Name of the researcher: Michelle Rufaro Maziwisa

Name of the municipality: Ugu District Municipality

Province: KwaZulu Natal

National Treasury classification: C2¹

Population size: 689 051²

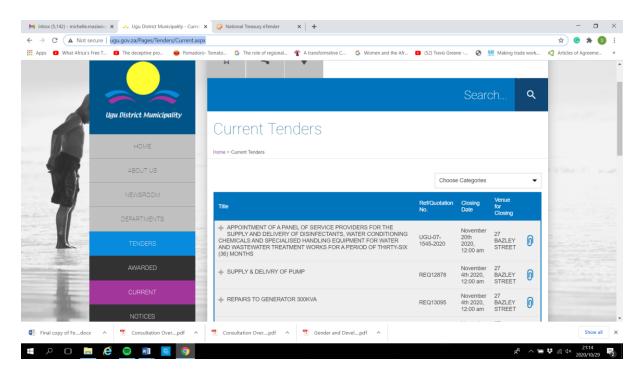
Budget: 1 069 767 0893

- 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://ugu.gov.za/Pages/Tenders/Current.aspx (accessed 29 October 2020)

Comments: The municipality has a dedicated procurement page with tabs for 'awarded tenders', 'current' and 'notices'.



2. Does the municipality publish tender notices?

¹ Water services authority.

² https://municipalmoney.gov.za/profiles/district-DC21-ugu/

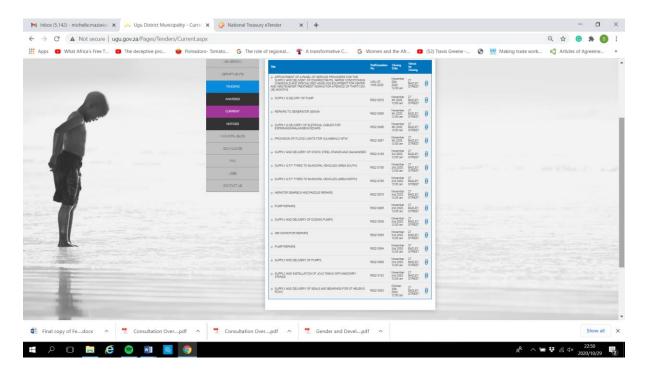
https://municipaldata.treasury.gov.za/table/incexp/?year=2019&municipalities=DC21&amountType=AUDA

- 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: B

Source: http://ugu.gov.za/Pages/Tenders/Current.aspx (accessed 29 October 2020)

Comments: The list seems incomplete, the municipality seems to remove tender notices after a certain date and does not show any for the period under review. The list has tender notices closing 30 October 2020 to 20 November 2020. The list below is what I saw when I searched for tender notices.



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.

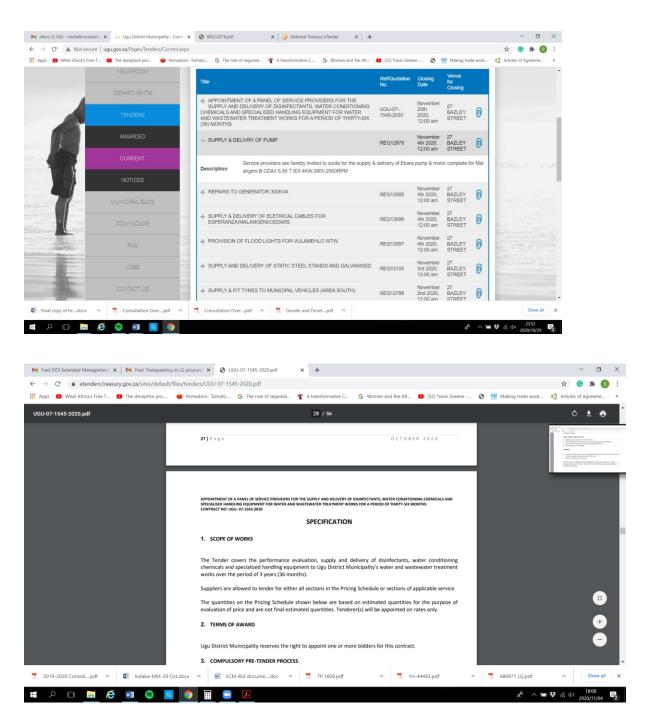
Answer: C Source:

Main page: http://ugu.gov.za/Pages/Tenders/Notices.aspx

Example 1: http://ugu.gov.za/Lists/Tenders/Attachments/2191/UGU-07-1545-2020.pdf ; http://ugu.gov.za/Lists/Tenders/Attachments/2121/UGU-05-1554-2020.pdf ;

eTender Portal example: https://etenders.treasury.gov.za/sites/default/files/tenders/UGU-07-1545-2020.pdf

Comments: I did not find tender specifications on the municipal website. I only found tender notices, and these were limited to current tenders, not past tenders (ie. no tenders for the period under review are available). The tender notices refer to the eTender Portal for tender documents, or interested persons can obtain them at the municipal office for a fee of R200. The specifications are generally available on the eTender Portal. However, the eTender Portal gets updated regularly, such that once tenders are closed, they are removed from the 'tender adverts' tab and moved to the 'closed tenders' tab. The closed tenders contain a mix of all municipalities, which is difficult to search, and it only provides a list with no specifications. It is therefore difficult to verify if the tenders advertised by the municipality during the period under review had specifications or not.



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.

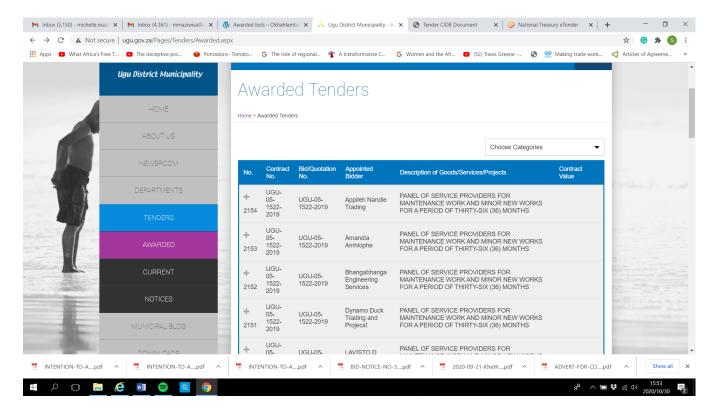
Answer: B

Source: http://ugu.gov.za/Pages/Tenders/Awarded.aspx (accessed 30 October 2020)

Tender Opening Registers http://ugu.gov.za/Documents/Tender%20Opening%20Registers/UGU-05-

1557-2020%20dated%2023-10-2020.pdf (accessed 30 October 2020)

Comments: The municipality provides a list of who wins tenders, but the list appears to be incomplete, because it does not have any 'next' pages.



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. The attachment is also removed.

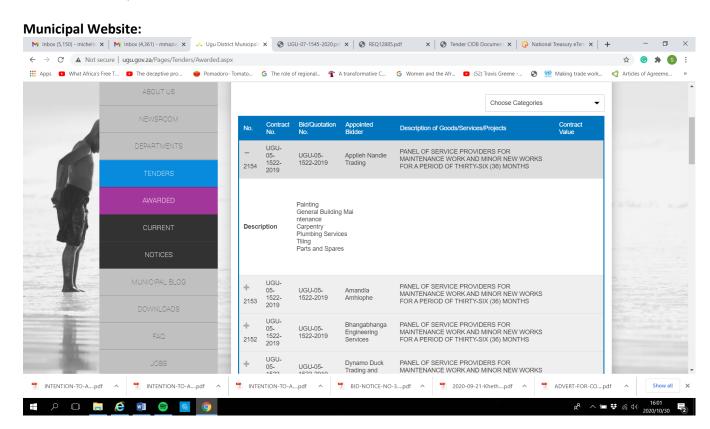
Answer: C

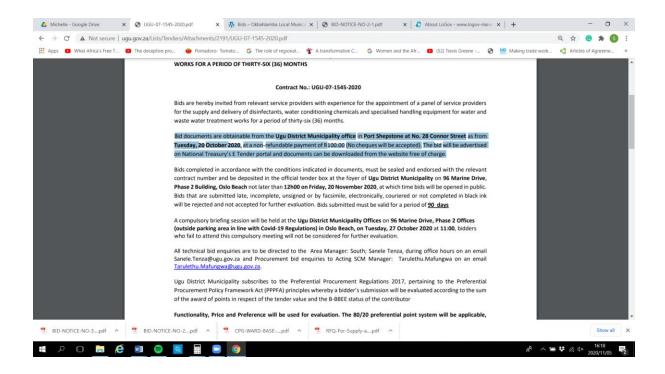
Source:

Municipal Website: http://ugu.gov.za/Pages/Tenders/Awarded.aspx (accessed 30 October 2020) eTender Portal (Awarded Tenders): https://etenders.treasury.gov.za/content/awarded-tenders (accessed 04 November 2020)

Comments: I did not see any specifications on the municipal website and the eTender Portal for tenders after the contract has been awarded.

- However, as noted in the response to question 3 above, tenders on the municipal website
 do not have specifications, but tenders on the eTender Portal seems to generally have
 specifications. This means that where the original tender notice on the municipal website
 remains available after the contract has been awarded, it still has no specifications, and for
 those tenders, no specifications remain available after the awarding of the contract.
- Additionally, while tender specifications are generally available on the eTender Portal during
 the advertisement period, the 'advertised tenders' on the eTender Portal are removed
 quickly, and consequently they are not available after award of the tender. Further, under
 'Awarded Tenders' on the eTender Portal, there are no tender specifications. Selecting
 'Awarded tenders' leads to a list with scant details, only showing the name of the contractor.
 For example, UGU-05-1522-2019.





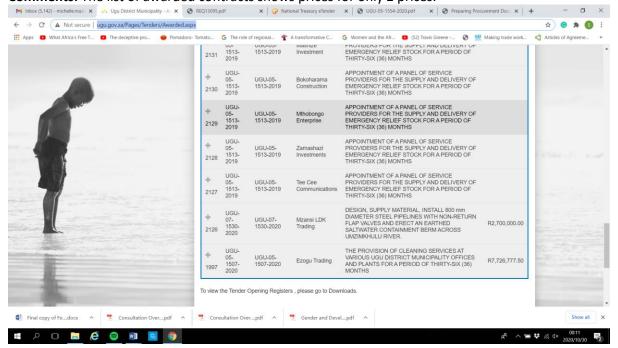
6. Does a municipality publish the price of the contract?

- a. Yes, the municipality publishes the price of the contract.
- 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: B

Source: http://ugu.gov.za/Pages/Tenders/Awarded.aspx (accessed 30 October 2020)

Comments: The list of awarded contracts shows prices for only 2 prices.

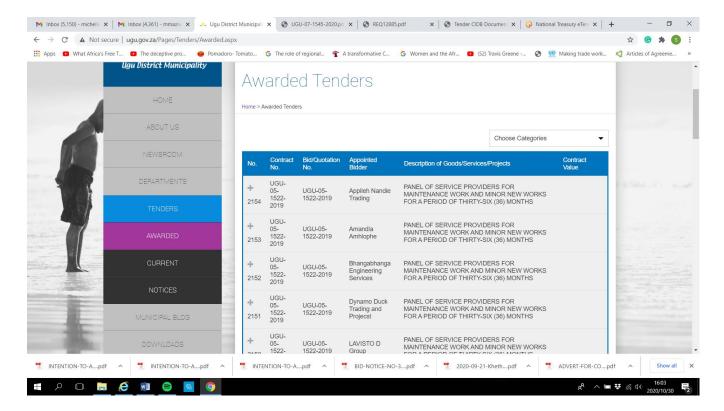


- 7. Does the municipality publish any information on how the project will be implemented, for instance, timelines and deliverables, otherwise known as service delivery agreements or implementation plans?
 - a. Yes, the municipality publishes information on how the project will be implemented.
 - b. 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://ugu.gov.za/Pages/Tenders/Awarded.aspx (accessed 30 October 2020)

Comments: I did not find any information on the implementation of the project on the municipal website.



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

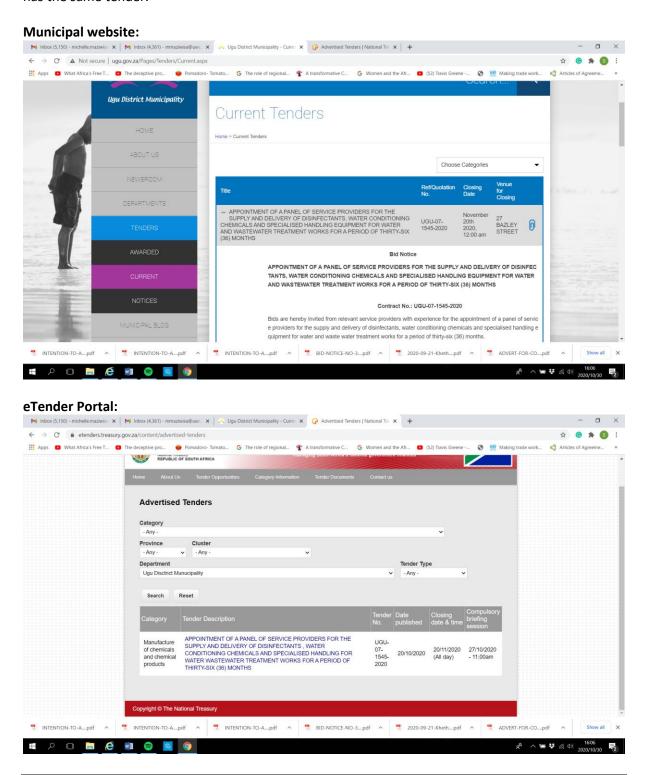
- a. Yes, the municipality publishes procurement information on both its website and the eTender portal.
- b. Yes, the municipality publishes procurement information on both its website and the eTender portal but the information on these two platforms does not correspond.
- c. No, the municipality only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

Municipal website: http://ugu.gov.za/Pages/Tenders/Current.aspx (accessed 30 October 2020)

eTender Portal: https://etenders.treasury.gov.za/content/advertised-tenders (accessed 30 October 2020)

Comments: The municipal website has one tender, and the rest are requests, and the eTender Portal has the same tender.



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?

Two of the tabs for Tenders: 'Notices' and 'Current' had similar information, but did not correspond. It was not immediately clear to me why there were two tabs instead of one, as in I did not understand the purpose of each. If one uses the 'Notices' tab, they would miss out on information provided under the 'Current' tab which has more details on the description of the tender, where to apply and obtain documents etc. I would rate it 7 because it is generally easy to navigate. But the information needs to be updated and made complete.

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

It must provide all prices for awarded contracts and instead of referring to the eTender Portal, the municipality can itself load the documents on its own website.

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

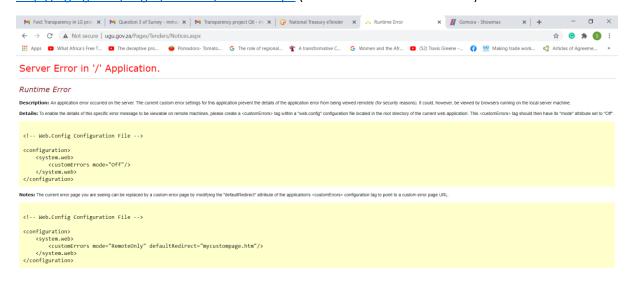
Yes, the municipal website exactly matched the eTender Portal regarding current tender notices/advertisements. This accurate information creates a sense of confidence that the information is true and complete.

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

It is concerning that some tenders have information on the price and others do not. It is also concerning that the municipality does not provide the tender documents (or download them itself from the eTender Portal and upload them on its own website) instead of referring people to the eTender Portal.

Although the website was functional during the time of research (26-30 October 2020), when I tried to open the municipal website I got an error message.

http://ugu.gov.za/Pages/Tenders/Notices.aspx (accessed 08 November 2020).



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