

“ The City of Heritage ”



CHILDREN'S POLICY

FINAL 2026–2027

1. POLICY INFORMATION

Item	Description
Policy Drafted / Reviewed By	Special Programmes Unit
Policy Implementing Department	Community Services Department
Policy Mandated By	Ulundi Local Municipal Council
Approved By	Ulundi Local Municipality Council
Date Adopted	
Date of Next Review	May 2027
Reviewed	Yes

2. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Council

Means Ulundi Local Municipality, including any duly authorised official acting on its behalf.

External Stakeholders

Includes community members, NGOs, faith-based organisations, business entities, and any persons or groups with an interest in municipal affairs.

Child

Means a person under the age of eighteen (18) years.

3. PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for the meaningful participation of children in the affairs of Ulundi Local Municipality by:

- Ending discrimination against children
- Recognising children as a valuable social asset

- Encouraging active participation in social and civic activities
 - Creating a structured platform for engagement through the Children's Forum
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4. LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

This policy is informed by, but not limited to, the following legislation:

- Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act No. 108 of 1996)
 - Children's Act, 2005 (Act No. 38 of 2005)
 - White Paper on Local Government, 1998
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5. POLICY STATEMENT

Ulundi Local Municipality commits to promoting, protecting, and advancing the rights of children through inclusive planning, service delivery, and stakeholder collaboration.

6. LINK TO OTHER POLICIES

This policy aligns with:

- Special Programmes Division Strategy
 - Integrated Development Plan (IDP)
 - Community Services Departmental Plans
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7. SCOPE OF THE POLICY

This policy applies to **all children living within the area of Ulundi Local Municipality** and guides municipal engagement with child-focused initiatives.

8. GOALS

The Municipality aims to ensure that all programmes and policies:

- Address the root causes of inequality affecting children.
 - Improve access to education, health care, sanitation, clean water, and protection.
 - Promote holistic development — emotional, cognitive, and physical.
 - Prioritise children facing the greatest deprivation.
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9. KEY FOCUS AREAS FOR CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES

The Municipality shall collaborate with external stakeholders to:

- Advocate for children's rights
 - Educate families and communities on child protection.
 - Reduce child abuse, neglect, and exploitation through awareness campaigns.
 - Provide public education on comprehensive child development services.
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10. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Sector	Key Activities
Community Organisations	Public discussions, education meetings, and local campaigns
NGOs & Welfare Organisations	Workshops at schools, churches, and community forums
Social Workers	Community education and outreach programmes

11. CHILDREN'S FORUM

11.1 Quorum

A quorum shall be **50% plus one** of members, excluding co-opted members.

11.2 Frequency of Meetings

- The Forum shall meet **quarterly**.
 - Special meetings may be convened by the Chairperson.
 - Three consecutive failures to meet may result in dissolution and re-election.
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12. DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

The Municipal Manager, through the Strategic Management Directorate, handles:

- Policy implementation
 - Monitoring and reporting
 - Coordinating stakeholder participation
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13. POLICY MONITORING, AUDIT, AND REVIEW

- Monitoring shall be conducted quarterly.
- The policy shall be reviewed **annually**.
- Amendments shall be recommended to Council as needed.