

CHAPTER 1: MAYOR'S FOREWORD AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 MAYOR'S FOREWORD

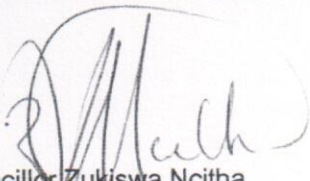
I hereby present, to the Municipal Council and people of Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality, and to our stakeholders in general, this Annual Report for the Financial Year 2011/2012.

This report captures the activities and achievements of the administration and political leadership, under the newly-established Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality. It portrays the first financial year of the five-year term (2011 – 2016) of the Buffalo City Metropolitan Council and the extent to which resources and internal capacity have been able to respond to the challenges of development and service delivery during the period under review.

The Annual Report contains the demographic and other profiles of the Buffalo City Region and its people, and it highlights the factors both endogenous and exogenous that influenced development and growth in the municipality.

In essence, the report reflects the extent to which the city has responded to the aspirations, concerns and expectations of the communities based on the Municipal Council approved Integrated Development Plan (IDP) of the period under review. The report represents how the City's resources were utilised and as such contains the audited consolidated Annual Financial Statements of the municipality. The report also contains the performance information, a narrative and graphical representation of how the city implemented its Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP).

In presenting this Annual Report, I want to acknowledge the role played by the administration in providing information for both public reporting and auditing purposes. However, it is important to note that while greater effort has been put in addressing the financial management and governance of the municipality, the internal control environment still require significant improvements in order for the municipality to achieve a clean audit outcome. It is therefore our collective endeavour to work tirelessly to ensure effective oversight over administration and entrenchment of good governance ethos in order to achieve public accountability and confidence.



Councillor Zukiswa Ncitha
Executive Mayor
Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality