FIRE SAFETY INDABA 23 – 25 OCTOBER 2013

Gauteng Province Organizational perspective on Fire Safety





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Introduction

- 23,72% of South Africa's population live in Gauteng. (That is just more than 12,7 million people, or nearly equal to the entire population living in Zimbabwe).
- 4,5 million people live in Johannesburg, 3,1 million in Ekurhuleni and 2,9 million in Tshwane, resulting in 85,90% of all the people in Gauteng living in the three Metro's.
- To provide a perspective of the size of our Metro's, Johannesburg and Ekurhuleni together housed the same number of people as the populations of Lesotho, Swaziland, Botswana and Namibia put together.



Introduction (continued)

- Gauteng is the economic/business hub of South Africa and the Province contributes 35,21% to the Country's economy.
- A staggering 75% of all corporate head offices in South Africa are based in Johannesburg.
- That is why more and more people migrate to Gauteng to seek jobs and look for a better quality of life.
- Normal population growth together with urbanisation (people moving to Gauteng) results in approximately 350,000 more people living in Gauteng each year.

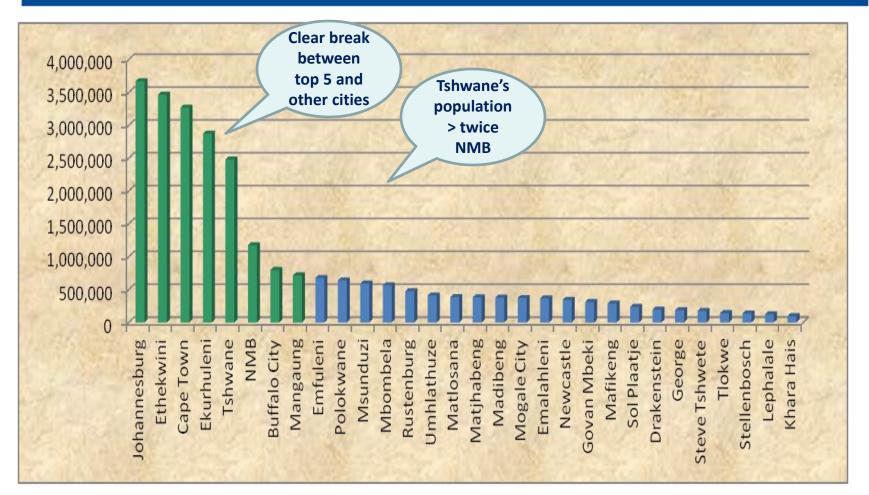


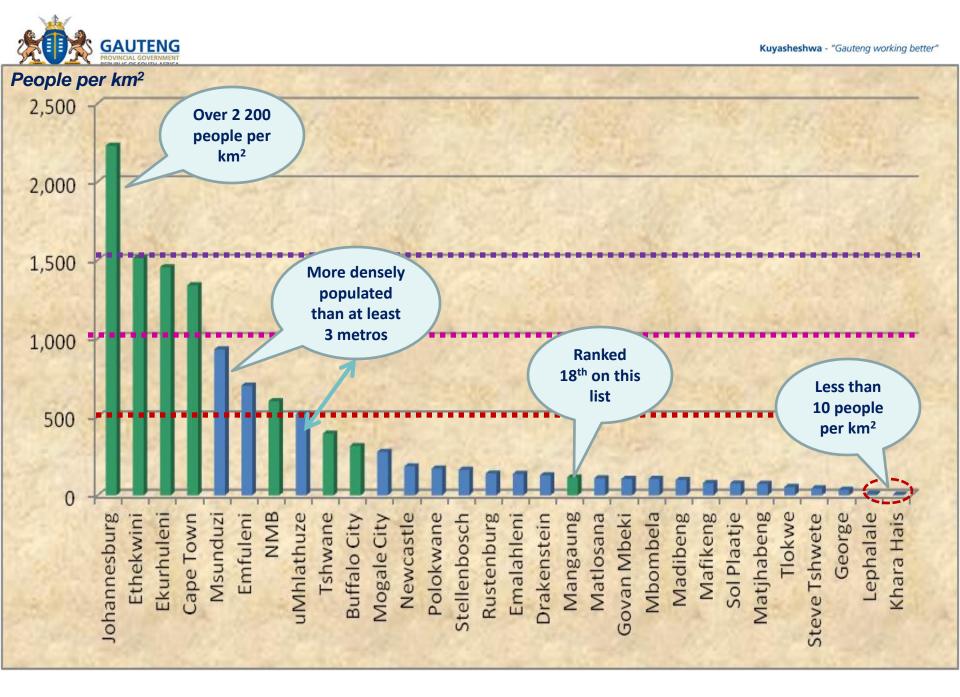
Introduction (continued)

- Gauteng is the engine of the regional economy and a gateway to the rest of the continent. Gauteng contributed 33.9% to national GDP in 2011.
- The province mainly depends on the tertiary sector, finance and business services, including government since Gauteng is the administrative seat of government.
- The unemployment rate for Gauteng in 2012 is estimated at 26%.
- Planned government infrastructure development of over R800 billion in the next three years will assist in creating an enabling environment for domestic growth and job creation.



Population growth





Source: Calculations by Lynelle John, based on population data fr IHS Global Insight and area sizes fr the Municipal Demarcation Board (2010)



Directorate: Fire & Rescue Services - Vision

"To ensure that the <u>community</u> of Gauteng Province is well protected through an <u>effective and efficient</u> Fire & Rescue Service"



- FESH has *collective responsibility* for a number of key issues which are important to enable the Gauteng Fire & Rescue Services to function effectively.
- These are expressed as our strategic objectives and are underpinned by more detailed work plans within the sphere of activity of the GPG Technical Task Teams and the CAPS Committees.
- These effectively form the *connection* between our objective aims and the practical plans to deliver them.



- FESH has four aims that ultimately help determine our objectives, priorities and themes; they shape the work we undertake:
- <u>Provide leadership</u> within the Fire & Rescue Services by participating in decision making structures and to contribute towards influencing the future of Fire & Rescue Services within the Gauteng Province.
- Establishing FESH as the <u>nodal point</u> for specialized advice and recommendations aimed at initiating and driving new policy and legislation impacting on Fire & Rescue Services within the Gauteng Province.
- *Effectively communicate* views and priorities.
- Provision of <u>assistance to members</u> in order to ensure individual and collective improvement.



- <u>Strategic objectives:</u>
- To take a <u>strong leadership role</u> in garnishing support, implementation of initiatives and to assist with forming provincial and national policy across the Gauteng Province by working with all major stakeholders and partners.
- To be the <u>sounding board</u> for information for all our members, the fire and rescue service more generally and our stakeholders by enhancing our knowledge management capability.
- To ensure that Fire & Rescue Services <u>operates efficiently</u>, remains strong and is able to adapt and respond to the ever changing environment of emergency services.



- Key Challenges:
- To continue to remain influential amongst our stakeholders at a time when there is a shift in the political agenda at a national and provincial level.
- Maintaining political commitment to improve Fire & Rescue Services within the Province at a time when other priorities have also been placed on the services delivery agenda such as delivery of houses, infrastructure, education and health care to communities.



Key Challenges:

- To make sure that the Gauteng Fire & Rescue Services receives the necessary recognition for the work that it is doing in particular in the area of sustainability, both in relation to adaptation and mitigation
- Adapting to changes to direct government grant funding & income streams and a growing requirement to become more self-funding at a time of austerity.

- Across all areas, the work carried out for and on behalf of the FESH is intended to improve and benefit the Gauteng Fire & Rescue Services.
- The work is guided by the Directorate: Fire & Rescue Services but is delivered by the numerous working groups, technical task teams and forums.
- Many of these groups meet regularly on monthly or quarterly basis as a way of ensuring information is shared between Services.
- FESH's strategic aim of providing coherent, consistent and influential leadership through well developed credible policy guidance requires an element of *collective responsibility*.



FIRE SAFETY TECHNICAL TASK TEAM

- The primary function of Fire Safety TTT is to support Gauteng Fire & Rescue Services in the provision of efficient, effective, professional community fire safety work consistent with applicable legislation and regulations.
- In particular, with the aim of reducing the number of people that are killed or injured in the home, whilst travelling, at leisure or at work; but in addition, reducing the number of fires, deliberate fire setting and fire related anti-social behaviour.
- To provide professional advice, comprehensive policy guidance, coordination of collaborative work and effective, accessible communications to support the Fire & Rescue Services in their task of delivering safer communities.



FIRE SAFETY TECHNICAL TASK TEAM

- To achieve this, the Directorate: Fire & Rescue Services will support the development of common protocols and practices for prevention and protection activities with its partners and stakeholders.
- To establish and maintain an integrated provincial framework for the delivery of core fire safety policies and procedures based on the prevention, protection and response model for practitioners.

BUSINESS PLANNING

- Following the introduction of a formal business planning process for GPG Working Groups two years ago, the Provincial programme of work that is carried out by the multitude of working groups and technical task teams in liaison with numerous external partners, has become better understood.
- The FESH has had to recognise what it can achieve in line with resources available and this year the focus has been on ensuring our activities are properly risk assessed and prioritised accordingly.
- The annual business plan helps to provide clarity and coherence to the work we undertake as well as providing members, stakeholders and external partners with an understanding of what we intend to do and why it is important to us.



BUSINESS PLANNING

- The project plans form the basis of "programme management" for each Working Group and is linked to the Directorate: Fire & Rescue Services Annual Performance Plan.
- Some areas of work have been completed, some are continuing into this business planning cycle whilst others have been superseded and new projects added.
- We aim to encourage the exchange of information within the Fire & Rescue Services and avoid the duplication of work done at a local level as well as promote the sharing of notable practice.



Fire & Rescue Services Technical Task Teams

Fire & Rescue Services Operations

– To ensure, through strategic planning and overall management of Fire & Rescue Services, the maintenance of a safer environment for all persons within the Province of Gauteng by assisting Local Municipalities in the provision of an efficient and effective fire fighting, emergency and rescue service.

Training and Development

 Monitoring, coordination and implementation of training and development programmes in order to increase individual and team effectiveness within the Fire & Rescue Services of the Province.

• Fire Safety

- Monitoring and coordination of planning, administration and management of fire safety activities throughout the Province to ensure compliance with all applicable fire safety legislation, regulations and standards.
- PIER
 - Management, coordination and directing the management of Public Information, Education and Research (PIER) programs and communication to a variety of media, print, internal and external sources on fire department calls, activities and events.



Stakeholder engagement

Customer Group	Consultation Initiative	Frequency of Consultation	Consultation Outputs
Fire & Emergency Services Heads	Fire & emergency services heads committee (FESH)	Monthly	Agenda; minutes and task lists
Category of authorized persons	CAPS Meetings	Quarterly	Agenda; minutes and task lists
Gautrain Consortium (BOC)	BOC/EMS Meetings	Monthly	Agenda; minutes and task lists
Technical Committees	Strategic Thrusts	Monthly	Agenda; minutes and task lists



Current realities impacting on how we do business

- Plans recently established across the three spheres of government have set their sights on different timeframes.
- The New Growth Path focuses on 2020;
- The NDP emphasises 2030;
- The CoJ's GDS targets 2040.
- Gauteng GCR Vision 2055;



Principles of the GCR

- Be defined independently of formal administrative boundaries;
- Be constituted of a concentrated urban population, with significant size and agglomeration effects that attract greater volumes of people through inmigration;
- Be spread across a vast, geographical area;
- Include at least one large metropolitan area; and
- Incorporate a functional economy within the geography, which is able to compete in the global market



In conclusion

- With globalization has come an increase in the consequences of fires and disasters in cities;
- The distributed nature of services in global cities, with cross-border interdependencies, calls for distributed and dynamic risk management and planning processes.
- What is the new city 'boundary', and how can (or should) disaster planners and Fire Officers delineate their own planning and approaches to risk reduction from other cities that they are inextricably connected to?
- calls for a more sustainable and inclusive conception of mitigation of fire risks that links technical risk reduction with social resilience and places prevention in a much larger context.



Kuyasheshwa - "Gauteng working better"

THANK YOU

