

CHILDREN POLICY

2024/2025

" The City of Heritage "



Policy Drafted or review Team	Special Programs Section
Policy Implementing Department	Community Services Department
Policy Mandated by	
Signature of Mandating official	
Approved by	
Date Adopted	
Date of Next Review	June 2025
Reviewed/ Yes/ No	Yes

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Definitions.....	3
2. Purpose Of The Policy.....	3
3. Legislative And Policy Framework.....	3
4. Goals.....	3
5. Key Focus Areas For Children's Issues/Programmes.....	4
6. Implementation Plan.....	4

Policy in children

- Ulundi Local Municipality seeks to create an enabling environment to ensure the facilitation of constitutional obligations, policies, and legislative frameworks to realize all children's rights.

Whereas

- The need for the policy is derived from Section 28 (1-3) of the South African Constitution No 108 of 1996 that details children's rights.
- This policy is focused on safeguarding social, economic and cultural rights, as well as the civil rights and freedoms of children. Be it enacted by the Council of Ulundi Local Municipality, as Policy on Children.

DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

- Council — means the Ulundi Local Municipality, and includes an officer duly empowered by the municipality to exercise or perform the powers, functions and duties of the municipality under this policy.
- External Stakeholders — this refers to the members of the community of Ulundi, business community, faith organisations, non-governmental and non-profit organisations, and any other person or group of persons who have a stake and/or interest in the municipality and its business
- Child — means a person under the age of 18 years.

PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to set out guidelines for participation of Children in the affairs Ulundi Local Municipality through ensuring:

- The elimination of discrimination against children within the broader society
- The recognition of children as a national asset
- Promote their active participation in social activities
- To create a platform for engagement through the Children's Forum

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

Constitution of Republic of South Africa Act No. 108 of 1996

Children Act (Act No. 32 of 2005)

Policy Statement

- Link to other policies
- The policy links to the Special Programs Division Strategy.
- Scope of the Policy
- This policy applies to children

GOALS

- The Municipality, in ensuring that Children's issues are attended to, seeks to achieve the following goals: .that all programmes and policies should seek to understand and address the root causes of inequity so that all children, particularly those who suffer the worst deprivations, have access to education, health care, sanitation, clean water, protection, and other services necessary for their survival, growth, and development.

KEY FOCUS AREAS FOR CHILDREN'S ISSUES/ROGRAMMES

The municipality will work with external stakeholders to ensure that Children matters are mainstreamed into all the following mentioned services:

- To advocate children's rights, educate and mobilise families and communities about their responsibility towards the protection and care of children.
- To reduce incidents of Child Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation through awareness campaigns.
- To inform and educate the public on the comprehensive basket of services needed by children in their emotional, cognitive and physical development

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Sector	Public education/ awareness raising/ openness
Community organization	Hold discussion and education meetings around children's rights and protection. Organize local campaigns and events.
Local welfare organization or NGO	Workshops at schools, churches and organizational or community meetings.
Social workers	Community education programmes.

The children's forum meetings and its operations

Quorum

- The quorum for the Forum shall be 50% + 1 excluding any co-opted members,

Frequency of Meetings

- The Forum will meet quarterly at a time convenient to the members. If a meeting is cancelled due to the lack of a quorum, then agenda items will be carried over to the next scheduled meeting.
- The Chairperson in consultation with the Secretary shall convene special meeting should the need arise. The Chairperson will if necessary have the casting vote.
- In the event that the structure fails to convene its meetings for more than three (3) consecutive times the municipality shall dissolve the structure and elect the new forum for Children.

Delegation

- The operational management and monitoring of the implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the Municipal Manager through Strategic Management Directorate.

Policy name

- This policy will be named Ulundi Children's Policy.

Policy audit and review

- The policy requires monitoring, and its effectiveness will be audited on a quarterly basis and the policy will be reviewed annually in order to ensure it remains responsive and relevant.

