



Hermanus Public Protection

HPP NPC Registration Number: 1999/015007/08

Chairperson Report – 2026

Keeping our community safe and clean, together

Dear HPP NPC Member,

I have pleasure in submitting HPP's Annual Report for the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026. The report is available on the HPP website (www.hpp.org.za).

The past year marked the first year of HPP's second five-year term as the management body of the Hermanus Special Rating Area (HSRA), with the current term running until 30 June 2030. It was also a year of continued operational development, with ongoing investment in HPP's surveillance infrastructure, the establishment of a new Control Centre, the appointment of service providers for the new term and continued strengthening of our relationships with the Overstrand Municipality, SAPS and other safety partners.

HPP remains focused on its core purpose: providing supplementary public safety, crime prevention, CCTV monitoring and cleansing services within the HSRA.

Hermanus SRA Context

A Special Rating Area (SRA) is a defined geographical area in which registered property owners contribute additional rates, to supplement specific municipal services.

The Hermanus Special Rating Area (HSRA) is managed by Hermanus Public Protection (HPP), a registered non-profit company (NPC) established in 1999. HPP aims to provide a safe and clean environment to its property owners and visitors, by enhancing municipal services.

The HSRA is funded through the additional rates paid by property owners within the SRA boundary, based on the municipal valuation of their properties. These additional rates are

collected by the Overstrand Municipality (OM) and transferred to HPP for the management and delivery of HSRA services. HPP is also able to accept donations where appropriate.

HPP's strategy and operations are managed by a board of Directors who are appointed by members at an Annual General Meeting. The directors are not compensated for their services.

HPP has an Executive Officer, who manages the outsourced operations provided by service providers and interacts with stakeholders on operational issues.

The HPP Board

The Board composition remained unchanged during the 2025/26 financial year. The HPP board is composed of five registered directors, Ann Wright, Rod MacLeod, Stephen Grundlingh, Stefan Otto and myself, together with four additional board members. The registered directors bear legal responsibilities, ensuring compliance with relevant laws, financial oversight, and strategic decision-making. They are accountable for the organisation's performance and actions.

Board members, who are not registered directors, play an advisory role. They contribute strategic input, oversee specific areas, and bring specialised expertise to the organisation.

All of the HSRA's major precincts and suburbs are represented on the Board.

Stephen Grundlingh is the Board Vice Chairperson and is responsible for the Governance Portfolio. He lives in Fernkloof Village.

Rod MacLeod is responsible for the Finance Portfolio. He lives in Voëlklip.

Stefan Otto is responsible for the Operations Portfolio and assists with HPP's holiday accommodation and tourism-related matters. He lives in Westcliff.

Ann Wright is responsible for the Cleansing Portfolio and lives in Hermanus Heights.

Fransien Koegelenberg oversees HPP's initiative in revitalising the Central Business District and resides in Fernkloof.

Phillip-Ben Kotze heads up the Stakeholder Portfolio and lives in Eastcliff.

Peter Doble is responsible for the Education Portfolio and lives in Northcliff.

Wiaan Bishop is the representative for the Industrial Area. While he does not reside in the HSRA, he owns businesses within the Industrial Area.

I was appointed Chairperson in September 2025 and live in Fernkloof.

In March 2026, in accordance with the Overstrand Municipality Special Rating Area By-Law, Council appointed Alderman Kari Brice (Ward 3) and Councillor Ronald Nutt (Ward 4) as its representatives to the HPP Board.

Their involvement provides a valuable link between HPP and the municipality, supporting communication, collaboration and alignment on matters affecting the Hermanus community. Both representatives serve in an observer capacity and do not hold voting rights or operational responsibilities within HPP.

The Board was supported throughout the year by Marcia Bown, HPP's Executive Officer, who provides executive management services to HPP on a contractual retainer basis. She is responsible for the day-to-day management of the organisation, implementation of the Board's

strategic direction and management of HPP's operational service providers and stakeholder relationships.

Governance and Financial Management

Good governance and responsible financial management remain fundamental to HPP's operations.

During the year, the Board continued its oversight of financial management, procurement, operational performance, risk and compliance.

HPP's Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2026 have been finalised and audited, with no audit findings reported.

The Board remains committed to ensuring that the funds contributed by HSRA property owners are managed responsibly and applied towards the objectives for which they are collected.

Formal Procurement of Service Providers

During the year, HPP completed a formal procurement process for its core operational services for the new HSRA term.

Following this process, contracts were awarded to:

- Fidelity-ADT – public safety services;
- WCC Technologies – surveillance network and related CCTV infrastructure; and
- Iphupha Cleansing Services – supplementary cleansing services.

The formal procurement process provides an appropriate basis for the continuation of HPP's core services while ensuring that the organisation's principal operational contracts are subject to a structured procurement process.

The Board thanks the service providers and their teams for their continued contribution to HPP's operations.

The New HPP Control Centre

One of the most significant infrastructure developments during the year was the relocation of HPP's Control Centre to new premises in Hermanus Industria.

The new Control Centre provides an improved operational environment for CCTV monitoring, incident management and communication with HPP's field teams.

The facility was officially opened in November 2025. The transition was managed while maintaining continuity of the surveillance and response operation.

The Control Centre is an important component of HPP's integrated operating model, bringing together technology, trained operators and field response resources.



Public Safety and Crime Prevention

HPP continued to provide a 24-hour public safety presence within the HSRA through vehicle patrols, foot patrols, CCTV monitoring and response to incidents.

During the year, HPP responded to 5,069 reported incidents and facilitated sixty-five (65) arrests, working in cooperation with SAPS, Overstrand Law Enforcement, neighbourhood watches, private security providers and other relevant safety partners.

The incidents encountered during the year ranged from suspected theft, robbery, housebreaking and vehicle-related crime to public disorder, suspicious activity, drug-related incidents, medical emergencies and matters requiring the assistance of other emergency services.

The year again demonstrated the value of combining CCTV surveillance with visible patrols and effective communication between the Control Centre and operational teams.

HPP's role is supplementary to that of the statutory law-enforcement agencies. Successful public safety outcomes therefore depend on effective cooperation between HPP, SAPS, Overstrand Law Enforcement and other partners.



Crime Trends

The annual SAPS crime statistics for the Hermanus policing precinct reflected an overall reduction in reported crime during the year.

According to the published statistics, overall crime decreased by approximately 4.9%, while contact crime decreased by approximately 1.7%. Property crime showed a more significant reduction of approximately 24.2%.

There were also reductions in several serious crime categories, including murder, attempted murder and aggravated robbery. At the same time, increases in certain categories, including assault with grievous bodily harm and rape, remain a concern.

These statistics must be viewed in context. HPP cannot attribute changes in crime levels to its own activities, as crime is influenced by numerous factors and HPP operates as one component of a much broader public safety environment.

Nevertheless, the overall reduction is encouraging and reinforces the importance of maintaining visible policing, effective surveillance, community vigilance and cooperation between the various safety agencies.

CCTV and Surveillance Infrastructure

The continued development of HPP's CCTV network was a significant feature of the year.

At 30 June 2026, HPP's surveillance network comprised 162 cameras across 84 sites.

The network provides surveillance across key areas of the HSRA, including residential areas, the CBD, entrances and exits and identified crime and safety hotspots.

The system continues to be used both for real-time monitoring and to assist SAPS and other law-enforcement agencies with investigations, subject to the applicable legal and privacy requirements.

Thermal surveillance has also proved valuable in monitoring areas where conventional cameras have limitations, including during night-time operations. During the year, thermal technology assisted operational teams in identifying suspicious activity and supporting interventions relating to infrastructure theft.

The Board recognises that surveillance infrastructure requires ongoing investment, maintenance and technological development to remain effective.

Visible Policing

Visible patrols remain an essential component of HPP's public safety strategy.

HPP continued to deploy patrol vehicles, foot patrols and bicycle patrols within the HSRA, with particular attention to the CBD, Cliff Path, public spaces and areas experiencing increased pedestrian activity.

The Mobile Safety Kiosk was also used at appropriate locations to increase visibility and provide an accessible point of engagement with members of the public.

The combination of visible personnel and CCTV surveillance provides a layered approach to deterrence, observation and response.

Festive Season

The 2025/26 festive season again placed additional demands on public safety resources as the population of Hermanus increased substantially during the holiday period.

HPP implemented an expanded festive-season operational plan, including increased patrols, enhanced CCTV monitoring and the deployment of the Safety Kiosk at Grotto Beach.

HPP worked closely with SAPS, Overstrand Law Enforcement, Traffic Services, emergency services, neighbourhood watches and private security providers.

The collaborative approach contributed to a coordinated safety presence during one of the busiest periods of the year.

Emergency and Incident Response

HPP's operational role extends beyond conventional crime incidents.

During the year, HPP assisted with a range of incidents and emergencies, including peaceful protests, medical emergencies, infrastructure incidents and other unplanned events occurring within public spaces.

The severe storm of 10 May 2026 provided a significant test of operational resilience. Despite widespread power interruptions and infrastructure damage, HPP's backup power and operational systems enabled the Control Centre and key surveillance infrastructure to continue operating.

HPP personnel also assisted with reporting infrastructure damage, monitoring affected areas and supporting the broader response.

The incident reinforced the importance of operational contingency planning and resilient infrastructure.

Cleansing Services

Supplementary cleansing remains an important component of HPP's mandate.

Iphupha Cleansing Services continued to provide cleansing services across the HSRA, with particular attention to high-use public areas and identified problem areas.

During the year, 18.3 tonnes of waste was removed.

The service continued to include regular cleansing of the Cliff Path and other public spaces, with additional resources deployed where required.

Clean and well-maintained public spaces contribute to the overall experience of residents and visitors and complement HPP's public safety objectives.

Homelessness and Vulnerability

Homelessness and the use of public spaces by people experiencing homelessness or other forms of vulnerability remain complex issues in Hermanus.

HPP continued to monitor and respond to related public-space matters, including persistent begging, informal trading, unregistered car guards, informal waste collection, temporary shelters and other concerns arising in public spaces.

HPP's role in these matters is limited by its mandate and the legal framework governing public spaces and individual rights. HPP does not have the authority to independently resolve homelessness or remove people from public spaces where there is no lawful basis to do so.

HPP's approach is therefore to monitor, engage where appropriate, report concerns and refer matters to the relevant municipal departments, law enforcement agencies and social-development organisations.

Addressing homelessness and vulnerability requires a coordinated response across society. Sustainable solutions require both appropriate public services and constructive community engagement.

Community Engagement

HPP's relationship with the community remains fundamental to its effectiveness.

Throughout the year, HPP continued to engage with residents, businesses, community organisations, SAPS, municipal officials, neighbourhood watches and other stakeholders.

The monthly HPP newsletter has provided regular information on operational activity, safety matters, community initiatives and incidents of interest.

HPP also continued its annual member satisfaction survey during the year.

The survey results reflect a strong overall level of satisfaction and support for HPP's services, with 93.8% of respondents satisfied with HPP's services and 90.6% recognising HPP's important role in crime prevention. High levels of awareness, communication engagement and patrol visibility further indicate that HPP remains a valued and visible presence within the HSRA.

The Board regards direct feedback from property owners as an important mechanism for assessing whether HPP's services continue to meet the expectations and needs of the community.

Working with Our Partners

No public safety organisation operates in isolation.

HPP's ability to deliver its mandate depends heavily on cooperation with SAPS, Overstrand Law Enforcement, Overstrand Traffic Services, Fire and Rescue, Disaster Management, neighbourhood watches, private security companies and other community organisations.

HPP continued to participate in safety meetings and joint operational planning during the year, including preparations for major events, the festive season, protests and other situations requiring a coordinated response.

The Board values these relationships and recognises that effective public safety is ultimately a shared responsibility.

Looking Ahead

HPP enters the second year of the 2025 - 2030 HSRA term with a solid operational foundation.

Our priorities for the coming year will include:

- maintaining and improving the effectiveness of HPP's public safety and CCTV operations;
- ensuring the continued reliability and appropriate development of the surveillance network;
- strengthening cooperation with SAPS, Overstrand Law Enforcement and other safety partners;
- maintaining effective supplementary cleansing services;
- improving communication and engagement with HSRA property owners;
- ensuring sound governance, financial management and compliance; and
- continuing to assess the changing safety needs of the HSRA and adapting HPP's resources accordingly.

The Board will also continue to monitor broader developments affecting public safety and public spaces in Hermanus and engage with the Municipality and other relevant authorities where appropriate.

HPP cannot solve every safety or social problem facing our community. What we can do is ensure that the resources entrusted to us are used effectively, that our services remain responsive and professional, and that we work constructively with those organisations whose responsibilities complement our own.

Acknowledgements

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank the Overstrand Municipality for its continued cooperation and engagement with HPP.

Our appreciation also goes to the South African Police Service, Overstrand Law Enforcement, Traffic Services, Fire and Rescue, Disaster Management, neighbourhood watches, private security companies and other safety partners with whom we work throughout the year.

I thank our service providers – Fidelity-ADT, WCC Technologies and Iphupha Cleansing Services and their teams for their contribution to the delivery of HPP's services.

My thanks also go to my fellow Board members for their voluntary service, commitment and willingness to contribute their time and expertise to HPP.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge our Executive Officer, Marcia Bown, for her continued leadership and for managing the operational, administrative and stakeholder responsibilities of HPP throughout the year.

Most importantly, I thank the property owners of the Hermanus Special Rating Area for their continued support.

HPP exists because property owners have chosen to invest collectively in supplementary services for our community. That support carries with it a responsibility to deliver professionally, to remain accountable and to ensure that HPP continues to provide meaningful value to the HSRA.

The past year has demonstrated once again that keeping our community safe and clean requires cooperation, commitment and shared responsibility.

Leon Rauch

Chairperson

Hermanus Public Protection NPC