      | 5                                    | 0                | 0     | 4    |
| Ward 3                | 126  | 0                                     | 1                  | 0                                       | 0                                    | 0                | 0     | 0    |
| Ward 4                | 691  | 252                                   | 15                 | 88                                      | 61                                   | 11               | 10    | 76   |