



AUDITOR-GENERAL
SOUTH AFRICA

Auditing to build public confidence

FINAL MANAGEMENT REPORT

Department of Public works and Infrastructure

31 March 2022

Communicated to the accounting authority on 15 July 2022

DRAFT





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MANAGEMENT REPORT

Department of Public works and Infrastructure

31 March 2022

Discussed with the accounting officer on 15 July 2022

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MANAGEMENT REPORT TO THE ACCOUNTING OFFICER ON THE AUDIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of the management report is to communicate audit findings and other key audit observations to the accounting officer and to provide a summary of the material irregularities and suspected material irregularities of which the accounting officer was notified. The report does not constitute public information.

The management report includes audit findings arising from the audit of the financial statements, performance information and compliance with legislation for the year ended 31 March 2022. These findings were communicated to management and this report details management's response to these findings. The report includes information on the internal control deficiencies that we identified as the root causes of the matters reported. Addressing these deficiencies will help to improve the audit outcome.

2. In accordance with the terms of engagement, our responsibility in this regard is to:
 - express an opinion on the financial statements
 - express an opinion in the management report on the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information for selected programmes, and report the material findings in the auditor's report
 - report on material findings relating to compliance with specific requirements in key applicable legislation, as set out in the general notice issued in terms of the Public Audit Act, 2004 (Act No. 25 of 2004) (PAA)
 - notify the accounting officer of any material irregularity or suspected material irregularities identified during the audit, and report on it in the auditor's report.
3. Our engagement letter sets out our responsibilities and those of the accounting officer in detail.
4. This management report consists of the overall message arising from the audit, summary of key findings and observations, annexures containing the detailed audit findings, annexures to the report on the audit of performance information as well as the annexure to internal control deficiencies reported.
5. The auditor's report is finalised only after the management report has been communicated. All matters included in this report that relate to the auditor's report remain in draft form until the final auditor's report is signed. In adherence to section 50 of the PAA, we do not disclose any information obtained during the audit and contained in this management report.
6. The **figure** that follows provides a pictorial summary of the audit results and our key messages on how to improve the audit outcomes with the focus on the following:¹
 - Status of the audit outcomes
 - Status of the level of assurance provided by key role players
 - Status of the drivers of internal controls

- Status of risk areas
- Root causes to be addressed

7. Movement from the previous year is depicted as follows:²



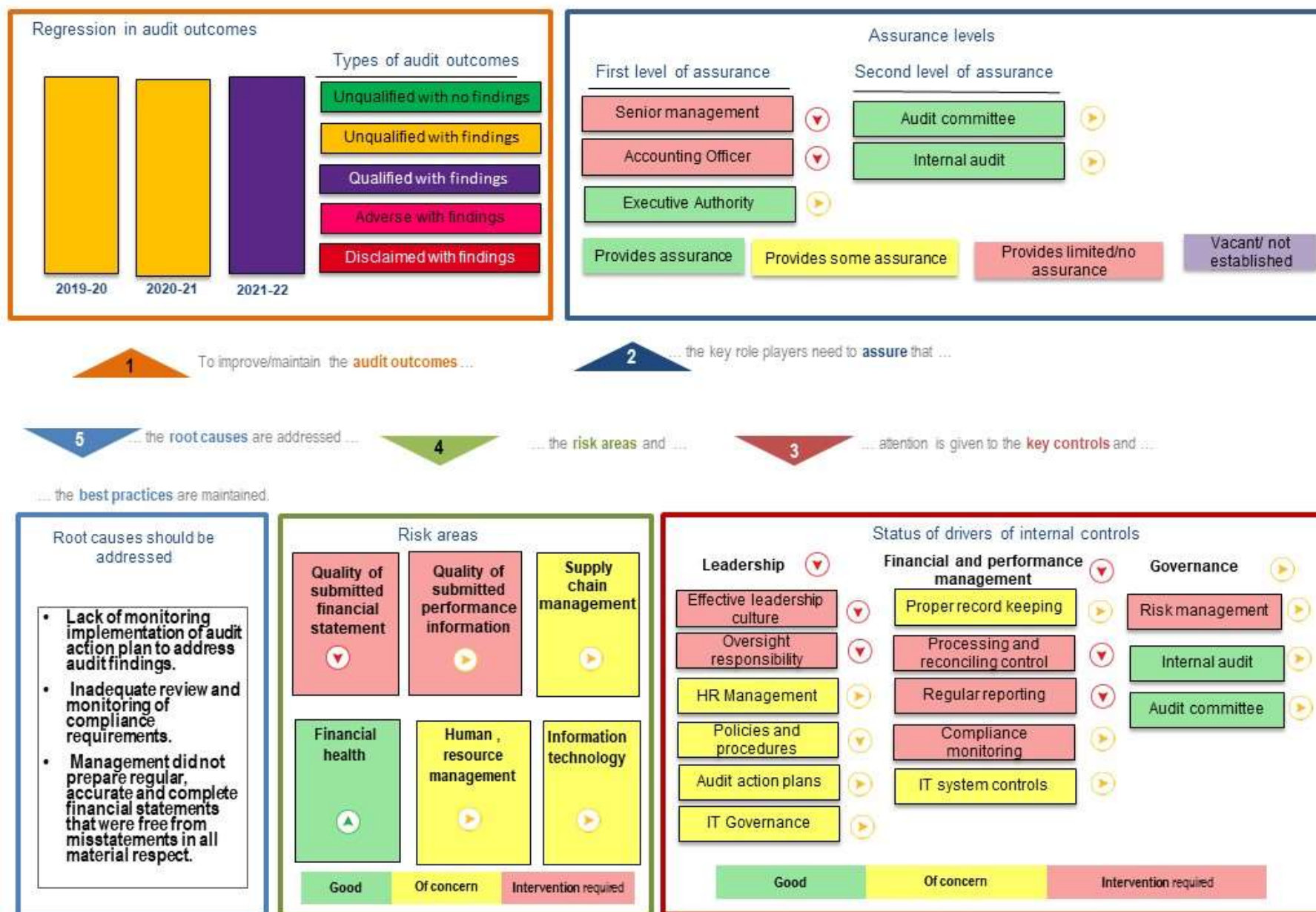
Improved



Unchanged / slight improvement / slight regression



Regressed



OVERALL MESSAGE

8. We commend the department for making payments within 30 days, which was an area of concern in the past, it is however regrettable that the department's audit outcome has regressed from unqualified with finding to a qualified opinion. The regression is attributed to material misstatements identified with respect to cash and cash equivalents, fruitless and wasteful expenditure and irregular expenditure. Notwithstanding the above, the reported performance information in relation to Programme 3: Expanded Public Works Programme and Programme 8: Construction Project Management remains unchanged from the prior year as both programmes obtained a qualified opinion.
9. Management did not disclose cash received in their bank account as at year-end on their AFS. This was as a result of misinterpretation of transactions which was not in line with the Modified Cash Standard (MCS). The misstatement had a ripple effect on payables from non-exchange transactions and the cash flow statement. Management should strive to prepare complete and accurate transactions of all activities in the department in line with the requirements of Modified Cash Standards as failure to do so resulted in material non-compliance with PFMA.
10. Furthermore, the department's long outstanding receivable against Department of Basic Education (DBE) for the beautification of schools projects which is disclosed as unlikely to be recoverable, has still not been resolved. This is due to DBE rejecting the debt as no school benefited from this programme. We were unable to determine the validity of the payments made by DPWI with respect to the work done on behalf of the DBE. Therefore the receivable balance disclosed by DPWI is fruitless and wasteful expenditure as the user department has not received any benefit nor settled the claim. As at year end, the DPWI has not initiated an investigation to determine the root cause of this bad debt in order to implement consequence management where wrong doing is found.
11. In addition, management did not consider all completed investigation reports when preparing the annual financial statements (AFS), consequently recommendations from these investigation reports were not implemented. This had a material impact on the irregular expenditure disclosed on the AFS and consequence management for implicated officials.
12. There are further concerns regarding consequence management, as fruitless and wasteful expenditure balance that has been outstanding for more than 6 years has not been recovered from the responsible officials. The department did attempt to transfer the fruitless and wasteful expenditure to receivables; however, the process was not completed. With regards to allegations on irregular expenditure, the department has managed to investigate most of the cases however, it was noted that the upon conclusion of the investigations, remedial measures are not always implemented.

13. More over, the performance achievement reported in the Annual Performance Report (APR) materially differed with supporting documents. The supporting evidence provided for the reported achievement for Programme 8: Construction Project Management was not complete. This material issue, was reported in the prior year which also resulted in the programme to be qualified. Adequate internal control processes to ensure smooth coordination of Projects unit and the Monitoring & Evaluation unit were not in place to ensure that misstatements were prevented and detected timeously.
14. The performance information submitted for audit of Programme 3: Expanded Public Works Programme was not reliable and complete, and as a result the audit outcome remained unchanged as qualified audit opinion. This is due to inadequate monitoring and evaluation of information reported on the EPWP-RS system by the department that resulted in material underreporting and overreporting misstatements on both indicators under the programme. Furthermore, inadequate implementation of consequence management processes on public bodies by the department continues to stifle the department's efforts to improve internal controls and the reporting thereof.
15. Notwithstanding the above, management made some progress in implementing action plans to address prior year audit findings on areas relating to information technology (IT) governance. However, there are still areas of concerns requiring attention such as user access management, security management and IT service continuity. As previously reported, we noted that some of the key ICT positions are still vacant, which resulted in capacity constraints. This was evident as there was slow progress in addressing some of the prior year findings.
16. The lack of implementing basic IT security and user access controls could further lead to unauthorised users gaining access to systems, resulting in data being compromised, denial of service attacks or data integrity issues and consequently overall disruption to business processes.

SECTION 1: INTERACTIONS WITH STAKEHOLDERS RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNANCE³

17. During the audit cycle, we met with the following key stakeholders responsible for oversight and governance to communicate matters relating to the audit outcome and matters identified during our status of records review/s of the department:

Key stakeholder	Purpose of interaction	Number of interactions
Portfolio committee on Public Works and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting to share the audit outcomes and present the BRRR 	1
Standing committee on public accounts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audits outcomes of DPWI portfolio over (5) Years 	2
Minister of the Department of Public works and Infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2021-22 Status update on Material irregularities 	3
Acting Director General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2021-22 Status update on Material irregularities Detail discussion on interim management report Discussion of the engagement letter and audit Strategy Letters on Audit progress of the Public works portfolio 	4
Audit committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To discuss governance and oversight Discussion of the engagement letter and audit strategy Communication of the interim management report Approval of the Department's Annual Financial Statements Management presentation on the audit action plans to address both internal and external audit findings. 	5
Senior Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly Audit Steering Committee meetings Presentation of the engagement letter and audit strategy Presentation of the interim management report 	15

18. At these interactions, we shared the following key matters affecting audit outcomes and the auditee:

- Audit engagement letter with specific emphasis on the roles and responsibilities of the auditor and management as well as those charged with governance.
- Overall audit strategy including the proposed nature, timing, and extent of audit procedures to be performed.
- PAA Amendments with the focus on progress made in addressing the material irregularities reported in the prior year.

19. All stakeholders made commitments to implement initiatives that can improve the audit outcome. The commitments given and the progress of previous commitments are included in section 3.2, which deals with the assessment of assurance providers.

SECTION 2: MATTERS RELATING TO THE AUDITOR'S REPORT

AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

20. We identified material misstatements in the financial statements during the audit. These misstatements were not prevented or detected by the department's system of internal control. These material misstatements also constitute non-compliance with section 40(1) of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA).

21. The misstatements that were not corrected form the basis for the qualified opinion on the financial statements.

Material misstatement			Impact R current year	Impact R prior year
Financial statement item	Finding	Occurred in prior year		
Material misstatements not corrected				
Cash and cash equivalents	Management did not disclose cash received in their bank account as at year-end on their AFS	No	R216 315 650	0
Payables	Management did not disclose a receivable for cash received in their bank account as at year-end which belonged to treasury on their AFS	No	R216 315 650	0
Fruitless and wasteful expenditure	Management did not disclose fruitless and wasteful expenditure in relation to the amount incurred on behalf of Department of Basic Education on their AFS	No	R54 541 471	0
Irregular expenditure	Management did not disclose irregular expenditure that was identified from the investigation conducted by SkX on behalf of the department on their AFS	No	R19 274 750	0



Material misstatement			Impact R current year	Impact R prior year
Financial statement item	Finding	Occurred in prior year		
Material misstatements corrected				
None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF USERS

Emphasis of matter paragraphs

22. I draw attention to the matter below. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Impairment of Receivables

23. As disclosed in note 11.5 of the financial statements, Estimate of impairment of receivables amounting to R62 026 000 is disclosed as a result of long outstanding debts which may not be recovered.

AUDIT OF THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

24. In terms of the general notice issued in terms of the PAA, the opinion on the audit of reported performance information will be included in the management report. The report is included below to enable management and those charged with governance to see what the report will look like once it is published in the auditor's report. We will report all the audit findings included under the basis for opinion and the other matter sections of this report in the auditor's report.

Introduction and scope

25. We have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the reported performance information for the following selected programmes presented in the department's annual performance report for the year ended 31 March 2022:

Programmes	Pages in annual performance report	Opinion	Movement ⁴ .
Programme 3 - Expanded Public Works Programme	x – x	Qualified	▶
Programme 8 - Construction Project Management	x – x	Qualified	▶

26. We conducted our reasonable assurance engagement in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements, ISAE 3000(R): *Assurance engagements other than audits or reviews of historical financial information*.

27. We believe that the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions.

Programme 3: Expanded Public Works Programme

Qualified opinion

28. In our opinion, except for the effects and the possible effects of the matters described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report, the reported performance information for Programme 3: Expanded Public Works Programme is useful and reliable in accordance with the applicable criteria as developed from the performance management and reporting framework set out in annexure D to this report..

Basis for Qualified opinion

Various Indicators

29. The achievements below were reported in the annual performance report for the listed indicators. However, some supporting evidence provided materially differed from the reported achievement, while in other instances I was unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence. This was due to the lack of accurate and complete records. I was unable to confirm the reported achievements by alternative means. Consequently, I was unable to determine whether any further adjustments were required to these reported achievements.

Indicator number	Indicator description	Reported achievement
Indicator 3.1	Number of Work Opportunities Reported in EPWP-RS by the Public Bodies	1 016 646 work opportunities reported in EPWP-RS by Public Bodies (cumulative)
Indicator 3.2	Percentage EPWP participation amongst designated groups (Women, Youth and People With Disabilities) reported on the EPWP RS by the Public Bodies	69% Women 41% Youth 1% Persons With Disabilities

Programme 8: Construction Project Management

Qualified opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report, the reported performance information for Programme 8: Construction Project Management is useful and reliable in accordance with the applicable criteria as developed from the performance management and reporting framework set out in annexure D to this report.

Basis for Qualified opinion

Indicator 3.5: Number of infrastructure projects completed

The achievement of 128 infrastructure projects completed was reported against a target of 95 infrastructure projects completed in the annual performance report. However, the supporting evidence provided materially differed from the reported achievement.

Other matters

30. We draw attention to the matters below. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Achievement of planned targets

31. Refer to the annual performance report on page(s) x to x for information on the achievement of planned targets for the year and management explanations provided for the under/over achievement of targets. This information should be considered in the context of the qualified opinions expressed on the reliability of the reported performance information in paragraph(s) x; x; x of this report.



Adjustment of material misstatements

32. We identified material misstatements in the annual performance report submitted for auditing. These material misstatements were on the reported performance information of Programme 8: Construction Project Management. As management subsequently corrected only some of the misstatements, we raised material findings on the reliability of the reported performance information. Those that were not corrected are included in the basis for qualified opinion paragraphs.

Responsibilities of the Accounting Officer for the reported performance information

33. The accounting officer is responsible for the preparation of the annual performance report in accordance with the prescribed performance management and reporting framework, as set out in annexure D to this report, and for such internal control as the accounting officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of performance information that is free from material misstatement in terms of its usefulness and reliability.

Auditor-general's responsibilities for the reasonable assurance engagement on the reported performance information

34. Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the reported performance information for the selected programmes presented in the annual performance report is free from material misstatement, and to issue a management report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that the assurance engagement conducted in accordance with the relevant assurance standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if they could reasonably be expected to influence the relevant decisions of users taken on the basis of the reported performance information.
35. Our procedures address the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information, which must be based on the approved performance planning documents of the department. We have not evaluated the appropriateness of the performance indicators established and included in the planning documents. Our procedures do not examine whether the actions taken by the department enabled service delivery. Our procedures do not extend to any disclosures or assertions relating to the extent of achievements in the current year or planned performance strategies and information in respect of future periods that may be included as part of the reported performance information. Accordingly, our opinion does not extend to these matters.
36. A further description of our responsibilities for the reasonable assurance engagement on reported performance information is included in annexure E to this report.

AUDIT OF COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

37. Included below are material findings on compliance with selected specific requirements of applicable legislation, as set out in the general notice issued in terms of the PAA.

Annual Financial Statements

38. The financial statements submitted for auditing were not prepared in accordance with the prescribed financial reporting framework as required by section 40 (1) (b) of the PFMA. Material misstatements identified by the auditors in the submitted financial statements were not corrected, which resulted in the financial statements receiving a qualified opinion.

Consequence Management

39. A Disciplinary steps were not taken against some of the officials who had incurred or permitted irregular expenditure, as required by section 38(1)(h)(iii) of the PFMA
40. I was unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence that disciplinary steps were taken against officials who had incurred fruitless and wasteful expenditure as required by section 38(1)(h)(iii) of the PFMA. This was due to proper and complete records that were not maintained as evidence to support the investigations into fruitless and wasteful expenditure

Expenditure Management

41. Effective and appropriate steps were not taken to prevent irregular expenditure amounting to R3 759 931, as disclosed in note 24 to the annual financial statements, as required by section 38(1)(c)(ii) of the PFMA and treasury regulation. The amount includes a recurring amount of R 3 700 000 that relates to the irregularly appointed officials as per the PSC report caused the majority of the irregular expenditure.
42. Effective and appropriate steps were not taken to prevent irregular expenditure, as required by section 38(1)(c)(ii) of the PFMA and treasury regulation 9.1.1. As reported in the basis for qualified opinion the value as disclosed in note 24 of the financial statements does not reflect the full extent of the irregular expenditure incurred.

OTHER INFORMATION

43. The accounting officer is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report. The other information does not include the financial statements, the auditor's report and those selected programmes presented in the annual performance report that have been specifically reported on in the auditor's report.
44. Our opinion on the financial statements and findings on the reported performance information and compliance with legislation do not cover the other information and we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.
45. In connection with our audit, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and the selected programmes presented in the annual performance report, or our knowledge obtained during the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.
46. The following paragraphs will be included in the auditor's report to highlight to the users whether any inconsistencies in the other information exist:
47. We did not receive other information prior to the date of the auditor's report. When we do receive and read the information, if we concluded that there is a material misstatement therein, we are required to communicate the matter with those charged with governance and request that the other information be corrected. If the other information is not corrected, we may

have to retract this auditor's report and re-issue the amended report as appropriate. However, if it is corrected, this will not be necessary.

INTERNAL CONTROLS

48. The significant deficiencies in internal control which led to our overall assessment of the status of the drivers of key controls, as included in the figure in paragraph x, are described below. The detailed assessment of the implementation of the drivers of internal control in the areas of financial statements, performance reporting and compliance with legislation is included in annexure F.

Leadership

Oversight responsibility

49. The suspension of the Director-General left an instability in the leadership of the department as the position was vacant. This resulted in more than one official acting in the position throughout the financial year.

Human resource management

50. Overall vacancy rate for DPWI is 11%. The vacancy rate is slightly higher than the benchmark of 10%, however there is an improvement from the prior year as the prior year vacancy rate was 15.60%. The improvement was a result of management's drive to fill vacant positions.
51. An improvement in Senior Management vacancy rate was noted as well. The current year vacancy rate is 22% and the prior year vacancy rate is 31.90%. Vacancy rate has improved however, it is still very high. Senior management vacancy rate is still very high due to some of the positions being advertised and no suitable candidates were identified, this resulted in readvertisements, furthermore, the budget for employee cost is not aligned with the organisational structure.

Action plans to address internal control deficiencies

52. The department developed action plans to address internal and external findings, however, the appropriate level of management did not ensure that the remedial action as per the plan is implemented timeously. Findings that were reported on the audit of pre-determined objectives are recurring. Findings reported on local content are also recurring, furthermore, some of the local content irregular was identified by the department. Material findings are still being identified in the audit of financial statements, although some of the findings are not material, they are material in aggregate.

Information technology governance framework

Information technology governance was found to be inadequately designed and implemented with the following internal control deficiencies to be considered by management:

53. The ICT structure was approved on 30 September 2016, the Minister requested a re-configuration of the ICT structure to be align to the new mandate of DPWI. The post of the Chief Information Officer was advertised and the process of filling the position is underway. The post for Deputy Director Project Manager was advertised and shortlisting and interviews completed, the process of appointing the recommended candidate is underway.

54. Management failed to meet key performance indicators (KPIs) as per the Annual Performance Plan (APP) due to dependencies on other parties which were not initially considered when committing to the KPIs. Furthermore, due to delays in procurement by the department.

Financial and performance management

Proper record keeping

55. The department makes use of the EPWP-RS for record keeping, however, some of the information that supported the reported performance in the annual performance report could not be located. This includes information related to the collection, collation, verification, storage, and reporting of actual performance information.

Daily and monthly processing and reconciling of transactions

56. The department did not implement controls over daily and monthly processing and recording of transactions. This resulted in an amount of R216 315 650 relating to cash and cash equivalents, not being disclosed in the financial statement of the department.

Regular, accurate and complete financial and performance reports

57. The reported achievements for predetermined objectives included in the annual performance report (EPWP) were not supported by appropriate audit evidence in the previous audit cycle. Similar findings, as identified in the prior year have been communicated to management. Furthermore, a material misstatement was identified on the financial statements received audit in relation to cash and cash equivalents

Compliance monitoring

58. Management's processes to ensure compliance with laws and regulations were not effective in ensuring that there is proper consequence management in place as fruitless and wasteful expenditure has not been recovered even though it has been determined more than 6 years ago. Furthermore, most of the irregular expenditure has been investigated, however, there has been no action based on the outcomes of the investigations.

Information technology systems

IT controls pertaining to service continuity, security management, user access management and change control management were not effectively designed and implemented due to the following key internal control deficiencies:

59. IT controls relating to Service Continuity were not resolved due to unavailability of hardware to test.
60. There was no resource capacity to review the user profiles on Reapatala and EPWP due to a huge number of users across the regions.
61. Management did not in all instances implement proper record keeping of reviews of user access rights and system administrator's activities on Reapatala and EPWP systems in a timely manner to ensure that complete, relevant, and accurate information is accessible and available to support Information Systems Audit reporting.
62. The deficiencies relating to security management controls could be attributed to a lack of capacity from a skills and technology perspective within the department to ensure that adequate security control measures are implemented and consistently performed.

Inadequate oversight by management to detect and address deviations from the policy prescripts timeously.Summary

The matters above, as they relate to the basis for the qualified opinion, findings on the annual performance report and findings on compliance with legislation, will be summarised in the auditor's report as follows:

The accounting officer is currently implementing appropriate actions committed in response to the material irregularity notification on state events expenditure that exceeded the contract amount, however, the accounting officer did not implement all the appropriate actions committed.

The department developed a plan to address internal and external audit findings, but the appropriate level of management did not monitor adherence to the plan in a timely manner. Consequently, material adjustments on the annual financial statements were made while material findings on performance information as well as compliance with laws and regulations were identified and reported.

Consequence management in line with the recommendations of completed investigation reports was not implemented in certain instances. In addition, other investigations that were reported to be in progress in the prior year have been closed without a clear indication of the outcomes and recommendations to enable consequence management where necessary.

MATERIAL IRREGULARITIES⁵

63. In accordance with the PAA and the material irregularity regulations, we have a responsibility to report on material irregularities identified during an audit and on the status of material irregularities reported in the previous year.
64. We assessed the progress made in resolving the material irregularities reported in the previous year.
65. The auditor's report will include the following summarised information:

Expenditure on state events exceeded contract amount

66. The prices that were charged on the invoices for three state events that occurred from 6 July 2018 to 7 November 2018 were different from the prices that were quoted on the pricing schedule that was submitted by the supplier during the tender process and the non-compliance resulted into material financial loss of R825 832. The non-compliance was identified with Treasury Regulation 8.1.1 as the internal procedures and internal control measures did not identify or prevent the irregular payments mentioned above.
67. The Accounting Officer was notified of the MI on 03 September 2020 and the appropriate actions committed in response to the notification (Investigate the expenditure into state events, quantify the full quantum of the likely financial loss, identify responsible officials and initiate the process to recover the financial loss) have not been implemented within reasonable time based on the evidence of progress made per the communication received from the accounting officer dated 07 May 2021.

68. We recommend that the accounting officer should take the following actions to address the material irregularity, which should have been implemented by 3 February 2022:

- The irregular expenditure should be investigated and the financial loss incurred quantified in accordance with the applicable instruction note(s) issued by the National Treasury dealing with irregular expenditure.
- Appropriate action should be taken to recover the financial loss suffered by the department from the supplier.
- Effective and appropriate disciplinary steps should commence against any official that the investigation found to be responsible, as required by section 38(1)(h) of the PFMA and in accordance with treasury regulation 9.1.3.

69. The implementation of the recommendations was followed up during the current year and we noted that the actions to address the MI have been initiated. We will follow up on the progress made in the implementation of our recommendations in the during the next audit cycle.

Price and quantity variances pertaining to the funeral related expenditure

70. During the 2018/19 financial period, findings were raised with respect to state funerals, wherein weaknesses were noted in the contract management processes. These weaknesses resulted in payments made on this contract between the period of May 2018 to December 2018, being in excess of the amounts required as per the pricing schedule that was submitted by the supplier during the tender process. In other instances, the invoice that was submitted by the supplier for payment purposes included items that were not initially quoted as per pricing schedule, which was submitted by the supplier during the tender process. This resulted in a financial loss of R9 121 374. Non-compliance was identified with Treasury Regulation 8.1.1, as the internal procedures and internal control measures did not identify or prevent the irregular payments mentioned above.

71. The Accounting Officer was notified of the MI on 02 September 2020 and the appropriate actions committed in response to the notification are being implemented based on the evidence of progress made per the communication received from the accounting officer dated 10 June 2022.

72. Management conducted its own investigation into the matter to establish the accuracy of the issues raised by the AGSA. The investigation was finalised on 29 March 2019, confirmed the AGSA's findings, and further identified additional irregularities with respect to each funeral.

73. The Department further opened a case with the SA Police Services for civil recovery against the supplier as recommended by the investigation report. The case number is CAS793/2020 opened at Pretoria Central Police Station. Furthermore, the investigation report recommended disciplinary actions against the responsible officials. The matter was further referred to the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) on 18 September 2020. SIU then decided to conduct their own investigation on the matter and indicated that they will be pursuing a civil claim against the supplier. However, the SIU has not availed their report to the Department.

74. The Department approached the State Attorney to appoint legal counsel to assist the Department with disciplinary proceedings against the three officials still in the employ of the department. The disciplinary proceedings are currently under way for the suspended Director-

General and is being handled by The Presidency. The hearings for the other two officials implicated in the irregularity is being handled by the state attorney. As at date of this report, the disciplinary hearing had not been concluded against the officials.

75. A combined summons have been filed at the Gauteng high court(Pretoria) for case number 20987/22,in a matter between Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure(Plaintiff) and the supplier on 01 April 2022. The summons is in relation to payments made by DPWI in excess of the agreed pricing schedule during the tendering process stage by the supplier. This covers the two funerals in which the supplier was used to render services for the Mama Veronica Sobukwe funeral (R 371 186) and the M Mtslali funeral(R 124 315).The bulk amount of the outstanding financial loss to be recovered is being followed up by the SIU.
76. The accounting officer wrote to Treasury on 27 January 2022 requesting the supplier and its director to be restricted from doing business with the state due to fraudulent misrepresentation when submitting invoices for payment in respect of state funeral services. The application was conditionally declined by NT on 31 Mar 2022 due to DPWI not following the appropriate procedures and legislation to restrict the supplier. NT in its conclusion has provided DPWI with an opportunity to resubmit the applicable and furnish NT with the relevant documents.
77. The accounting officer approved the contract management policy on 11 April 2022, which sets out guidelines on contracts to enable effective delivery of goods, services and works in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract. We will follow up on the implementation and outcomes of the planned actions during my next audit.

OTHER REPORTS

78. We draw attention to the following engagements conducted by various parties that have or could potentially have an impact on the department's financial statements, reported performance information and compliance with applicable legislation and other related matters. The reports noted do not form part of my opinion on the financial statements or my findings on the reported performance information or compliance with legislation. The summarised other reports will be included in the auditor's report as follows:
79. Investigation was still on going during preparation of management report in relation to allegation that DPWI officials at the Nelspruit Regional Office are involved in fraud relating to monthly rental collected for farm Waterval JT168 at old Tweefontein Samwill Sabie which has 200 tenants. According to the whistleblower, Committee members that were appointed to collect rent from tenants in some instance they don't issue receipts to tenants or issue receipt not equal to the money received under false pretences that the other money is for cleaning services.
80. Fieldwork was still being conducted during preparation of management report in relation to allegation that nepotism occurred in the appointment of supervisors of cleaners at the Pretoria Regional Office. The request emanated from a grievance lodged by officials who attended interviews citing that the appointed official is related to one of the panel members.

SECTION 3: ASSURANCE PROVIDERS AND STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMITMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS⁶

ASSESSMENT OF ASSURANCE PROVIDERS

81. The annual report is used to report on the financial position of auditees, their performance against predetermined objectives⁷ and overall governance. One of the important oversight functions of Parliament is to consider auditees' annual reports. To perform this oversight function, they need assurance that the information in the annual report is credible. To this end, the annual report includes our auditor's report, which provides assurance on the credibility of the financial statements and the annual performance report, as well as on the auditee's compliance with legislation.
82. Our reporting and the oversight processes reflect on past events, as it takes place after the end of the financial year. However, management, the leadership and those charged with governance contribute throughout the year to the credibility of financial and performance information and compliance with legislation by ensuring that adequate internal controls are implemented.
83. We assess the level of assurance provided by these assurance providers based on the status of internal controls (as reported in section 2.6) and the impact of the different role players on these controls. We provide our assessment for this audit cycle below.

Senior management: provides **limited assurance**

- Senior management did not implement some of the action plans effectively and inadequate review of the annual financial statements was conducted, which then resulted in material misstatements being identified in the annual financial statements submitted for audit. There was an increase in the non-compliance paragraphs, furthermore the audit of financial statements opinion regressed from unqualified to qualified in the current year. The audit opinion outcome on predetermined objectives is still qualified in the current year. The above is an indication that the action plans were not implemented effectively and timeously.

Accounting officer provides **limited assurance**

- The accounting officer did not provide sufficient oversight to ensure that the action plans committed to by senior management are fully implemented. This resulted in a qualified audit opinion of financial statements in the current year which is a regression. The audit opinion on predetermined objectives still remains qualified as in the prior year. This is an indication that the corrective measures have not been fully actioned.

Executive authority provides **assurance**

- The Minister requested a detailed report into the 100% expenditure by the Parliamentary Villages Board as the expenditure was incurred during a period when most of the parliamentary engagements were virtual. This is an indication that the Minister wants to ensure that the department does not rely on the auditors to identify irregularities and implementation of corrective measures.

Internal audit provides assurance

- Legislation in South Africa requires the establishment, roles and responsibilities of internal audit units. Internal audit units form part of the internal control and governance structures of the department and play an important role in its monitoring activities.
- The accounting officer should ensure that the internal audit function is adequately resourced to function effectively.
- Internal audit provides an independent assessment of the department's governance, risk management and internal control processes. Internal audit have a significant role to play as an assurance provider due to the assurance skills that they possess and assurance activities that they perform. Effective internal audit units are able to have a positive impact on the status of key controls.
- The internal audit unit of the department must prepare a risk-based audit plan and internal audit programme for each financial year. It must advise the accounting officer and report to the audit committee on the implementation of the internal audit plan and matters relating to internal audit, internal controls, accounting procedures and practices, risk and risk management, performance management, loss control and compliance with the PFMA. The internal audit unit must also perform such other duties as may be assigned by the accounting officer.
- Internal audit division was adequately resourced and did prepare a risk based audit plan. Internal audit also performed their duties as expected and made recommendations where they conducted audits and there were findings. The implementation of the recommendations is to be actioned by the relevant officials of the department.

Audit committee: provides assurance

- Legislation requires the accounting officer to ensure the establishment of an audit committee.
- The accounting officer is expected to ensure that the audit committee functions effectively to have a positive impact on the status of key controls.
- The audit committee is an independent advisory body to the accounting officer and the management and staff of the department on matters relating to internal financial control and internal audits; risk management; accounting policies; adequacy, reliability and accuracy of financial reporting and information; performance management; effective governance; the PFMA, Treasury Regulations and any other applicable legislation; performance evaluation and any other issues.
- The audit committee is also expected to review the annual financial statements to provide an authoritative and credible view of the department, its efficiency and effectiveness and its overall level of compliance with the applicable legislation.
- The department did have a functional audit committee. The audit committee did approve the annual financial statements submitted for audit after reviewing them. Furthermore, the audit committee ensured that they met throughout the year to provide recommendations and follow up on commitments by management.

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTING COMMITMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

84. Below is our assessment of the progress in implementing the commitments made by the department to address the prior and current year's audit findings.

No.	Commitment	Made by	Date	Origin of commitment	Status
1	1) Appoint Service Providers to conduct the determination test on the confirmed available information. 2) Review the investigation reports for further referral to NT/LR and update the IE and FWE registers appropriately. 3) Investigate the remaining disclosed transactions of financial misconduct, make necessary referral to NT/LR and update the registers appropriately.	Director : Internal Control	31-Mar-22	Determination test on IE and FWE not conducted timeously on backlog transactions .	In Progress
2	1) Review receivables impairment circular in line with the latest Modified Cash Standards and Accounting Manual for Department. 2) Update the impairment assessment requirements list.	Director: Financial Accounting	31-Mar-22	Failure to assess all receivables balances at year end to determine whether the balances recognised are still recoverable	In Progress
3	1) Regular reminders to units with invoices outstanding for more than 21 days. 2) Issue letters to units failing to process payments within 30 days to provide reasons for non-compliance 3) Send list of all non-compliance to Directorate: Labour Relations to proceed with consequences management 4) Where managers fails to respond to the letters issued after 30 days, the matter will be referred to the Directorate: Labour Relations to proceed with consequences management 5) Circulate report of invoices paid after 30 days to all respected managers on a monthly basis 6) Process all invoices under the Chief Directorate; Financial Management in line with the standard turnaround time	Director: Financial Accounting	31-Mar-22	Monitoring controls did not ensure that creditors were paid within the required 30 days of receipt of the invoice.	Completed (Ongoing)

No.	Commitment	Made by	Date	Origin of commitment	Status
	7) Communicate to the affected suppliers to renegotiate payment terms when there are circumstances that may results in payments not being made tiemously.				
4	1) Enable and review security logs 2) Deploy latest patches 3) Configure adequate password settings	Acting Chief Director: ICT	Regularly	Resource constraints within the ICT function.	Completed (Ongoing)
5	1) Keep user profiles properly and according to best practice. 2) Communicate minimum security requirements 3) Update system to include user access rights	Acting Chief Director: ICT	31-Mar-22	Insufficient record keeping of reviews of user access rights and system administrator's activities on Reapatala and EPWP systems.	Completed
6	1) Develop EPWP coordination indicators for 2022/23 DPWI APP and submit them to GRC. 2) Provide monthly reports of valid EPWP participants to reporting public bodies for reconciliation against their records. 3) Check 60 projects implemented by DPWI and forward feedback reports to project managers. 4) Check 120 projects implemented by metropolitan municipalities and forward feedback reports to the public bodies. 5) Complete 100 public body visits, directed specifically at verification at public bodies that receive significant grant allocations. 6) Roll out Version 2 of the EPWP Reporting System for Provincial Departments, that will allow contracts, attendance registers and payment registers for participants to be uploaded.	Director: EPWP	31-Mar-22	Lack of accurate and complete records	Completed
7	Provide to the Executive Officer of the NSF amended clauses to the	Director: EPWP	31-Jan-22	Incomplete disclosures for principal-agent	Completed

No.	Commitment	Made by	Date	Origin of commitment	Status
	MoA for resolution of the finding relating to disclosures.			arrangement and also misstatements in the presentation and disclosures for principal-agent arrangement.	
8	Heads of SCM and Acquisition Directors to complete and submit Certificate of Completeness and Compliance (COCC) as well as confirming due diligence has been done in reviewing the registers and reports for completeness, accuracy and compliance in all material respects on a monthly basis.	Acting Director: SCM	Monthly (Done by the 4th of the new month for the preceding months transaction)	The submitted quotation report by HO and all regional offices were accompanied with the signed Certificates of Compliance and the reports were fully completed with no errors. Head Office and all Regional Offices reported on the their COCC in relation to tenders.	In Progress
9	For deviations within quotation thresholds - these deviations must be declared in the Quotations Register and filtered for reporting also to the NT on a quarterly basis.	Acting Director: SCM	Monthly (SCM Man) and Quarterly (NT).	Deviation not included in the deviation register and not reported to NT.	Completed (Ongoing)
10	All applicable Local Content and Production tenders awarded in 2020/21 to be reported by end of September 2021 by all offices to the DTI.	Acting Director: SCM	30-Sep-21	Local content not reported to DTI	Completed

- 18 audit recommendations accepted by management in the prior year on matters included in the auditor's report and other important matters were implemented, or alternative actions were taken to resolve the finding.
- 6 recommendations are still being implemented.
- Details on the status of implementing the recommendations made in the previous year(s) are provided in section 10, which summarises the detailed audit findings.

SECTION 4: SPECIFIC FOCUS AREAS⁸

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

85. Our audit included a high-level overview of the department's financial viability as at year-end. The financial viability assessment provides useful information for accountability and decision-making purposes and complements the financial statements by providing insights and perspectives thereon. The financial viability assessment is expected to enhance timely remedial decision-making and policy reforms where financial viability may be at risk. It will also highlight to management those issues that may require corrective action and the urgency and magnitude of the reforms and decisions necessary to maintain operations. The information should be used to complement, rather than substitute, management's own financial assessment.
86. It should be noted that the financial viability assessment below is based on the department's financial statement amounts adjusted to reflect certain accrual accounting concepts.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY ASSESSMENT			
		AS AT 31 MARCH 2022	AS AT 31 MARCH 2021
EXPENDITURE MANAGEMENT			
1.1	Creditor payment period	27.3 Days	25.1 Days
1.2	30+ day accruals as a percentage of total accruals	9.0%	2.5%
	• Amount of 30+ day accruals	R 3 150 000	R 399 000
	• Amount of total accruals	R 34 897 000	R 16 091 000
REVENUE MANAGEMENT			
2.1	Debtor-collection period (after impairment)	406.3 Days	69.1 Days
2.2	Debtors' impairment provision as a percentage of accrued departmental revenue	0%	0%
	• Amount of debtors' impairment provision	R 0	R 0
	• Amount of accrued departmental revenue	R 10 899 000	R 1 192 000
ASSET AND LIABILITY MANAGEMENT			
3.1	An accrual-adjusted deficit for the year was realised (total expenditure exceeded total revenue)	No	No
	• Amount of accrual-adjusted surplus/(deficit) for the year	R 144 653 000	R 63 642 000
3.2	An accrual-adjusted net current liability position was realised (total current liabilities exceeded total current assets)	Yes	Yes
	• Amount of accrual-adjusted net current assets/(liability) position	(R 480 850 000)	(R 475 398 000)

FINANCIAL VIABILITY ASSESSMENT			
		AS AT 31 MARCH 2022	AS AT 31 MARCH 2021
3.3	An accrual-adjusted net liability position was realised (total liabilities exceeded total assets)	No	No
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amount of accrual-adjusted net asset/(liability) position 	R 81 435 000	R 87 766 000
CASH MANAGEMENT			
4.1	The year-end bank balance was in overdraft	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amount of year-end bank balance (cash and cash equivalents)/(bank overdraft) 	(R 44 475 000)	(R 83 112 000)
4.2	Cash shortfall as a percentage of next year's appropriation (budget), excluding "compensation of employees" and "transfers and subsidies" **	51.8 %	37.5 %
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amount of the cash surplus/(shortfall) Amount of next year's appropriation (budget), excluding "compensation of employees" and "transfers and subsidies" 	(R 269 105 000) R 519 228 000	(R 189 116 000) R 504 904 000
4.3	Amounts payable in future periods as a percentage of the budget for the next three years, excluding "compensation of employees" and "transfers and subsidies" ⁹	6.0 %	6.4 %
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amounts payable in future periods Amount of the next three years' appropriation (budget), excluding "compensation of employees" and "transfers and subsidies" 	R 95 689 000 R 1 568 100	R 98 876 000 R 1 545 904 000
4.4	Guarantees issued by the department as a percentage of next year's budget, excluding "compensation of employees" and "transfers and subsidies"	0.0 %	0.01 %
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amount of guarantees issued Amount of next year's appropriation (budget), excluding "compensation of employees" and "transfers and subsidies" 	R 53 000 R 519 228 000	R 53 000 R 504 904 000
4.5	Claims against the department as a percentage of next year's budget, excluding "compensation of employees" and "transfers and subsidies"	2.6 %	2 %
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amount of claims against the department Amount of next year's appropriation (budget), excluding "compensation of employees" and "transfers and subsidies" 	R 13 337 000 R 519 228 000	R 10 000 000 R 504 904 000
OVERALL ASSESSMENT ¹⁰			
Overall the financial viability is assessed as:		Green (Good)	Green (Good)
* This indicator assumes that the unauthorised expenditure of R261 169 000, per note 9 will not be Approved with funding.			

FINANCIAL VIABILITY ASSESSMENT		
	AS AT 31 MARCH 2022	AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

High-level comments

87. The department's financial position improved as indicated by the significant decline in the bank overdraft. This is mainly as a result of an increase in unspent voted funds. The bank overdraft will however remain until such a time when the unauthorised expenditure is condoned.
88. Debtors collection period significantly deteriorated. This was as a result of a significant increase in the balance of accrued department revenue. The accrued department revenue was due to interest to be received from IDT of which it was only paid in April 2022 after year end.
89. Creditors payment period has slightly regressed from as compared to the previous year. However, the indicator is still within the legislated 30 days payments period.

PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

90. The audit included an assessment of procurement processes, contract management and the related controls in place. These processes and controls must comply with legislation to ensure a fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost-effective supply chain management (SCM) system and to reduce the likelihood of fraud, corruption, favouritism, and unfair and other irregular practices. A summary of the findings from the audit are as follows:

Irregular expenditure

91. R65 000 (2%) of irregular expenditure incurred in the current financial year was as a result of the contravention of SCM legislation. Irregular expenditure in the current year also included a recurring amount of R3,7 million that relates to the irregularly appointed officials as per the *PSC report*. The root causes of the lack of effective prevention and detection are inadequate review and monitoring of payment processes.

Employees doing business with the state

92. Regulation 13(c) of the Public Service Regulations of 2016 prohibits employees of departments from doing business with the state from 1 August 2016. The transitional provisions of the regulations require that the following actions must be taken by 1 February 2017 in relation to those contracts that were awarded before 1 August 2016. An employee shall:
- cease to conduct business with the organ of the state
 - resign as an employee, or
 - resign as a director of a company that conducts business with an organ of state or resign as an employee.

93. Furthermore, section 30(1) of the Public Service Act of 1994 states, “No employee shall perform or engage himself or herself to perform remunerative work outside his or her employment in the relevant department, except with the written permission of the executive authority of the department.”

94. The table below provides a summary of findings on employees doing business with the state. These findings amount to contravention of the Public Service Code of Conduct, which must be investigated and action taken in accordance with the provisions of the Public Service Act.

	Employees doing business with the department	Employees doing business with other organs of state
Contracts secured after 1 August 2016		
Number of employees	3	1
Number of contracts/quotations	3	1
Value of contracts	R859 876	R943 287
Ongoing contracts awarded before 1 August 2016 – where no action was taken to dispose of the interest		
Number of employees	0	0
Number of contracts/quotations	0	0
Value of contracts	0	0
Number of employees performing other remunerative work without approval	0	1

Procurement processes

95. The table below is a summary of findings identified on procurement processes:

Information	Total		Quotations		Competitive bids		Contract management	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
Awards selected for testing	46	R137 496 807	28	R5 577 638	4	R45 306 936	12	R86 612 233
Expenditure incurred on selected awards – current year		R82 395 205		R4 022 751		R2 885 885		R75 486 569
Limitations – awards selected but could not be tested	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Awards on which non-	1	R25 280	1	R25 280	0	R0	0	R0

Information	Total		Quotations		Competitive bids		Contract management	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
compliance was identified								
Irregular expenditure identified	1	R25 280	1	R25 280	0	R0	0	R0
Instances of irregular expenditure where goods/ services were not received	0	R0	0	R0	0	R0	0	R0

Local content and production (designated sectors)

- Specifications for one (1) award with a total value of R25 280 did not stipulate the minimum threshold for local production and content.

FRAUD AND CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

96. The primary responsibility for preventing and detecting fraud rests with management and those charged with governance. We are responsible for obtaining reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that some material misstatements, including fraud, may not be detected.

97. Below is a summary of fraud risk factors that should be addressed to ensure that sufficient measures/controls are in place to prevent material misstatement due to fraud.

98. The PFMA and its regulations clearly stipulate that matters such as incurring unauthorised, irregular as well as fruitless and wasteful expenditure, the possible abuse of the SCM system (including fraud and improper conduct) and allegations of financial misconduct should be investigated. Disciplinary steps should be taken based on the results of the investigations. Our audits included an assessment of the department's management of consequences. The significant findings are provided below

Measures to manage consequences

99. The following measures were not implemented to ensure that the environment is conducive to effective consequence management:

- The department did adopt systems (policies) to investigate allegations of misconduct and disciplinary procedures. However, these were not adhered to in certain instances as there was fruitless and wasteful expenditure of R973 000 which has not been investigated for more than 6 years.

Ongoing investigations

100. A total of 3 investigations were ongoing at year-end into allegations relating to financial misconduct, fraud and/or improper conduct in SCM. Some of these investigations have been ongoing for a period exceeding 12 months. The table below provides a summary of investigations which had not been completed as at year-end.

Total number of ongoing investigations as at year-end	18
• Number of SCM-related investigations	1
• Number of fraud-related/corruption investigations	5

Recommendations not implemented for completed investigations

101. The PFMA treasury regulation requires that at completion of an investigation, disciplinary proceedings are held. A total of four (04) investigations were completed during the current year. For two(02) completed investigations, appropriate action (sanction) was not taken as per the findings.

Failure to properly deal with allegations reported in the prior year

102. The table below provides a summary of findings from the previous year that were either not investigated or proper disciplinary steps were not taken after investigation.

Finding	Value
Irregular expenditure	
Effective and appropriate disciplinary steps were not taken against officials who made or permitted irregular expenditure	R19 274 750
Fruitless and wasteful expenditure	
Effective and appropriate disciplinary steps were not taken against officials who made or permitted fruitless and wasteful expenditure	R973 000
Losses resulting from fruitless and wasteful expenditure were not recovered from the person liable	R973 000

BROAD-BASED BLACK ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT (B-BBEE) ACT AND REGULATIONS REQUIREMENTS

103. The audit included confirming whether the requirements as set out in the B-BBEE Act and Regulations were adhered to. The purpose of this value-add initiative is to highlight the requirements contained in the B-BBEE Act and Regulations. Below is the list of findings identified:

- The Department did not submit the FORM B-BBEE 1, the approved audited annual financial statements, the approved annual report pertaining to the 2020-21 financial year to the B-BBEE Commission as required by regulation 12(2) of the B-BBEE Regulations.

SECTION 5. USING THE WORK OF INTERNAL AUDIT

104. The auditing standards allow external auditors the optional use of the work of internal auditors for external audit purposes and for direct assistance. We have used internal audit as follows:

- All internal audit report were considered for risk identification
- The internal audit function was used for external audit purposes or for direct assistance as follows:
 - Movable tangible and intangible assets: Perform asset verification at regional offices
 - Compensation of employees: Employee verification at regional offices

SECTION 6: EMERGING RISKS

Accounting, performance management/reporting and compliance matters

New pronouncements

Modified cash standard

105. The following emerging risks are relevant for the 2021-22 audit cycle.

Componentisation of assets

- Departments are encouraged to componentise assets in their asset registers as it will become a requirement in future. The effective date to componentise assets has not been determined yet.

Subsequent events

We considered the following sources to determine whether there are events which may have an impact on the audit outcome. Based on our assessment, we have not identified any matters which require management to make changes to the annual financial reports and which may subsequently impact the audit outcome. However, we encourage management to report and subsequent events which may come to their attention in accordance with the reporting frameworks.

- Media Reports
- Change in oversight
- Political initiatives

Audit findings on the annual performance report that may have an impact on the audit opinion in future

106. The planned and reported performance information of selected programmes was audited against the following additional criteria as developed from the performance management and reporting framework:

- Presentation and disclosure – overall presentation
 - Overall presentation of the performance information in the annual performance report is comparable and understandable

- Relevance – completeness of relevant indicators
 - Completeness of relevant indicators in terms of the mandate of the auditee, including:
 - relevant core functions are prioritised in the period under review
 - relevant performance indicators are included for the core functions prioritised in the period under review

107. Material audit findings arising from the audit against the additional criteria do not have an impact on the audit opinion of the selected programmes in this report. However, it may impact on the audit opinion in future.

SECTION 7: ENTITIES CONTROLLED BY THE DEPARTMENT

108. In terms of the PFMA, the department has certain oversight responsibilities regarding the entities over which it has ownership control. The audit outcomes of these entities are summarised

Name of entity	Audit outcome			Significant deficiencies in internal control					
	Financial statement opinion	Findings on the performance report	Findings on compliance	Leadership		Financial and performance management		Governance	
				Assessment	Movement	Assessment	Movement	Assessment	Movement
Property Trading Management Entity(PMTE)	In progress	In progress	In progress						
Independent Development Trust (IDT)	In progress	In progress	In progress						
Construction Industry Development Board(CIDB)	In progress	In progress	In progress						
Council for the Built Environment(CBE)	In progress	In progress	In progress						
Agreement South Africa(ASA)	In progress	In progress	In progress						

▲ Improved

▶ Unchanged

▼ Regressed

Good

Concerning

Intervention required

SECTION 8: RATINGS OF DETAILED AUDIT FINDINGS¹¹

109. For purposes of this report, the detailed audit findings included in annexures A to C have been classified as follows:

- Matters to be included in the auditor's report: These matters should be addressed as a matter/ of urgency.
- Other important matters: These matters should be addressed to prevent them from leading to material misstatements of the financial statements or material findings on the performance report and compliance with legislation in future.
- Administrative matters: These matters are unlikely to result in material misstatements of the financial statements or material findings on the performance report and compliance with legislation.

SECTION 9: CONCLUSION

110. The matters communicated throughout this report relate to the three fundamentals of internal control that should be addressed to achieve sustained clean administration. Our staff remain committed to assist in identifying and communicating good practices to improve governance and accountability and to build public confidence in government's ability to account for public resources in a transparent manner.

Yours faithfully

Tintswalo Masia
Senior Manager: National A

2022/07/31

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Distribution:

Audit committee
Head of internal audit unit
Executive authority

SECTION 10: SUMMARY OF DETAILED AUDIT FINDINGS

Page no.	Finding	Classification					Rating			Number of times reported in previous three years	Status of implementation of previous year(s) recommendation
		Misstatements in financial statements	Misstatements in annual performance report	Non-compliance with legislation	Internal control deficiency	Service delivery	Matters affecting the auditor's report	Other important matters	Administrative matters		
	Audit of Financial Statements										
	Cash and Cash Equivalents	Yes					Yes			0	New Finding
	Fruitless and wasteful Expenditure note	Yes					Yes			0	New Finding
	Irregular Expenditure note	Yes					Yes			0	New Finding
	Accrued Departmental Revenue	Yes						Yes		0	New Finding
	Key Management Personnel note	Yes						Yes		0	New Finding
	Accruals and Payables not recognised	Yes						Yes		2	In progress
	Payments not made within 30 days	Yes						Yes			
	Movable Tangible Assets	Yes						Yes		0	New Finding



	Audit of Predetermined Objectives										
	EPWP Summary of Findings										
	Predetermined objectives: EPWP Participants and projects were not reported on the EPWP Q4 data		Yes				Yes			3	In progress
	Predetermined objectives: Proof of payment documents were not provided		Yes				Yes			3	In progress
	Predetermined objectives: Under reporting of persons with disability		Yes				Yes			3	In progress
	Predetermined objectives: Attendance registers were not provided		Yes				Yes			3	In progress
	Predetermined objectives: Over reporting of persons with disability		Yes				Yes			2	In progress
	Predetermined objectives: Proof of disability was not provided		Yes				Yes			2	In progress
	Predetermined objectives: Identity documents were not provided		Yes				Yes			3	In progress
	Limitation of Scope: Participants files not made available for audit at public body		Yes				Yes			0	New Finding
	Predetermined objectives: Over reporting of participants		Yes				Yes			3	In progress
	Predetermined objectives: Number of infrastructure projects		Yes				Yes			2	In Progress



	completed: Reported achievement not complete										
	Audit of Compliance with legislation										
	Irregular Expenditure						Yes			0	New Finding
	Fruitless and Wasteful Expenditure						Yes			0	New Finding
	Payments not made within 30 days							Yes		3	In progress
	Local content not (Minimum threshold not provided)							Yes		0	New Finding

Page no.	finding	Classification					Rating			Number of times reported in previous three years	Status of implementation of previous year(s) recommendation
		Misstatements in financial statements	Misstatements in annual performance report	Non-compliance with legislation	Internal control deficiency	Service delivery	Matters affecting the auditor's report	Other important matters	Administrative matters		
Information Technology Governance											
1.1	Vacant positions within information and communication (ICT) division				Yes			Yes		5	In progress
1.2	Information Communication Technology projects for 2020/21 were not achieved				Yes			Yes		3	In progress
User Access Management											
2.1	Inadequately implementation of user access management controls around Reapatala				Yes			Yes		4	In progress
2.2	Inadequate implementation of user access controls on EPWP				Yes			Yes		4	In progress
2.3	Inadequately implementation of user access management controls Active Directory				Yes			Yes		3	In progress
Security Management											
3.1	Inadequate Security Management controls				Yes			Yes		5	In progress
Information Technology Service Continuity											



Page no.	finding	Classification					Rating			Number of times reported in previous three years	Status of implementation of previous year(s) recommendation
		Misstatements in financial statements	Misstatements in annual performance report	Non-compliance with legislation	Internal control deficiency	Service delivery	Matters affecting the auditor's report	Other important matters	Administrative matters		
4.1	Inadequate IT service continuity controls				Yes				Yes	5	In progress

DETAILED AUDIT FINDINGS: ANNEXURES A TO C

ANNEXURE A: MATTERS AFFECTING THE AUDITOR'S REPORT

Audit of Financial Statements

1. Understatement of Cash and Cash Equivalents

Laws, rules, and Regulations:

Section 40 (1) (a) and (b) of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) states that “The accounting officer for a department, trading entity or constitutional institution must keep full and proper records of the financial affairs of the department, trading entity or constitutional institution in accordance with any prescribed norms and standards and must prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with generally recognized accounting practice

Section 40 (3) (a), states that “The annual report and audited financial statements referred to in subsection 1(d) must fairly present the state of affairs of the department, trading entity or constitutional institution, its business, its financial results, its performance against predetermined objectives and its financial position as at the end of the financial year concerned

Chapter 3 paragraph 3.1 of the Modified Cash Standards states, “The statement of financial position provides a snapshot of the department’s recognised assets and liabilities at a point in time. Information presented in the statement of financial position is the nature of assets, liabilities and net assets.”

Chapter 3 paragraph 3.3.1 of MCS states that “For financial statements to be fairly presented, the effects of transactions, other events and conditions should be truthfully and accurately represented in accordance with the and recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure criteria for assets, liabilities, revenue, and expenses as contained in the MCS. A department whose financial statements comply with the MCS must make an explicit and unreserved statement of such compliance in the notes to the financial statements.”

Chapter 6 paragraph 3.4 of MCS states that “Cash and Cash equivalent includes the bank account balances (both domestic and foreign) and that in terms of accounting for cash held for another entity ‘When a department holds cash for another party and it is in the bank account of the department at year end, it forms part of cash and cash equivalents. The department should disclose in the financial statements that it cannot use the funds (i.e., there is a restriction on use of the funds).’

Nature

During the audit of cash and cash equivalents, we performed external bank confirmations with the relevant banks to obtain assurance that all bank accounts have been accounted for and that balances have been recorded accordingly.

We obtained bank confirmations for the following account as at 31 March 2022 and noted a closing balance of R 216 315 650, 43. Our position as the auditors is that the amount should have been presented and disclosed under the line item cash and cash equivalents as the statement of financial position provides a snapshot of the departments recognised assets as at 31 March 2022.

The department held the cash for other entities and was to subsequently transfer it to the National Treasury as it related to unspent grants of the said entity. However, the amount should have been presented and disclosed under the cash and cash equivalent line item as it was in the department's account as at 31 March 2022 in accordance with the bank confirmations as well as the bank statement thereof.

As a result, our position is that cash and cash equivalents line item was not fairly presented as the effect of the transaction was not fairly and accurately represented in accordance with MCS.

Name	Account	Confirming Party	Amount per external confirmations as at 31 March 2022	Amount per bank statement as at 31 March 2022	Amount as per AFS
Public Works Deposit Account	40-5395-7929	ABSA	R216 315 650,43	R216 315 650.43	R0

Impact

This will result in non-compliance with:

- Section 40(1a) (b) and (3a) of the Public Finance Management Act as cash and cash equivalents is misstated.
- MCS Chapter 3 paragraph 3.1 and 3.3.1 as cash and cash equivalents has not been presented and disclosed in accordance with MCS
- MCS Chapter 6 paragraph 3.4 cash and cash equivalents has not been presented and disclosed in accordance with MCS

Furthermore, cash and cash equivalents are understated by R216 315 650.43

Internal control deficiency

Financial and performance management

Management did not prepare regular, accurate and complete financial and performance reports that are supported and evidenced by reliable information.

Management did not present and disclose all bank account balances in the cash and cash equivalent line item in accordance with MCS as at 31 March 2022.

Recommendation

Management should present and disclose all bank account balances as at 31 March 2022 under the line item cash and cash equivalents. Management should further disclose in the financials that it cannot use the funds, as it will be subsequently transferred to another party as per chapter 3.4.

Management response

I am in agreement/I do not agree with the finding for the following reasons...

Name:

Position:

Date:

Auditor's conclusion

DETAILED AUDIT FINDING

2.Irrecoverable debt – expenditure incurred on behalf of the Department of Basic Education for the implementation of the School Beautification Programme

Requirements, Laws and regulations:

Section 38 (1) (c)(ii) of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) states that: *“The accounting officer for a department, trading entity or constitutional institution must take effective and appropriate steps to prevent unauthorised, irregular and fruitless and wasteful expenditure and losses resulting from criminal conduct.”*

Public Finance Management Act paragraph 38 (1)(g) states that: *“The accounting officer for a department, trading entity or constitutional institution must on discovery of fruitless and wasteful expenditure, immediately report, in writing, particulars of the expenditure to the relevant treasury;”*

Public Finance Management Act paragraph 38 (1)(h) states that: *“The accounting officer for a department, trading entity or constitutional institution must take effective and appropriate disciplinary steps against any official in the service of the department or constitutional institution who makes or permits fruitless and wasteful expenditure”*

The Public Finance Management Act defines fruitless and wasteful expenditure as expenditure which was made in vain and would have been avoided had reasonable care been exercised.

Nature

The DBE entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) for the implementation of the School Beautification Programme. The MoA was signed on 17 October 2013 and a letter of appointment was issued by the DBE on 15 November 2013. The project scope allocated to the DPW entailed 915 schools across the country with approximately 100 schools per province in each of the nine provinces.

The letter of appointment stipulated that the DPW had to submit an Infrastructure Project Implementation Plan, which is a detailed plan outlining a comprehensive scope of work, deliverables, project timelines, project cash flows and the project team, amongst others. The plan had to be approved by the Acting Director General of the DBE.

During the period 23 February 2015 to 18 September 2017, DPWI incurred expenditure to the amount of R54 541 470 for the implementation of the programme. This amount has been outstanding since 2017 and subsequently recorded as a doubtful receivable by DPWI as DBE has been disputing the claim.

The DBE has cited the following reasons for not paying the claim:

- DPWI did not submit an Infrastructure Project Implementation Plan as stipulated in the letter of appointment.
- DPWI proceeded on a number of issues related to the implementation of the programme without seeking the approval and concurrence of the DBE to proceed.
- The DPWI appointed the PMTE and PSP's without the approval and concurrence of the DBE and without confirming the availability of the budget from the DBE.
- DPWI submitted invoices for payment which were not accompanied by any supporting documentation indicating the appointment of these service providers as well as the work done to support the amounts being claimed.
- There were considerable delays experienced in the implementation of the project which ultimately contributed to the DBE issuing a directive to suspend the implementation of the programme
- No school benefited from this programme and all the procurement for the PMTE, PSP's and social facilitators was done without the involvement, or approval of the DBE as the client and without confirming the availability of the budget to proceed with the appointments of the service providers.

We have inspected the DBE file and confirmed that the letter of appointment did stipulate that DPW is required to submit an Infrastructure Project Implementation Plan (IPIP) within 14 days of acceptance, which is a detailed plan outlining a comprehensive scope of work, deliverables, project timelines, project cash flows and the project team amongst others. The plan had to be approved by the Acting Director-General of DBE and used as a monitoring tool for evaluation of progress. This condition was not adhered to and DPWI has acknowledged this shortcoming which led to a request being sent to DBE to condone this non-compliance. The DBE has declined this request and stated that it does not recognize any of the expenditure incurred and referred to as outstanding debt.

Therefore, any expenditure incurred with respect to the beautification of schools project by DPWI was not in accordance with the requirements of the MOA and appointment letter. Furthermore, the recipient of the services(DBE) has indicated that no school was beautified from the project, hence no refund has been made. The DPWI has not submitted a portfolio of evidence to DBE to demonstrate what work has been done as agreed in the appointment letter.

Based on the above, the expenditure incurred by DPWI on the project was in vain as no benefit was obtained from the expenditure. This could have been avoided had DPWI submitted and complied with the Infrastructure Project Implementation Plan (IPIP) to be used as a monitoring tool for evaluation of progress. This is an indication that the long outstanding debt will not be recoverable from DBE as they have not received the services which DPWI was supposed to provide.

In the prior year audit, management committed to engage DBE and National Treasury to ensure the funding is provided to clear the receivable. Management further indicated that, should securing funding not be successful, the Department will approach National Treasury for the write off. We take note that DPWI did engage the DBE in December 2021 to request for condonement of non-compliance with the memorandum of agreement and settlement of outstanding debt. DBE decline this request, however the DPWI has not approached National Treasury to write off the claim.

Impact

Non-compliance with section 38 (1) (c)(ii) of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) as management did not take effective and appropriate steps to collect all money due to the department and prevent fruitless and wasteful expenditure.

Fruitless and wasteful expenditure of R 54 541 470.

Internal control deficiency

Financial and performance management

Management did not implement controls over daily and monthly processing and reconciling of transactions.

Management did not adequately monitor the beautification of schools project in order to ensure that payments made to suppliers were for goods and services actually received.

Recommendation

Management should investigate the entire project to unearth the root causes which resulted in the financial loss and implement consequence management on the implicated officials.

Management should disclose the expenditure incurred as wasteful expenditure.



Management response

Name:

Position:

Date:

Auditor's conclusion

3. Irregular expenditure – Understatement of irregular expenditure disclosure in the annual financial statements

Requirements, Laws and regulations:

Section 40 (1) (a) and (b) of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) states that “The accounting officer for a department, trading entity or constitutional institution must keep full and proper records of the financial affairs of the department, trading entity or constitutional institution in accordance with any prescribed norms and standards and must prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with generally recognized accounting practice.”

In terms of paragraph 82 of the Irregular Expenditure Framework, “The accounting officer or accounting authority must ensure that only confirmed irregular expenditure is disclosed in the main note to the annual financial statements.”

Nature

During the audit of Irregular Expenditure, it was noted that an investigation on procurement fraud and irregular payments allegations was conducted by SexelaXabiso CA Inc on behalf of the department. The report was submitted on 21 September 2021 to the department.

The report stated that, *“Based on the findings, we found that payments that were made to service providers as indicated on 4.2.10 without following the requirements of Circular 33, paragraph number 3.3 should be deemed as irregular. Accordingly, Prestige Division officials should have requested the tender to be approved by the Accounting Officer prior to them going out on tender process for tender number CPTSC29/15, CPTSC30/15, CPTSC01/18 and CPTSC02/18.”*

This means that all the payments below should be disclosed as irregular expenditure in the annual financial statements of the department:

Service provider	Total amount paid to service provider
Springbok Atlas	R11 403 750
Maistry Transport CC	R5 004 200
WCL Trading	R2 866 800
Total	R19 274 750

However, it was noted upon inspecting the annual financial statements and supporting schedules for irregular expenditure, the above amount of R19 274 750 was not disclosed.

Impact

This will result to non-compliance with:

- Section 40 (1) (a) and (b) of the Public Finance Management Act
- Paragraph 83 of the Irregular Expenditure Framework

Furthermore, irregular expenditure disclosure note is understated by R19 274 750

Internal control deficiency

Financial and performance management

Management did not Review and monitor compliance with the applicable laws and regulations.

Management did not ensure that they disclose all the irregular expenditure that has been identified is disclosed in the notes to the annual financial statements

Recommendation

Management should ensure that they disclose all the irregular expenditure that has been identified is disclosed in the notes to the annual financial statements

Management response

I am in agreement/I do not agree with the finding for the following reasons...

Name:

Position:

Date:

Auditor's conclusion

Audit of Pre-determined Objectives

4.Indicator 8.2 – Number of projects completed within agreed construction period: Reported achievement not valid

Requirements, Laws and regulations:

Section 40(3)(a) of the PFMA states that: “The annual report and financial statements referred to in subsection 1(d) must Fairly present the state of affairs of the public entity, its business, its financial results, its performance against predetermined objective and its financial position as at the end of the financial year concerned....”

Paragraph 5.2 of the Framework for Managing Programme Performance Information requires the: “auditee to have appropriate systems to collect, collate, verify and store performance information to ensure reliable reporting of actual achievements against planned objectives, indicators and targets...”

Section 25(1)(e) of the Public Service Regulation states the following: “ An executive authority shall prepare a strategic plan for his or her department that enable the executive authority to monitor the progress made towards achieving those targets and core objectives...”

Nature

During the audit of Programme 8: Construction Project Management, performance indicator – number of projects completed within agreed construction period, the following infrastructure projects were reported to have been completed within the agree construction period. However, these projects were not completed within the agreed construction period.

WCS No	Project description	Date project was completed	Planned completion per SHC/EOT	Difference in days
055196	DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS:TOTAL REPLACEMENT OF LIFTS AT NEW COOPERATION BUILDING (BVR)	2022/02/24	2022/02/23	1 day
051829	GRAHAMSTOWN: SAPS FLATS: GRAHAMSTOWN KING FLATS NO 1-2: REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE OF THE COMPLEX	2022/03/04	2022/03/03	1 day
051750	TSOLO POLICE STATION: CONDITION BASED MAINTENANCE	2021/12/08	2021/11/29	7 days

Impact of the finding

The reported achievement per the Annual Performance Report is not valid and accurate.

Internal control deficiency

Leadership

Management did not exercise oversight responsibility regarding financial and performance reporting and compliance and related internal controls

Financial and performance management

Management did not prepare regular, accurate and complete financial and performance reports that are supported and evidenced by reliable information.

Recommendation

It is recommended that strong review processes are implemented on the Annual Performance Report and supporting schedule to ensure that what is reported in the performance report is valid and accurate.

It is further recommended that management should revise the population where invalid reporting was identified.

Management response

Name:

Position:

Date:

Auditor's conclusion

5.Indicator 8.3 – Number of projects completed within approved budget: Reported achievement not valid

Requirements, laws and Regulations

Section 40(3)(a) of the PFMA states that: “The annual report and financial statements referred to in subsection 1(d) must Fairly present the state of affairs of the public entity, its business, its financial results, its performance against predetermined objective and its financial position as at the end of the financial year concerned....”

Paragraph 5.2 of the Framework for Managing Programme Performance Information requires the: “auditee to have appropriate systems to collect, collate, verify and store performance information to ensure reliable reporting of actual achievements against planned objectives, indicators and targets...”

Section 25(1)(e) of the Public Service Regulation states the following: ” An executive authority shall prepare a strategic plan for his or her department that enable the executive authority to monitor the progress made towards achieving those targets and core objectives...”

Nature

During the audit of Programme 8: Construction Project Management, performance indicator – number of projects completed within approved budget, the following infrastructure project was reported to have been completed within the approved budget. However, this projects was not completed within the approved budget.

WCS No	Project description	Authorised amount	Total expenditure	Difference
044232	CAPE TOWN PARLIAMENTARY COMPLEX HERITAGE - REFURBISHMENT OF NCOP BUILDING, INCLUDING HVAC, ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC INSTALLATIONS	9 000 000,00	9 189 107,10	189 107,10

Impact of the finding

The reported achievement per the Annual Performance Report is not valid and accurate.

Internal control deficiency

Leadership

Management did not exercise oversight responsibility regarding financial and performance reporting and compliance and related internal controls

Financial and performance management

Management did not prepare regular, accurate and complete financial and performance reports that are supported and evidenced by reliable information.

Recommendation

It is recommended that strong review processes are implemented on the Annual Performance Report and supporting schedule to ensure that what is reported in the performance report is valid and accurate.

It is further recommended that management should revise the population where invalid reporting was identified.

Management response

Name:

Position:

Date:

Auditor's conclusion

6. Indicator 8.5 – Number of infrastructure projects completed: Reported achievement not complete.

Requirements, laws and Regulations

Section 40(3)(a) of the PFMA states that: “The annual report and financial statements referred to in subsection 1(d) must Fairly present the state of affairs of the public entity, its business, its financial results, its performance against predetermined objective and its financial position as at the end of the financial year concerned....”

Paragraph 5.2 of the Framework for Managing Programme Performance Information requires the: “auditee to have appropriate systems to collect, collate, verify and store performance information to ensure reliable reporting of actual achievements against planned objectives, indicators and targets...”

Section 25(1)(e) of the Public Service Regulation states the following: “ An executive authority shall prepare a strategic plan for his or her department that enable the executive authority to monitor the progress made towards achieving those targets and core objectives...”

Nature

During the audit of Programme 8: Construction Project Management, performance indicator – number of infrastructure projects completed, the following infrastructure projects were identified to have been complete. However, these projects were not reported as part of the achievement in the annual performance report

WCS No	Project description	Achieved status 6A in 2021/22	Date of practical completion per certificate
053939	VARIOUS CENTRES : KWA-ZULU/NATAL MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES: P8: Louwsburg Court	Yes	2022/02/15
Not stated on practical completion certificate	STALPEIN BASEMENT – PARLIAMENTARY PRECEINT	Yes	2021/10/08
054494	Murraysburg: Magistrates Office - Repairs & Renovations	Yes	2021/12/08

Impact of the finding



The reported achievement per the Annual Performance Report is not complete.

Internal control deficiency

Leadership

Management did not exercise oversight responsibility regarding financial and performance reporting and compliance and related internal controls

Financial and performance management

Management did not prepare regular, accurate and complete financial and performance reports that are supported and evidenced by reliable information.

Recommendation

It is recommended that strong review processes are implemented on the Annual Performance Report and supporting schedule to ensure that what is reported in the performance report is complete.

It is further recommended that management should revise the population where inaccurate reporting was identified.

Management response

Name:

Position:

Date:

Auditor's conclusion

ANNEXURE B: OTHER IMPORTANT MATTERS

Annual Financial Statement

7. Overstatement of Accrued Department Revenue

Laws, rules, and Regulations:

Section 40 (1) (b) of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) states that “The accounting officer for a department, trading entity or constitutional institution must prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with generally recognized accounting practice

Section 40 (3) (a) of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA), states that “The annual report and audited financial statements referred to in subsection 1(d) must fairly present the state of affairs of the department, trading entity or constitutional institution, its business, its financial results, its performance against predetermined objectives and its financial position as at the end of the financial year concerned.

Chapter 2, paragraph 5.1 of the Cash Modified Standards states, “The transaction is recorded at the time that money changes hands i.e. when money is paid or received. In the cash system of accounting expenditure is referred to as “payments” because the expenditure is only recorded when the payment is made and “revenue” is referred to as receipts because the receipt is only recorded at the time when the actual money is received and not when the goods or services are provided.”

Chapter 3 paragraph 3.3.1 of MCS states that “For financial statements to be fairly presented, the effects of transactions, other events and conditions should be truthfully and accurately represented in accordance with the and recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure criteria for assets, liabilities, revenue, and expenses as contained in the MCS. A department whose financial statements comply with the MCS must make an explicit and unreserved statement of such compliance in the notes to the financial statements.”

Chapter 7 paragraph 4.1 of MCS states that, “In the modified cash environment, revenue is accounted for in the period in which the monies are received and not in the period in which the underlying transaction or event occurred that gave rise to the revenue. Revenue in the statement of financial performance comprises only of amounts received by the department on its own account or from funds allocated by Parliament/Provincial Legislature”

Nature

During the audit of Accrued Department Revenue, we noted that the Department presented and disclosed a balance of R10 899 000, R10 897 030 of that amount related to interest accrued from the money transferred to IDT.

Upon inspecting Public Works Deposit Account bank statement (ABSA Account number 40-5395-7929), dated 31 March 2022 we noted that an amount of R216 315 650.43 was deposited into the account by IDT on 31 March 2022, which included the accrued interest of R10 897 030. Based on the evidence inspected above, the amount should have been presented and disclosed under departmental revenue as it was received as at 31 March 2022 as reflected in the ABSA bank Statement.

Therefore, accrued departmental revenue is not fairly presented as the effect of the transaction was not fairly and accurately represented in accordance with MCS.

Impact

This will result in non-compliance with:

- Section 40(1a) (b) and (3a) of the Public Finance Management Act as accrued department revenue is misstated.
- MCS Chapter 2 paragraph 5.1 as department revenue is understated
- MCS Chapter 3 paragraph 3.1 as department revenue has not been presented and disclosed in accordance with MCS
- MCS Chapter 7 paragraph 4.1 department revenue has not been presented and disclosed in accordance with MCS

As a result of the above, accrued departmental revenue overstated by R10 897 030 and the departmental revenue has been understated by R10 897 030.

Internal control deficiency*Financial and performance management*

Management did not prepare regular, accurate and complete financial and performance reports that are supported and evidenced by reliable information.

Management did not present and disclose departmental revenue in accordance with MCS for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Recommendation

Management should present and disclose departmental revenue as it was received in the department's bank account as reflected on the bank statement as at 31 March 2022.

Management response

Name:

Position:

Date:

Auditor's conclusion

8.Key Management Personnel – Suspended official

Laws, rules and Regulations:

Section 40 (a) and (b) of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) states that “The accounting officer for a for a department, trading entity or constitutional institution must keep full and proper records of the financial affairs of the trading entity in accordance with any prescribed norms and standards and must prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with generally recognized accounting practice.”

Paragraph 4.2 of the Accounting Manual for Departments, Chapter 15 - Related Party Disclosures, defines key management personnel as those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the department. From the above definition, the key management personnel would include:

- all persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the reporting entity.
- where they meet this requirement, key management personnel would usually include;
 - senior managers, directors or members of a governing body of the entity on executive management level or above;

In terms of paragraph 15.2 of the Modified Cash Standard Frequently Asked Questions 2021-22, Employees suspended as a precautionary measure while investigations into allegations of misconduct are being completed or employees who have been suspended as a sanction as a result of misconduct are unlikely to have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the department during the suspension period. In such instances the suspended employees are excluded from the disclosures on KMP.

Nature

During the audit of Key Management Personnel, it was noted that the following official who has been suspended for more than a year has been included in the Key Management Personnel disclosure in the Annual Financial Statement under disclosure note 34:

Name of official	Persal no	Salary level	Amount paid as at 31 March 2022
Vukela S	10786350	16	R2 052 241.10

Based on the above the Key Management Personnel disclosure note is overstated by R2 052 241.10.

Impact

Key Management Personnel disclosure note is overstated by R2 052 241.

Non-compliance with Section 40 (a) and (b) of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) as management did not prepare financial statements(key management note) in accordance with prescribed norms and standards.

Internal control deficiency

Financial and performance management

Management did not review and monitor compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Management did not ensure that the Key Management Personnel disclosure complies with the requirements of the Modified Cash Standard

Recommendation

Management should ensure that the Key Management Personnel disclosure complies with the requirements of the Modified Cash Standard.

Management should make appropriate and necessary adjustments to the disclosure note in order to comply with the standard.

Management response

Name:

Position:

Date:

Auditor's conclusion

9.Key Management Personnel – Difference between comparative amount in the current year annual financial statements and prior year final amount

Requirements,laws and Regulations

In terms of section 38(1)(a)(i) of the Public Finance Management Act(PFMA), the accounting officer for a department, trading entity or constitutional institution- must ensure that that department, trading entity or constitutional institution has and maintains— effective, efficient and transparent systems of financial and risk management and internal control;

In terms of section 40(1)(a) of the Public Finance Management Act(PFMA), The accounting officer for a department, trading entity or constitutional institution- must keep full and proper records of the financial affairs of the department, trading entity or constitutional institution in accordance with any prescribed norms and standards;

Nature

During the audit of Key Management Personnel, it was noted that there is difference in the comparative amount in the financial statements submitted for audit(2021/22 financial year) and the final amount as per the prior year audited financial statements(2020/21 financial year) for level 15 to 16 officials:

Comparative amount as per the financial statements submitted for audit(2021/22 financial year)	Final amount as per prior year audited financial statements(2020/21 financial year)	Difference
R12 898 000	R12 989 000	R91 000

Cause

Management did not ensure that the comparative amount for level 15 to 16 officials in the financial statements submitted for audit(2021/22 financial year) and the final amount as per the prior year audited financial statements(2020/21 financial year) for level 15 to 16 officials

Impact

This will result to non-compliance with:

- Understatement of key management personnel note by R 91 000.
- Section 38(1)(a)(i) of the Public Finance Management Act(PFMA),
- Section 40(1)(a) of the Public Finance Management Act(PFMA)

Internal control deficiency

Leadership

Exercise oversight responsibility regarding financial and performance reporting and compliance and related internal controls.

Management did not ensure that the comparative amount for level 15 to 16 officials in the word financial statements submitted for audit agrees with the amount as the excel template.

Recommendation

Management should ensure that the comparative amount for level 15 to 16 officials in the word financial statements submitted for audit agrees with the amount as the excel template.

Management response

Name:

Position:

Date:

Auditor's conclusion

10. Accruals and payables not recognized – Incorrect classification of payable not yet recognized

Requirements, laws and Regulations

In terms of section 38(1)(a)(i) of the Public Finance Management Act, The accounting officer for a department, trading entity or constitutional institution must ensure that that department, trading entity or constitutional institution has and maintains effective, efficient and transparent systems of financial and risk management and internal control;

In terms of paragraph 20 of the Modified Cash Standard, Accruals and payables not recognised are recorded when goods are received or, in the case of services, when they are delivered to the department or, in the case of transfers and subsidies, when they are due and payable. For accruals, an invoice has not been received whereas for payables not recognised, the invoice has been received.

Nature

During the audit of accruals and payables not recognized, it was noted that the following transaction was incorrectly classified as a payable not recognized as the invoice was paid prior to 31 March 2022:

No	Invoice Number	Payment number	Date of receipt of invoice	Payment date	Amount paid
1	009940673710	PM-161055	29 March 2022	31 March 2022	R1 051.93

Based on the above, the transaction should have been classified as goods and services instead of payable not recognized.

Impact

This will result in:

- payables not recognized being overstated by R1 051.93
- Goods and services being understated by R1 051.93

Non-compliance with the following:

- Section 38(1)(a)(i) of the Public Finance Management Act
- Paragraph 20 of the Modified Cash Standard

Internal control deficiency

Leadership

Exercise oversight responsibility regarding financial and performance reporting and compliance and related internal controls.

Management did not ensure that only transactions that meet the definition of a payables not recognised as at year end are classified as payables not recognised

Recommendation

- a) Management should review internal controls over system of accruals and payable to ensure they are appropriate and effective to avoid misclassification of future transactions
- b) Management should remove the above transaction from the payables not recognised listing and reclassify the transaction to goods and services

Management response

Name:

Position:

Date:

Auditor's conclusion



11. Payments not made within 30 days

Requirements, laws and Regulations

Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) section 38(1)(f) states that: "The accounting officer for a department, trading entity or constitutional institution must settle all contractual obligations and pay all money owing, including inter-governmental claims, within the prescribed or agreed period."

Treasury Regulation 8.2.3 requires that: "Unless determined otherwise in a contract or other agreement, all payments due to creditors must be settled within 30 days from receipt of an invoice or, in the case of civil claims, from the date of settlement or court judgment."

Nature

1. During the audit of accruals and payables not yet recognised: it was noted that the following payment was not made within 30 days from date of receipt of invoice:

Payment Number	Amount	Beneficiary/ Supplier Name	Invoice number	Date invoice received by DPWI registry	Payment/ Settlement Date	Days
2448333	R147 498	Lethea Tshupo	PH01	2022/03/08	2022/04/26	49

Impact of the finding

The above may result to the following:

- Overstatement of accruals and payables not recognized by R147 498
- Non-compliance with Section 38(1)(f) of the Public Finance Management Act
- Non-compliance with Treasury Regulations 8.2.3

Internal control deficiency

Financial and performance management

Management did not review and monitor compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Management did not ensure that payments are made within 30 days as required by legislation

Recommendation

It is recommended that payments must be made within the 30 days from the receipt of the invoice and when there are unforeseen circumstances that may results in payments not being made timeously, this must be communicated to the affected suppliers to renegotiate payment terms and correspondence kept for audit purposes.

Management response

Name:

Position:

Date:

Auditor's conclusion

12.Movable Tangible Capital Assets – Condition of asset not accurately captured on asset register

Requirements,laws and Regulations

In terms of section 38(1)(d) of the Public Finance Management Act, The accounting officer for a department, trading entity or constitutional institution is responsible for the management, including the safe-guarding and the maintenance of the assets, and for the management of the liabilities, of the department, trading entity or constitutional institution;

In terms of paragraph 4.5.1 & 4.5.2 of the Capital Asset Accounting Manual for Departments, For the purposes of recording capital assets, a department should maintain an asset register that will enable it to manage its assets, which includes the maintenance and replacement thereof, as well as to ensure that appropriate safekeeping measures can be put in place. It also assists with compliance with the disclosure requirements in the notes to the financial statements

An adequate asset register is integral to effective asset management and provides details of the values

(figures) to be disclosed in the financial statements. Information can be contained in different databases

but it is important that the information can be identified as belonging to a specific asset throughout. Where there is no identifier to link the information the management of assets will be negatively impacted

Nature

During the physical verification of movable tangible capital asset, the following discrepancies were identified:

The condition of the below asset was reflected as good on the asset register, however, during asset verification it was noted that the condition of the asset it poor:

STORE DESCRIPTION	ICN DESCRIPTION	REPORTING CATEGORY DESC	BAR CODE	PRF CAPACITY	PRF CONDITION	ASSET VALUE
PUBLIC WORKS: DBN	TELEVISION (TV) SET	AUDIO VISUAL EQUIPMENT	10232677	100%	GOOD	22,366.80
						22,366,80

Impact

This will result in non-compliance with:

- Section 38(1)(d) of the Public Finance Management Act
- Paragraph 4.5.1 & 4.5.2 of the Capital Asset Accounting Manual for Departments

Internal control deficiency

Financial and performance management

Management did not maintain proper record keeping

Management did not conduct asset verification on a timeously basis to ensure that the condition of asset is updated on the asset register.

Recommendation

Management should ensure that asset verification are conducted on timeous basis to ensure that the condition of assets on the asset register is correctly updated.

Management response

Name:

Position:

Date:

Auditor's conclusion

Issue 2

Movable Tangible Capital Assets (Minor) – Assets could not be located

Laws, rules and Regulations:

In terms of section 38(1)(d) of the Public Finance Management Act, The accounting officer for a department, trading entity or constitutional institution is responsible for the management, including the safe-guarding and the maintenance of the assets, and for the management of the liabilities, of the department, trading entity or constitutional institution;

In terms of paragraph 4.5.1 & 4.5.2 of the Capital Asset AMD, For the purposes of recording capital assets, a department should maintain an asset register that will enable it to manage its assets,



which includes the maintenance and replacement thereof, as well as to ensure that appropriate safekeeping measures can be put in place. It also assists with compliance with the disclosure requirements in the notes to the financial statements

An adequate asset register is integral to effective asset management and provides details of the values

(figures) to be disclosed in the financial statements. Information can be contained in different databases

but it is important that the information can be identified as belonging to a specific asset throughout.

Where there is no identifier to link the information the management of assets will be negatively impacted

Nature

During the physical verification of movable tangible capital asset, the following assets could not be located:

STORE DESCRIPTION	ICN DESCRIPTION	REPORTING CATEGORY DESC	BAR CODE	ASSET VALUE
PUBLIC WORKS: DBN	TABLE ,ROUND TABLE 1200 DIAMETER CROSS PANEL BASE IN CHERRY WOOD	OFFICE FURNITURE	10232821	R1 618.80
PUBLIC WORKS: DBN	MIRROR , FRMA MIRROR	DOMESTIC FURNITURE	10232872	R 3 150.00
PUBLIC WORKS: CT	TELEVISION (TV) COLOUR;51CM;REMOTE CONTROL	AUDIO VISUAL EQUIPMENT	10264951	R1.00
PUBLIC WORKS: CT	HEATER	DOMESTIC EQUIPMENT	10184747	R499.00
				R5 268.80

Impact

This will result in:

- Overstatement of the asset register by an amount of R5 268.80
- Section 38(1)(d) of the Public Finance Management Act
- Paragraph 4.5.1 & 4.5.2 of the Capital Asset Accounting Manual for Departments

Internal control deficiency



Financial and performance management

Management did not maintain regular, accurate and complete financial and performance reports

Management did not conduct asset verification on a timeously basis to ensure that the asset register consist of asset that exists.

Recommendation

Management should ensure that asset verification are conducted on timeous basis and asset register is updated with any of the movement verified.

Management response

Name:

Position:

Date:

Auditor's conclusion

FINDINGS RELATING TO THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AUDIT

1. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY GOVERNANCE

1.1 Vacant positions within information and communication (ICT) division

Management should establish Information and ICT organisational structure that reflects business needs. In addition, put a process in place for periodically reviewing the ICT organisational structure to adjust staffing requirements and sourcing strategies to meet expected business objectives and changing circumstances.

Audit finding

As previously reported, it was noted that there was an established and approved ICT department organisational structure. However, the following critical positions listed in the structure were still vacant:

- Chief Information Officer (CIO).
- Deputy Project Manager (ICT)

This issue was reported in the 2019-2020 and 2020-21 financial years.

Risk

The inadequate staffing of the ICT division may result in inefficient service delivery and lack of segregation of duties within the ICT function which might lead to integrity of data being compromised.

Internal control deficiency

Leadership: Lack of implementation of appropriate key controls:

The post of the Chief Information Officer was advertised and the process of filling the position is underway. The post for Deputy Director Project Manager was advertised and shortlisting and interviews completed, the process of appointing the recommended candidate is underway.

Recommendation

The Human Resource management and Director General Corporate Services should expedite the process of finalizing the appointment of the above-mentioned critical posts within the IT department.

Management response

Management comment on audit findings: Management acknowledges the finding. Both posts of Chief Information Officer and Deputy Director Project Manager were advertised, shortlisting were done, interviews conducted and both submissions are on route for approval.		
Management comment on internal control deficiencies: Management agrees with the ICD.		
Management comment on recommendations: Management agrees with the recommendations.		
Remedial actions: Not provided.		
What actions will be taken: Filling of posts.	By whom: Bheki Zwane (Act CIO) Thembi Hlatshwayo (Chief Director HRM)	By when: 01 April 2022

Auditor's conclusion



Management comments are noted and acknowledged. However, both posts of Chief Information Officer and Deputy Director Project Manager are still vacant. Therefore, the finding will remain. The action plans will be followed up during the 2022/23 audit and the outcome of the assessment will be communicated at completion of the audit.

1.2 Information Communication Technology projects for 2019/20 were not achieved

Audit finding

As previously reported, it was established that Department of Public Works Infrastructure (DPWI) had developed and approved the 2020/21 Annual Performance Plan (APP) which detailed the “key performance indicators (KPIs)” to be implemented. However, the following ICT projects were not achieved at the end of the 2021/22 financial year.

Project Description and Value of Contract	Status	Target achieved (Yes/No)	Challenges
1.Appointment of a service provider to enter into a service level agreement (SLA) with the department for ARCHIBUS ERP system licensing, support, and maintenance services (R35m).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cancellation documents have been submitted to the NBAC/National Treasury. 	No	Submitting to National Treasury for 2nd cancellation.
2.Business Automation	<p>Leave system:</p> <p>A special meeting with Unions was held on the 10 June 2021 and the Unions have suggested that e-leave be put on hold until the Leave policy is updated with the current changes.</p> <p>Project still on-hold pending the outcome from HR and Unions.</p> <p>DPWI DG has approved a letter to National Treasury.</p> <p>Fleet booking system</p> <p>A special meeting with Unions was held on the 10 June 2021 and the Unions have suggested that e-fleet booking be put on hold until the Fleet policy is updated to include the current changes.</p> <p>Development for issues raised by business is underway. Testing will be done when the developer is ready.</p>	No	

	<p>IT Application has allocated Mr. Raja Gangavarapu as the new developer for the projects.</p> <p>S&T claims</p> <p>The development will resume when the developer is done with development of Fleet system.</p>		
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This issue was reported in the 2019-2020 and 2020-21 financial years.

Risk

Failure to achieve set ICT goals may hinder the progress in implementation of the APP and ICT may fall short in aligning to the organisational strategy.

Internal control deficiency

Leadership: Information technology governance framework

ICT did not meet set targets due to the following:

- Dependencies on other parties which were not initially considered when committing to the KPIs.
- Delays in procurement by the department.
- Affordability issues.
- Audio Visual equipment project put on hold due to covid-19

Recommendation

The Acting Chief Information Officer should ensure that:

- All KPIs are developed with an understanding of dependencies on other parties to ensure set target are realistic to be achieved.
- He continues to monitor implementation of all KPIs monthly and reasons or root causes for failure to implement should be clearly documented.

Management response

Management comment on audit findings:

Management acknowledges the finding. The ICT Chief Directorate does not have any control on issues arise during procurement process, only Supply Chain Management (SCM), Bid Specification Committee (BSC), Bid Evaluation Committee (BEC) and/or Legal Services control the process.

The following projects are still within the procurement process:

- Enterprise ICT security solution
- SAS licensing
- ESRI GIS licensing

- SAGE
- ARCHIBUS ERP
- Audio Visual equipment
- ICT Technical Resources

Proof of Evidence (POEs) will be forwarded to AG.

The following projects were awarded:

- WCS & PMIS support services
- ICT Application Resources
- Renewal of the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement
- Network equipment license renewal

Proof of Evidence (POEs) will be forwarded to AG.

- Business Automation, project is developed in-house, it takes longer to get approvals from relevant stakeholder such as Human Resources, Unions, National Treasury etc. The ICT team is waiting for approval by the Unions in order roll-out the Leave Management. Fleet Booking and S&T are still under development, the delay is because the ICT is using one Developer to assist with development of all systems.

Management comment on internal control deficiencies: Management agrees with the ICD.

Management comment on recommendations: Management agrees with the recommendations.

Remedial actions: Not provided.

What actions will be taken: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review the projects list - Prioritise critical projects - Ensure availability of budget - Monitor implementation and manage the risks (develop an early warning system) 	By whom: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bheki Zwane (Act CIO) • 	By when: May 2022
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Auditor's conclusions

Management comments are noted and acknowledged. The finding has been updated. However, the following ICT projects were still not achieved as per the APP and ICT strategy:

- ARCHIBUS ERP
- Audio Visual equipment

Therefore, the finding will remain. The action plans will be followed up during the 2022/23 audit and the outcome of the assessment will be communicated at completion of the audit.

2. USER ACCESS MANAGEMENT

2.1 Inadequately implementation of user access management controls around Reapatala

User access controls ensures that only valid and authorized users are allowed access to initiate and approve transactions on the system and that user access is adequately segregated when transactions are captured and approved.

Audit finding

As previously reported in 2020/21 financial year, it was noted that although an email was sent to remind supervisors to confirm the access rights of users, there was no evidence from the supervisors to confirm that the users' access rights were still in alignment with their job responsibilities.

Risk

Failure to perform user access reviews might result in employees being granted excessive rights that would allow them to perform inappropriate activities on the applications.

Internal control deficiency

Financial and performance management: Formal controls over IT Systems

There was no resource capacity to review the user profiles due to a huge number of users across the regions.

Recommendation

Management should decentralise the user access management administration across the regions to enable the effectiveness of user profiles.

Management response

Management comment on audit findings:		
Management acknowledges the finding. Management as per the ICT User Access Management policy and procedure sends out periodic communication to all managers requesting submission of user access reviewed. POE of the communication is attached.		
Management comment on internal control deficiencies: Noted.		
Management comment on recommendations: Noted.		
Remedial actions: Not provided.		
What actions will be taken:	By whom:	By when:

	Khathu Nekhumbe	Not provided.
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Auditor's conclusions

The management comments are noted and acknowledged. However, the finding relating to the user profile reviews not being adequately performed will remain as the evidence provided was assessed and was found to be insufficient/ inadequate to address the finding and risk identified.

2.2 Inadequately implementation of user access management controls around EPWP

User access controls ensures that only valid and authorized users are allowed access to initiate and approve transactions on the system and that user access is adequately segregated when transactions are captured and approved.

Audit finding

As previously reported in 2020/21 financial year, the following deficiencies were noted with regards to the administration of user access controls on the EPWP system:

- Although EPWP user access review communication was sent to all EPWP coordinating departments, lead sector departments and system users to remind supervisors to confirm the access rights of users, there was no evidence from the supervisors to confirm that the users' access rights were still in alignment with their job responsibilities.
- The evidence of review of system administrator activities was only provided for the month of October there was insufficient evidence to confirm that the control was effectively implemented throughout the financial year.
- System was configured to log failed logon attempts; however, there was no evidence indicating that the logs were analysed and reviewed on an interval basis and malicious trends or activities such as brute force attack are followed up
- Due to lack of system generated list indicating when users' access rights were modified on the EPWP application system, testing could not be performed to determine if controls in place had been adequately implemented.

Risk

- Failure to perform user access reviews might result in employees being granted excessive rights that would allow them to perform inappropriate activities on the applications
- Inadequate reviews of system controller activities might result in unauthorised system activities such as creating of unauthorised user accounts, deleting or modifying information and unauthorised attempts to access the system may not be timely detected and resolved.
- Without monitoring of access and logon violations, it may be difficult to assess the effectiveness of the security controls. Attempts to breach security may remain undetected, enabling knowledge of security loopholes to be exploited for malicious purposes.
- Failure to ensure that adequate audit logs are designed and implemented for user account access amendments on the system could result in unauthorized access modification going

undetected. This might lead to unauthorized access to systems which could potentially compromise data integrity.

Internal control deficiency

Financial and performance management: Formal controls over IT Systems

Management is not responding with the required urgency to recommendations made in prior years on addressing risks and improving the internal control environment within IT. Also, there was a lack of a consequence management process to enforce accountability concerning failure to implement action plans. There was also no resource capacity to review the user profiles due to a huge number of users across the regions.

Recommendation

- Management should develop and establish a consequence management process that will enforce accountability concerning failure to implementing action plans committed to.
- Management should consider decentralizing the user access management administration across the regions to enable the effectiveness of user profiles.
- The activities performed by the users with administrator access should be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that only authorised activities were performed and evidence of such reviews should be retained for audit purposes.
- Security logs should be monitored on a regular basis and discrepancies followed up. Furthermore, evidence of such monitoring should also be kept and made available for audit purposes.
- Management should enhance the existing systems to enable the capability to record all access rights modifications on the system.

Management response

Management comment on audit findings:		
Management acknowledges the finding. EPWP RS system users will be reviewed as per ICT Policy.		
Management comment on internal control deficiencies: Noted.		
Management comment on recommendations: Noted.		
Remedial actions: Noted.		
What actions will be taken:	By whom: Khathu Nekhumbe	By when: Not provided.

Auditor's conclusions

The management comments are noted and acknowledged. However, all the findings on the EPWP system will remain as the evidence provided is still the same and not sufficient. The management comments are noted and acknowledged. However, all the findings relating to the

EPWP will remain as the evidence provided was assessed and was found to be insufficient/inadequate to address the risk identified.

2.3 Inadequately implementation of user access management controls Active Directory.

User access controls ensures that only valid and authorized users are allowed access to initiate and approve transactions on the system and that user access is adequately segregated when transactions are captured and approved.

Audit finding

Although management had implemented a control around the reviews of system administrator activities, however it was noted that the reviews were only performed in the last quarter of the financial year, there was insufficient evidence to confirm that the control was effectively implemented throughout the financial year.

Risk

Inadequate reviews of system controller activities might result in unauthorised system activities such as creating of unauthorised user accounts, deleting or modifying information and unauthorised attempts to access the system may not be timely detected and resolved.

Internal control deficiency

Financial and performance management:

Formal controls over IT Systems

Inadequate oversight by management to detect and address deviations from the policy prescripts timeously.

Recommendation

Management should monitor to ensure effective implementation of the policy and its prescripts. Furthermore the activities performed by the users with administrator access should be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that only authorised activities were performed and evidence of such reviews should be retained for audit purposes.

Management response

Management comment on audit findings:		
Management comment on internal control deficiencies:		
Management comment on recommendations:		
Remedial actions:		
What actions will be taken:	By whom:	By when:

Auditor's conclusions

3. SECURITY MANAGEMENT



3.1 Inadequate Security Management controls

Security management ensures that security controls are implemented to prevent unauthorized access to the network and information systems that generate the information used to prepare the financial statements.

Audit finding

As previously reported, the following security management processes weaknesses were noted:

- There was no process in place to review the activity logs on active directory for security significant events for example, unauthorised attempt to access the AD.
- The systems were configured to automatically deploy the patch updates without prior testing being before to assess the impact of the patch prior deployment.
- A formal IT Security Awareness Program was not developed and implemented to ensure that employees were able to recognize and respond appropriately to real and potential security threats
- The time configured for screen to lockout after not being attended was 15 minutes, which is a high risk.
- The password strengthening controls on GIS, Worx4U and Reapatala were not provided for audit purposes. Thus testing could not be performed to confirm if the password controls were configured on in line with the approved policy requirements and with leading industry practice.

Certain aspects of these matters were also reported in 2019-20 to 2020-21 financial year.

Risk

Failure to ensure that failed log on attempts are actively monitored and reviewed periodically may result in the inability to detect security breaches on the application, which may lead to financial information being compromised, degrading its confidentiality, integrity and availability.

Lack of testing of patches prior deployment increases the likelihood of system errors, increased system downtime/unavailability which could ultimately compromise the integrity of data.

Lack of an IT Security Awareness Program could result in employees being unable to recognize and respond appropriately to real and potential security concerns. This makes employees susceptible to social engineering attacks such as phishing, spoofing. This could allow attackers to gain access to the network and applications and obtain access to sensitive information, cause malicious damage or take control of the network device or application.

Unattended active workstation sessions could result in unauthorised access to the department's information systems.

Inadequate password configurations may increase the chances of the passwords being guessed through the use of social engineering or password sniffing algorithms, which increases the risk of unauthorised access as a user account inherently compromising the whole network.

Internal control deficiency

Financial and performance management:



Formal controls over IT Systems

Inadequate oversight by management to detect and address deviations from the policy prescripts timeously.

Recommendation

- Management monitor compliance to the IT policies and procedures in all its key aspects and thus should ensure the following is implemented:
 - The operating security logs are enabled and reviewed on the regular basis and discrepancies followed up and acted upon.
 - All patches are tested to be able to assess the impact prior to deployment to all the devices connected to the network.
 - Security awareness programs are developed and conducted with staff in order to build a culture of security competence and motivate employees to improve their behaviours and incorporate security concerns into their decision making.
 - Lockout session on attended workstations should be configured to a lower threshold on Active Directory in line leading industry practice.
 - The minimum security requirements should be communicated to all service providers and verification should be performed by the IT Manager to ensure that the password configurations on all the applications have been implemented in line with the approved policy requirements.

Management response

Management comment on audit findings:		
Management comment on internal control deficiencies:		
Management comment on recommendations:		
Remedial actions:		
What actions will be taken:	By whom:	By when:

Auditor's conclusions

4. PROGRAM CHANGE MANAGEMENT

Program change management controls ensure that any proposed changes to an existing information systems environment would be coordinated, scheduled, authorised and tested to prevent unnecessary disruptions, erroneous changes and unauthorised and inappropriate access to programs.

4.1 Inadequate implementation of change controls around Reapatala system

Audit finding

The deficiencies noted with regards to the administration of the change management process were as follows:

- On the Reapatala system there was a change implemented on 23 July 2021, the change request documentation was requested for the implemented change however it was not provided. As such testing could not be performed to confirm whether an impact assessment was performed, that the change was approved by the required levels before implementation and that there was appropriate segregation of duties maintained during the implementation of the change.

Risk

- Lack of change related documentation may result in an increased likelihood of unauthorized changes being implemented on the systems, there will be no tracking of changes, insufficient control over changes, system errors and increased system downtime/ unavailability which could ultimately compromise the integrity of data.

Internal control deficiency

Financial and performance management: Design and implement formal controls over IT systems:

Lack of consequence for non- compliance to defined controls procedures.

Recommendation

- Management should monitor compliance to the IT policies and procedures in all its key aspects thus should ensure that a proper change management process is followed for all changes/upgrades prior implementation. Management should ensure that change request documentations are completed and approved and appropriate tests are implemented prior to migration into production.

Management response

Management comment on the audit finding
Management comment on internal control deficiencies:
Management comment on recommendation:
Remedial action:



What actions will be taken?	By whom?	By when?
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Auditor's conclusion

5. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONTINUITY MANAGEMENT

5.1 Inadequate IT service continuity controls

According to COBIT management practice DSS04.02 (Maintain a continuity strategy) and DSS04.04 (Exercise, test and review the BCP): Senior management should evaluate business continuity management options and choose a cost-effective and viable continuity strategy that will ensure enterprise recovery and continuity in the face of a disaster or other major incident or disruption. The continuity arrangements should be tested on a regular basis to exercise the recovery plans against predetermined outcomes and to allow innovative solutions to be developed and help to verify over time that the plan will work as anticipated.

Audit finding

As previously reported, the following deficiencies were noted with regards to the management and implementation of IT Service Continuity/ Disaster Recovery processes at the department:

- Although Disaster Recovery Plan (DRP) was developed and approved, it was noted that the DRP was not tested in the financial year under review.
- Although evidence was provided to confirm that the data on Reapatala and EPWP was backed up, the evidence provided was only for the last quarter of the financial year thus there was insufficient evidence to confirm that data was successfully backed throughout the financial year (i.e. 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.).
- Management had indicated that the data restoration tests were performed on a weekly basis however only the restoration test for the last quarter were provided thus there was insufficient evidence to confirm that the control was effectively implemented throughout the financial year.
- A SITA report for all backup replications to the offsite for the period under review (01 April 2021 to 31 March 2022) was requested and only a report that shows the replication for the last quarter of the financial year was provided. Thus there was no assurance that the backups on Reapatala and EPWP systems were consistently replicated to the offsite storage throughout the financial year.
-

Risk



- Without a comprehensively documented, tested, and regularly updated Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Plan, it might not be possible to recover the key business operations; critical systems; applications; their supporting infrastructure; or networking capability. Moreover, the recovery process may possible not be, in the correct sequence and time, to ensure that the department's business operations could be sufficiently resumed at an alternative processing site without considerable loss to its financial well-being and have a negative impact on service delivery, should a disaster occur.
- Failure to ensure that backups are effectively managed may result in the inability to recover critical information systems in the event of a disaster, which may lead to financial losses and reputational damage for the department.
- Failure to ensure that regular restoration testing is performed by the department it may result in the inability to recover data that has been backed up, which may compromise the availability of financial information, leading to financial losses and reputational damage for the department.

Internal control deficiency

Financial and performance management:

Formal controls over IT Systems

- There were challenges with replication at CGO, Cape Town and SITA to DR because of bandwidth limitations.
- Also, ICT has not managed to get a new backup and recovery solution that will address the issue on testing.

Recommendation

Management should ensure:

- That restoration tests logs are performed for all applications.
- Furthermore, they should ensure that logs for restoration tests are kept for monitoring and audit purposes.
- The DRP is periodically tested to ensure that the plan is practical regarding its execution.
- Management should consider the feasibility of increasing the network bandwidth.

Management response

Management comment on audit findings:

Management partially agrees with the finding. Testing of the DR was not done but backup and restoration was done. In addition, where there were incidents of system hardware failure, ICT was able to restore 100% successfully in all cases.

Management comment on internal control deficiencies: Management agrees with the ICD.		
Management comment on recommendations: Management agrees with the recommendations.		
Remedial actions: A new backup and recovery solution has been implemented and will address the issue of testing.		
What actions will be taken: backup restoration testing	By whom: Pakiso Mphuthi and the backup team.	By when: June 2022

Auditor's conclusions

The management comments are noted and acknowledged. The evidence of backups taken offsite was received and it was noted that the evidence was not for the full financial year as such the finding remains. The findings of the DRP not being tested and backup restoration testing not being performed will remain as the evidence provided was assessed and was found to be insufficient to address the finding as such this finding is not addressed.

ANNEXURE C: ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

[Class of transaction/account balance/disclosure/non-compliance]

1. [Audit finding heading]

Audit finding

Internal control deficiency

Recommendation

Management's response

Name:

Position:

Date:

Auditor's conclusion



ANNEXURE D: PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

The Performance Management and Reporting Framework (PMRF) consists of the following:

- Legislation applicable to performance planning, management and reporting, which includes the following:
 - Public Finance Management Act 1 of 1999 (PFMA)
 - Treasury Regulations, 2005 issued in terms of the PFMA
 - National Treasury practice note 4 of 2009-10
 - Public Service Act, 1994 (PSA)
 - Public Service Regulations, 2016 issued in terms of the PSA
 - Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act 10 of 2009 (FMPPL)
 - Regulations for reporting by public higher education institutions, 2014, issued in terms of the Higher Education Act, 1997 (applicable to universities only)
- The Framework for Managing Programme Performance Information (FMPPI), issued by the National Treasury. This framework is applicable to all spheres of government.
- The Revised Framework for Strategic Plans and Annual Performance Plans, (Revised FSAPP) , issued in terms of the National Treasury instruction No. 10 of 2020. This framework is applicable to all national and provincial departments, constitutional institutions and those public entities listed in parts A and C of schedule 3 of the PFMA.
- Circulars and guidance issued by the National Treasury and the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA), Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta) and supported by the Department of Planning Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME) regarding the planning, management, monitoring and reporting of performance against predetermined objectives.

ANNEXURE D – CRITERIA DEVELOPED FROM THE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

CRITERIA	REFERENCES TO THE PMRF PER TYPE OF ENTITY			
	Departments / constitutional institutions / trading entities	Public entities	Parliament / provincial legislatures	Universities
Consistency: performance indicators and targets are consistent between planning and reporting documents				
1. Reported indicators are consistent or complete when compared to planned indicators	Section 40(3)(a) of the PFMA NT Instruction No.10 of 2020-21: Implementation of the Revised FSAPP Section 25(1) of the PSR	Section 55(2)(a) of the PFMA TR 28.2.2 Applicable to 3A & 3C public entities: TR 30.1.3(g) NT Instruction No.10 of 2020-21: Implementation of the Revised FSAPP Applicable to 2; 3B & 3D public entities: TR 29.1.1 & TR 29.2	Section 55(3)(d) of the FMPPLA	Section 5(2)(k) & 7(4)(a) of the regulations for reporting by public higher education institutions
2. Changes to indicators are approved	TR 5.1.1 NT Instruction No.10 of 2020-21: Implementation of the Revised FSAPP Sections 4.4.3 and 4.4.4 of Revised FSAPP	Applicable to 3A & 3C public entities: TR 30.1.1 NT Instruction No.10 of 2020-21: Implementation of the Revised FSAPP Sections 4.4.3 and 4.4.4 of Revised FSAPP Applicable to 2; 3B & 3D public entities: TR 29.1.1 & TR 29.2	Section 15(1) and (2)(b) of the FMPPLA	Section 5(2)(m) of the regulations for reporting by public higher education institutions



CRITERIA	REFERENCES TO THE PMRF PER TYPE OF ENTITY			
	Departments / constitutional institutions / trading entities	Public entities	Parliament / provincial legislatures	Universities
3. Reported targets are consistent or complete when compared to planned targets	Section 40(3)(a) of the PFMA TR 5.2.4 NT Instruction No.10 of 2020-21: Implementation of the Revised FSAPP Section 25(1) of the PSR	Section 55(2)(a) of the PFMA TR 28.2.2 Applicable to 3A & 3C public entities: TR 30.1.3(g) Applicable to 2; 3B & 3D public entities: TR 29.1.1 & TR 29.2	Section 55(3)(d) of the FMPPLA	Section 5(2)(k) & 7(4)(a) of the regulations for reporting by public higher education institutions
4. Changes to targets are approved	TR 5.1.1 NT Instruction No.10 of 2020-21: Implementation of the Revised FSAPP Sections 4.4.3 and 4.4.4 of Revised FSAPP	Applicable to 3A & 3C public entities: TR 30.1.1 NT Instruction No.10 of 2020-21: Implementation of the Revised FSAPP Sections 4.4.3 and 4.4.4 of Revised FSAPP Applicable to 2; 3B & 3D public entities: TR 29.1.1 & TR 29.2	Section 15(1) and (2)(b) of the FMPPLA	Section 5(2)(m) of the regulations for reporting by public higher education institution
5. Reported achievements are consistent with the planned and reported indicator and target	Section 40(3)(a) of the PFMA	Section 55(2)(a) of the PFMA	Section 55(3)(d) of the FMPPLA	Section 7(4)(a) of the regulations for reporting by public higher education institutions
Measurability: Performance indicators are well defined and verifiable, and targets are specific, measurable and time bound				
6. A performance indicator is well defined when it has a clear definition so that data will be collected consistently	FMPPI chapter 3.2		Criteria not applicable	Section 1(d) of the regulations for reporting by public higher education institutions

CRITERIA	REFERENCES TO THE PMRF PER TYPE OF ENTITY			
	Departments / constitutional institutions / trading entities	Public entities	Parliament / provincial legislatures	Universities
and is easy to understand and use				
7. A performance indicator is verifiable when it is possible to validate or verify the processes and systems that produce the indicator	FMPPi chapter 3.2		Criteria not applicable	
8. A target is specific when the nature and the required level of performance of the target are clearly identifiable	FMPPi chapter 3.3		Criteria not applicable	Section 1(a) of the regulations for reporting by public higher education institutions
9. A target is measurable when the required performance can be measured	FMPPi chapter 3.3		Criteria not applicable	Section 1(b) of the regulations for reporting by public higher education institutions
10. A target is time bound when the time frames for the achievement of the target are indicated	FMPPi Chapter 3.3		Criteria not applicable	Section 1(c) of the regulations for reporting by public higher education institutions
Relevance: Performance indicators relate logically and directly to an aspect of the entity's mandate and the realisation of its strategic goals and objectives				
11. The performance indicator and target relate logically and directly to an aspect of the entity's mandate and the realisation of its strategic goals and objectives	FMPPi chapter 3.2		Criteria not applicable	Section 1(e) of the regulations for reporting by Public Higher Education Institutions



CRITERIA	REFERENCES TO THE PMRF PER TYPE OF ENTITY			
	Departments / constitutional institutions / trading entities	Public entities	Parliament / provincial legislatures	Universities
Presentation and disclosure: Performance information in the annual performance report is presented and disclosed in accordance with the requirements contained in legislation, frameworks, circulars and guidance				
12. Reasons for variances between planned and actual performance are disclosed in the annual performance report	The NT's annual report guide for national and provincial departments Section 31(1) of the PSR	Applicable to schedule 3A & 3C public entities: The NT's annual report guide for schedule 3A and 3C public entities	Criteria not applicable	
13. Reasons for variances are corroborated by source documentation	The NT's annual report guide for national and provincial departments FMPPI chapter 5	Applicable to schedule 3A & 3C public entities: The NT's annual report guide for schedule 3A and 3C public entities FMPPI chapter 5	Criteria not applicable	
14. Changes to performance indicators and performance targets are disclosed in the annual performance report	NT annual report guide for national and provincial departments Section 31(1) of the PSR	Applicable to 3A & 3C public entities: NT annual report guide for schedule 3A and 3C public entities	Criteria not applicable	
Reliability: Recording, measurement, collation, preparation and presentation of information on actual performance / target achievements that are valid, accurate and complete				
1. Reported performance occurred and pertains to the reporting entity	Section 40(3)(a) of the PFMA Chapter 5 of the FMPPI	Section 55(2)(a) of the PFMA chapter 5 of the FMPPI	Section 55 of the FMPPLA	Section 7 of the regulations for reporting by public higher education institutions



CRITERIA	REFERENCES TO THE PMRF PER TYPE OF ENTITY			
	Departments / constitutional institutions / trading entities	Public entities	Parliament / provincial legislatures	Universities
2. Reported performance is recorded and reported accurately	Section 25(1)(e) of the PSR			
3. All actual performance is recorded and included in the reported performance information				

ANNEXURE E: AUDITOR GENERAL'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE AUDIT OF THE REPORTED PERFORMANCE INFORMATION¹²

1. As part of our engagement conducted in accordance with ISAE 3000(R), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout our reasonable assurance engagement on reported performance information for selected programmes.
2. We are independent of the department in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *International code of ethics for professional accountants (including International Independence Standards)* (IESBA code) as well as other ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit in South Africa. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA code.

Quality control relating to assurance engagements

3. In accordance with the International Standard on Quality Control 1, the Auditor-General of South Africa maintains a comprehensive system of quality control that includes documented policies and procedures on compliance with ethical requirements and professional standards.

Reported performance information

4. In addition to our responsibility for the assurance engagement on reported performance information as described in the auditor's report, we also:
 - identify and assess risks of material misstatement of the reported performance information, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal controls relevant to the management and reporting of performance information per selected programme in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the department's internal control
 - evaluate the documentation maintained by the department that supports the generation, collation, aggregation, monitoring and reporting of performance indicators and their related targets for the selected programmes
 - evaluate and test the usefulness of planned and reported performance information, including presentation in the annual performance report, its consistency with the approved performance planning documents of the department, and determine whether the indicators and related targets were measurable and relevant
 - evaluate and test the reliability of information on performance achievement to determine whether it is valid, accurate and complete.




Communication with those charged with governance

5. We communicate with the accounting officer regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.
6. We also confirm to the accounting officer that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence and communicate all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to have a bearing on our independence and, where applicable, the actions taken to eliminate threats, or the related safeguards applied.




ANNEXURE F: ASSESSMENT OF INTERNAL CONTROLS¹³
















Below is our assessment of implementing the drivers of internal control based on significant deficiencies identified during our audit of the financial statements, the annual performance report and compliance with legislation. Significant deficiencies occur when internal controls do not exist, are not appropriately designed to address the risk, or are not implemented. These either had caused, or could cause, the financial statements or the annual performance report to be materially misstated, and material instances of non-compliance with legislation to occur.

The internal controls were assessed as follows:



















	The required preventative or detective controls were in place.
	Progress was made on implementing preventative or detective controls, but improvement is still required, or actions taken were not or have not been sustainable.
	Internal controls were either not in place, were not properly designed, were not implemented or were not operating effectively. Intervention is required to design and/or implement appropriate controls.

The movement in the status of the drivers from the previous year-end to the current year-end is indicated collectively for each of the three audit dimensions under the three fundamentals of internal control. The movement is assessed as follows:

	Improved
	Unchanged
	Regressed

	Financial statements		Performance reporting		Compliance with legislation	
	Current year	Prior year	Current year	Prior year	Current year	Prior year
Leadership						
Overall movement from previous assessment						
• Provide effective leadership based on a culture of honesty, ethical business practices and good governance, and protecting and enhancing the best interests of the entity						
• Exercise oversight responsibility regarding financial and performance reporting and compliance as well as related internal controls						

	Financial statements		Performance reporting		Compliance with legislation	
	Current year	Prior year	Current year	Prior year	Current year	Prior year
• Implement effective human resource management to ensure that adequate and sufficiently skilled resources are in place and that performance is monitored	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹
• Establish and communicate policies and procedures to enable and support the understanding and execution of internal control objectives, processes and responsibilities	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹
• Develop and monitor the implementation of action plans to address internal control deficiencies	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹
• Establish and implement an information technology governance framework that supports and enables the business, delivers value and improves performance	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹
Financial and performance management						
Overall movement from previous assessment	↓		↔		↔	
• Implement proper record keeping in a timely manner to ensure that complete, relevant and accurate information is accessible and available to support financial and performance reporting	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹
• Implement controls over daily and monthly processing and reconciling transactions	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹
• Prepare regular, accurate and complete financial and performance reports that are supported and evidenced by reliable information	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹
• Review and monitor compliance with applicable legislation	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹
• Design and implement formal controls over information technology systems to ensure the reliability of the systems and the availability, accuracy and protection of information relating to user access management, programme change control and IT service continuity	☹	☹	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Governance						
Overall movement from previous assessment	↔		↔		↔	

	Financial statements		Performance reporting		Compliance with legislation	
	Current year	Prior year	Current year	Prior year	Current year	Prior year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement appropriate risk management activities to ensure that regular risk assessments, including the consideration of information technology risks and fraud prevention, are conducted and that a risk strategy to address the risks is developed and monitored 						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that there is an adequately resourced and functioning internal audit unit that identifies internal control deficiencies and recommends corrective action effectively 						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the audit committee promotes accountability and service delivery through evaluating and monitoring responses to risks and overseeing the effectiveness of the internal control environment, including financial and performance reporting and compliance with legislation 						

¹ Overall message

The figure is for the auditee only. However, the auditor can include additional figures on status at subsidiaries and other auditees the accounting officer is responsible for if separate management reports are not issued.

² Movement arrows

Improved – only improvement of more than 5% is regarded as an improvement

Unchanged – 0% movement

Slight regression – only regression of 5% or less is regarded as a slight regression

Slight improvement – only improvement of 5% or less is regarded as a slight improvement

Regression – only regression of 5% or more is regarded as a regression

³ Interactions with stakeholders responsible for oversight and governance

Auditors may include additional information on stakeholder engagements; for example, the effectiveness of meetings, key discussion points worth bringing to the attention of the accounting officer, and problems in arranging meetings with stakeholders. For the purpose of the management report, the interactions with the accounting officer as part of the regular audit steering meetings can be included.

Auditors should also include briefings held on the status of records reviews and include key areas of concern relating to the following:

- Oversight and monitoring
- Financial management
- Performance management
- Procurement and contract management
- Compliance management
- HR management
- IT management
- Financial health
- (add other applicable areas/delete what is not applicable)]

⁴ Movement in audit outcome

If the programmes/objectives are tested for the first time either remove the movement column completely or include the following in the movement column for the specific programme/objective affected – [Not previously selected for testing].

⁵ Material irregularities (MIs)

This section applies **only to** auditees selected for implementation of the material irregularity process. The section should be **removed** if there are no current year MIs or suspected MIs or MIs in progress or no status of prior year MIs to report on. Refer to the MI manual and audit report template for detailed guidance.

⁶ Assessment of assurance providers

The colours should be amended to indicate the correct status of each driver. The following options are available to choose from when assessing the level of assurance provided by assurance providers:

- Provides assurance
- Provides some assurance
- Provides limited or no assurance
- Vacant or not established

NB: The level of assurance provided should be assessed for all the key positions as per the assurance working papers even if, at the time of the assessment, the positions were vacant (i.e. the person/s who was/were acting in the roles must be assessed. The vacancy option must not be selected if there was a person acting in the role).

‘Not established’ means that the assurance provider was not formed, ‘vacant’ means that membership was insufficient to constitute the assurance provider.

The assessment of the level of assurance provided by assurance providers must be based on the following:

Assurance providers	Basis of assessment
Senior management	Overall key control assessment of financial and performance management controls. Refer to the assurance providers working paper – entities other than departments, PFMA – key officials and assurance providers (departments).
Accounting [authority/officer]	Overall key control assessment of: - leadership controls - risk management activities (included in governance controls). Refer to the assurance providers working paper – entities other than departments, PFMA – key officials and assurance providers (departments).
Minister/MEC	Overall key control assessment of leadership controls. Assessment of the impact of executive authority on the controls of the auditee based on interactions with the executive, commitment given and honoured and the impact of actions/initiatives by the executive. Refer to the assurance providers working paper, PFMA – key officials and assurance providers (departments)
Internal audit and audit committee	Overall status of the drivers of key controls. Note: The assessment must be the same as the overall status of the drivers of key controls for both assurance providers.

⁷ Where the auditee is a TVET college, delete the wording “their performance against predetermined objectives” as performance information does not apply to TVET colleges.

⁸ Specific focus areas

This focus area must be reported on for all PFMA and MFMA auditees, except for small auditees and dormant auditees where financial viability is clearly not applicable, or if the auditee is in the process of being wound-up/liquidated.

The financial viability reporting is only required to be completed at entity level. It is not required at consolidation level for auditees that have control over one or more entities.

Completion of the financial viability reporting is also encouraged for public sector auditees not audited by the AGSA in accordance with section 4(3) of the PAA, but is not mandatory for such auditees.

⁹ The indicator compares amounts payable in future periods irrespective of how long into the future such amounts become payable, against the auditee’s budget for the next three years. If such a mismatch in comparison periods exists, it should be contextualised below in the overall high-level comments that follow the financial viability table.



¹⁰ Refer to the *Financial viability reporting* section of the *Specific focus areas* chapter in the reporting guide for guidance and examples on how to make the overall assessment of “red”, “yellow” or “green”.

¹¹ **Ratings of detailed audit findings**

When reporting on a misstatement in a financial statement item, all the errors detected during the audit that relate to that financial statement item should be grouped together to determine the total misstatement of this item (this is done on the *Substantive tests of details* working paper). Only one exception should be raised and one communication of audit finding to the auditee, which should include all the issues that gave rise to the misstatement in that financial statement item.

Where uncorrected misstatements are material, this is reflected in the auditor’s report. All issues relating to that financial statement item should be included. It would therefore be unusual to see a ‘tick’ for matters affecting the auditor’s report and also for other important matters for one financial statement item.

¹² **Annexure E** should be omitted when the opinion is disclaimed.

¹³ **Annexure F – Assessment of internal controls**

The assessment should be done at an overall level for each audit dimension. The table summarises the overall status of the drivers of internal control after the assessment of key controls for financial statements, performance information and compliance with legislation. The overall status presented in this table informs the information in the general report. The movement from the prior year-end to the current year-end should be included next to the heading *Overall movement from previous assessment* under each fundamental of internal control for each audit dimension.

The assessment should be obtained as follows, using the ASMIS report 129 – AO Listing – PFMA key drivers of audit outcomes – by ABU:

Leadership

Add all the “Overall” scores of the six areas under leadership per auditee.

By using the following formula for leadership, determine the total and percentage for:

- (i) Green = COUNTIFS (Range, “10”)
- (ii) Orange = COUNTIFS (Range, “>9”, Range, “<14”)
- (iii) Red = COUNTIFS (Range, “>13”)

Financial and performance management

Add all the “Overall” scores of the five areas under financial and performance management per auditee.

By using the following formula for financial and performance management determine the total and percentage for:

- (i) Green = COUNTIFS (Range, “<9”)
- (ii) Orange = COUNTIFS (Range, “>8”, Range, “<13”)
- (iii) Red = COUNTIFS (Range, “>12”)

Governance

Add all the “Overall” scores of the three areas under governance per auditee.

By using the following formula for governance determine the total and percentage for:



- (i) Green = COUNTIFS (Range, "<5")
- (ii) Orange = COUNTIFS (Range, ">4", Range, "<7")
- (iii) Red = COUNTIFS (Range, ">6")

Please note that the formula for each of the three areas (leadership, financial and performance management and governance) is different – do not copy the same formula for each of the areas.

The internal control table should be included even if there is nothing to report, because the auditor includes an icon in the cells next to each driver to indicate whether management had achieved the three fundamentals of internal control.

If material non-compliance with supply chain management legislation is reported in the auditor's report and/or in part A of section 3 of the management report, the internal control table should reflect the applicable control deficiencies in the compliance with legislation column. Refer to chapter 5 for guidance on the typical control deficiencies.

When detailing the deficiencies below, reflect on the root cause of the deficiency (in other words, why it had occurred).

If a root cause is not clear, try asking questions that start with "why" until there are no more questions that can be asked. The answer to the last "why" is probably the root cause of the finding.

Because there may be many potential root causes, it is important to focus on the key causes. That is, the actions need to address the primary drivers of the findings, and not necessarily all of the potential, yet minor, causes.

Sometimes the root cause is quite simple or obvious (e.g. management simply did not think about doing something). The auditor should not assume that the root cause is an elaborate or complicated set of circumstances.

The root cause should be described in concise, direct language. It is typically necessary to share the root causes with the process owner who is typically looking for a brief explanation of why a finding is raised.

The table should be completed as follows in relation to work performed by information systems auditors:

Leadership – IT governance framework:

The cells relating to **financial, performance reporting and compliance with legislation** should be completed.

Governance – IT risks:

A separate assessment will not be done under governance. It should be dealt with as part of the IT governance framework.

Financial and performance management – Formal controls over IT systems:

The cells relating to the **financial** column should be completed for the general control audits performed. The cells relating to **performance objectives** and **compliance with legislation** should be marked as **N/A**.

The **Performance reporting** cells should only be completed if IS audits on performance objectives have actually been performed.