**EXECUTIVE MAYOR’S FOREWORD**

The task that faced our leaders in the fight against the unjust and internationally-condemned minority rule of the apartheid regime was to ensure that our people attained freedom in their lifetime. Our task is clear that we need to ensure that the democracy we won and enjoy is sustained for all time.

The responsibilities that go with sustaining our democracy are premised on a philosophy that calls for consistent exceptional performance by institutions established in the name of the people. Mogale City Local Municipality is an institution established in the name of the people and is committed to making qualitative change in the lives of all its communities.

Our efforts at bringing the desired change were demonstrated in the various initiatives we undertook to bring a better life for our people. The year under review was particularly significant in that our country hosted the 2010 FIFA World Cup™. It was an exciting opportunity for the country to showcase its capabilities and convince the international community that Africa has equal ability to conceptualise and execute large-scale and turnkey projects as other continents. For our city, we pulled all the stops to ensure that Mogale City got an international tourism footprint that would last well beyond the last match of this important sporting spectacular. We had the unique opportunity to be the only city in the West Rand to host two team-based camps for Australia and Portugal, the latter hailed as the most spectator friendly team during the tournament. Our local soccer legends played a role in the tournament and we hope that the legacy projects we undertook as contained in this report will be sustained by our community way into the future. Through Public Viewing Areas in the CBD and Tarlton, this showpiece gave us an opportunity to demonstrate in no uncertain terms that we can place equal focus on and spread opportunities to both our rural and urban communities.

It is these kinds of projects that articulate Noam Chomsky’s assertion that, “Freedom without opportunity is a devil’s gift, and the refusal to provide such opportunities is criminal.”

Before, during and after this tournament we did not slacken the pace of service delivery. We ensured that we maintained adequate focus on those things that our communities have mandated us to do amidst budgetary constraints. We commend both councillors and officials for this stellar performance.

We do these things because our people eke out a living under the most trying of conditions. We are constantly confronted with adversity but take solace in the words of Nelson Mandela at the 1998 renaming of the OR Tambo Memorial Hospital. Former president Mandela first sketched the hostility under which Oliver Tambo knitted together an indefatigable liberation movement of committed cadres focused on the grand prize of freedom, peace and justice for all in their country. At this gathering Mandela said to the health workers and their leadership, “The task before you is truly immense and you will need courage to face up to change, and all its difficulties and uncertainties.” We want to believe that we chip away at adversity with every success we notch in our way to building a better life for our people in Mogale City.

With this review, we want to put across the strong message that we will not betray the trust that the overwhelming majority of the people have put in us.

**Cllr Koketso Calvin Seerane**