

Name of the researcher.....Henry Paul Gichana.....

Name of the municipality.....Thulamela Local Municipality.....

Province.....Limpopo.....

National Treasury classification.....B4.....

Population size..... 618 462

Budget..... R 854 million

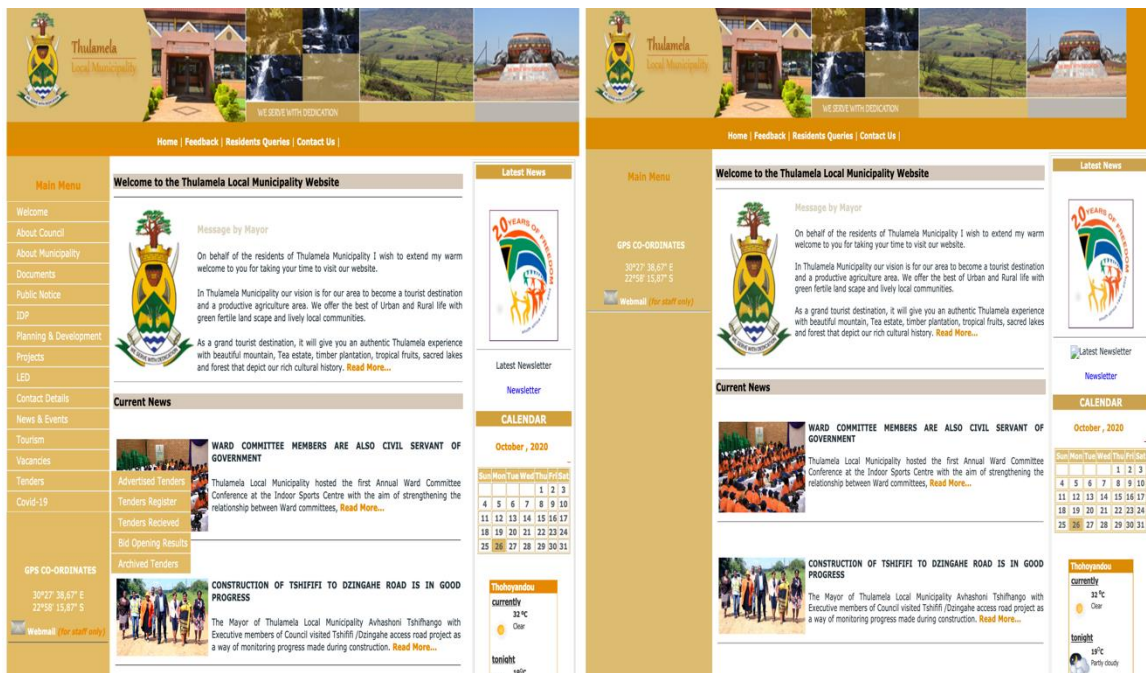
1. Does the municipality have a functional website? Does the website have a dedicated page for procurement information, which can be accessed without registration?

- a. Yes, the municipality has a functional website with a dedicated page for procurement information, and this information can be accessed without registration.
- b. Yes, the municipality has a functional website but the website has no procurement information or the municipality has a functional website with a dedicated page for procurement information but registration is required to access this information.
- c. No, the municipality does not have a functional website.

Answer: a

Source: <http://www.thulamela.gov.za/index.php?page=tenders>

Comments: One can access information about tenders from the homepage. The website has dedicated sections for “advertised tenders”, “tenders register”, “tenders received”, “bid opening results” as well as “archived tenders”. Note however that although these sections are accessible when using most browsers (Mozilla, Safari & Internet Explorer) they are not accessible when one uses Google Chrome. See the side-by-side images below).



2. Does the municipality publish tender notices?

- a. Yes, the municipality publishes tender notices and the list of tender notices seems complete.

- b. Yes, the municipality publishes tender notices but the list of tender notices has obvious gaps or the list seems incomplete.
- c. No, there are no tender notices on the municipality's website.

Answer: a

Source: <http://www.thulamela.gov.za/index.php?page=tenders>

Comments: The site presents notices chronologically in a descending order by month for the duration of the survey period. Several notices are provided for each month for the period hence the list seems complete.

3. Does the municipality publish tender specifications for tender notices on its website, can they be downloaded free of charge?

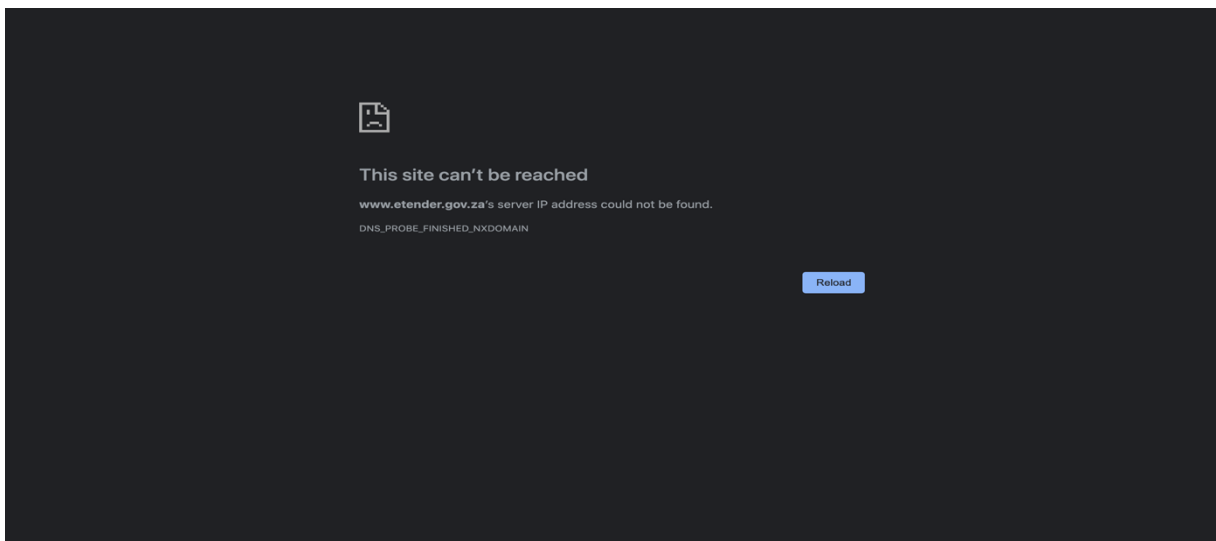
- a. Yes, the municipality publishes tender specifications on its website, which are downloadable free of charge.
- b. Yes, the municipality publishes tender specifications, which are downloadable free of charge but only for some tender notices or the municipality publishes tender specifications but it imposes a cost to access the specifications.
- c. No, the municipality does not publish tender specifications.

Answer: c

Source: <http://www.thulamela.gov.za/index.php?page=tenders>;

<https://etenders.treasury.gov.za/content/provision-security-services-tshikombani-stadium-three-3months>; <https://etenders.treasury.gov.za/sites/default/files/tenders/tshikombani%20doc-03112020093701.pdf>

Comments: Although tender specifications are not available on the website, they are freely downloadable on the eTender portal. However, the tenders on the portal are only for the month of October 2020 hence specifications for any others, especially those covering the survey period, are not available. Unfortunately, however, the link provided for access to the eTender portal in all the tender notices is www.etender.gov.za. which does not exist.



4. Does the municipality publish the name of companies or individuals who win tenders on its website? Does it do so on time (i.e. within five working days after the award)?

- a. Yes, the municipality publishes information about who wins tenders within five working days.

- b. Yes, the municipality publishes information about who wins tenders but after five working days or the list of names of companies or individuals who won the tender has obvious gaps or seems incomplete.
- c. No, the municipality does not publish information about who wins tenders.

Answer: c

Source: http://www.thulamela.gov.za/index.php?page=tenders_register;

Comments: Although information about winners of tenders is available under the “Tenders Register” section of the website, the prices indicated are below R 200,000 hence falling outside the scope of the survey. It is, however, not clear from the registers whether the tenders were issued through requests for proposals/quotations or through competitive tendering. Moreover, the only two names of winners available on the eTender portal that appear to be for the period 2019/2020 are in respect of requests for proposals.

The screenshot shows the 'Awarded Tenders' section of the eTenderPublication website. The page includes a search filter with the following settings: Category: - Any -, Cluster: - Any -, Province: Limpopo, Department: Thulamela Local Municipality, and Tender Type: - Any -. Below the filters is a table of awarded tenders.

Category	Tender Description	Tender No.
Other service activities	SUPPLY OF TRAFFIC MOTOR VEHICLE	BID NO 63/2017/2018
Other service activities	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF TRAFFIC UNIFORM	BID 55/2017/2018
Other service activities	PROVISION OF IT AUDIT	BID 88 2017 2018
Other service activities	SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES OF THE EXISTING COMPUTERIZED LEARNERS LICENCE TESTING SYSTEM FOR PERIOD OF 12 MONTHS AT THOHOYANDOU DLTC (SIBASA TRAFFIC)	BID NO :01 /2018 /2019
Other service activities	PROPOSAL, DESIGN, IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE OF UNINTERRUPTED POWER SUPPLY	11/2019/2020
Other service activities	REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL-DEBT COLLECTION FOR A PERIOD OF 3 YEARS	22/2019/2020

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5. Do tender specifications remain accessible on the website after the contract has been awarded for the duration of the contract?

- a. Yes, the tender specifications remain accessible on the website after the contract has been awarded for the duration of the contract.
- b. Yes, the tender specifications remain accessible on the website after the contract has been awarded but not for the entire duration of the contract or not all tender

specification information remains accessible on the website for the entire duration of the relevant contracts.

- c. No, the tender specifications are removed after the award of the contract or the municipality does not publish tender specifications.

Answer: c

Source: <http://www.thulamela.gov.za/index.php?page=tenders>

Comments: (Refer to question 3 above) there are no tender specifications available on the Portal for any other period besides October 2020. This therefore points to a general unavailability of tender specifications beyond the tender closing date.

6. Does a municipality publish the price of the contract?

- a. Yes, the municipality publishes the price of the contract.
- b. Yes, the municipality publishes the price of the contract but does not seem to publish the price of contracts for all tenders
- c. No, the municipality does not publish the price of the contract.

Answer: c

Source: http://www.thulamela.gov.za/index.php?page=tenders_register

Comments: As in the comments in question 4 above, although the price of some tenders is included in the annual registers there are no prices for any tenders relevant for this survey (Those above R 200,000/R 300,000 under the new regulations).

7. Does the municipality publish any information on how the project will be implemented, for instance, timelines and deliverables, otherwise known as service delivery agreements or implementation plans?

- a. Yes, the municipality publishes information on how the project will be implemented.
- b. Yes, the municipality publishes information on how the project will be implemented, but the list of service delivery agreement or implementation plans has obvious gaps or the list seems incomplete.
- c. No, the municipality does not publish information on how the project will be implemented.

Answer: c

Source: <http://www.thulamela.gov.za/index.php?page=tenders>

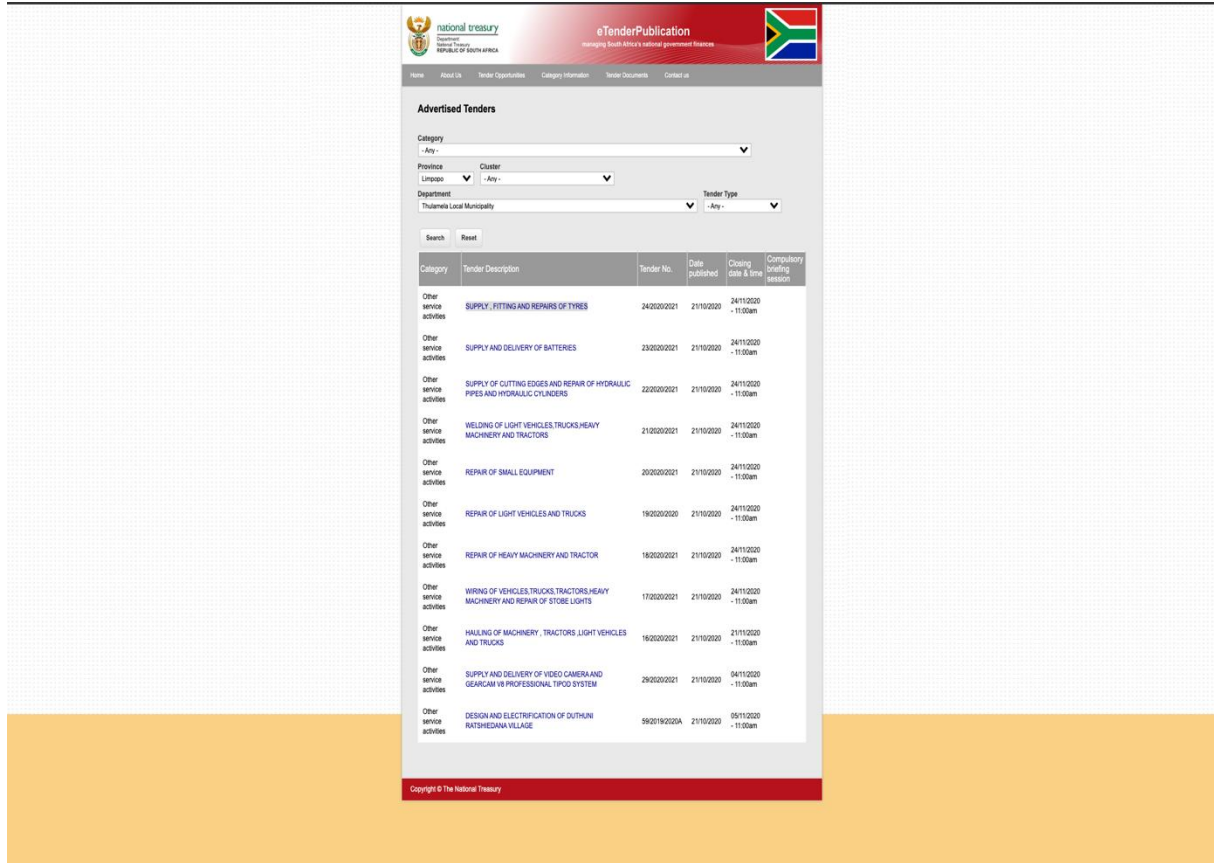
Comments: No information can be found on the website regarding project implementation. The tender registers referred to in question 4 above are the only 'post-tendering' document available on the website.

8. Does the municipality publish procurement information on both its website and the eTender portal?

- a. Yes, the municipality publishes procurement information on both its website and the eTender portal.
- b. Yes, the municipality publishes procurement information on both its website and the eTender portal but the information on these two platforms does not correspond.
- c. No, the municipality only publishes procurement information on either its website or the eTender portal.
- d. No, the municipality does not publish procurement information on either its website or the eTender portal.

Answer: b

Source: <https://etenders.treasury.gov.za/content/advertised-tenders>;
<https://etenders.treasury.gov.za/content/design-and-electrification-duthuni-ratshiedana-village>
 Comments: There is procurement information on both the website and on the portal. However, while the information on the website, especially tender notices, is detailed and covers the survey period, the only information available on the portal is only for tenders posted on 21/10/2020. Also, tender documents (including specifications) are available on the portal but are not available on the website.



General assessment:

a) What is your overall impression on how easy it is to navigate the municipal website to find procurement information? Rate out of 10?

8. There was no problem with navigation to find the information except for users utilizing Google Chrome.

b) Any tips on how the municipality could improve citizens’ access to procurement information on its website?

Ensure ease of access via Chrome and address all the gaps identified in the survey above.

c) Are there any best practices in the municipality which can be shared with other municipalities?

Tender notices are available, chronologically arranged for each month for the duration of the survey period and running further back.

d) Are there any other issues that caught your attention when undertaking the assessment?

Most tender notices are titled “Invitation to Notice” which is a bit confusing.