

STATEMENT

Mrs M. A. BHUJOHORY - Ag. CHIEF EXECUTIVE

In line with Section 142 of the Local Government Act 2011, the District Council of Black River is issuing its Annual Report for year 2013.

I am confident that this report, over and above to being an information tool, will further help to create better understanding between the Council and the local residents whereby the principles of accountability and good governance will be favoured.

I seize the opportunity to thank each and every one who has, in one way or the other, supported this Council and/or has constructively brought his/her fruitful contribution in view of bringing continuous improvement in the service delivery of the Council.

Date: 17 September 2014

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLACK RIVER

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLACK RIVER is located in the Western part of the island. The District Council of Black River has during the past years witnessed tremendous residential, commercial and industrial developments. Much attention is being paid by the District Council on the physical development of the areas under its jurisdiction. The District Council of Black River is duty bound as per the Local Government Act 2011 to administer the villages stretching from Richelieu up to Le Morne including Chamarel Village.

CORE VALUES

As a corporate body and alike all the public institutions, the District Council of Black River has a mission, a vision and a mission statement.

MISSION: The District Council of Black River has given itself the mission to ascertain that all the statutory duties including services are delivered promptly in accordance with expectations of the public.

VISION: It has set itself the vision in achieving excellence in all its undertakings.

MISSION STATEMENT: As per the mission statement of the District Council of Black River, the inhabitants are the centre of all its endeavours and the Human Resource of this Council is its main strength in the endeavour to provide timely, quality based, dedicated customer oriented, innovative and high standard services. The District Council of Black River aims at its best within its financial means and human resource available to achieve excellence in the delivery of service.

Specific information on the District Council of Black River

Head Office	: Geoffroy Road, Bambous
Website	: http://www.brdc.mu
E-mail	: brdc@mail.la.gov.mu
Hotline	: 452-1502
Tel	: 401-3100
Fax	: 452-0303

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION/COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS/HOUSING UNITS REPORT						
CENSUS 2011						
SN	VILLAGE	POPULATION		TOTAL (M & F)	HOUSING UNITS	COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS
1	Albion	M	2,651	5,205	1,817	7
		F	2,554			
2	Bambous	M	7,697	15,345	2,944	40
		F	7,648			
3	Cascavelle	M	1,219	2,479	518	7
		F	1,260			
4	Case Noyale	M	868	1,703	397	6
		F	835			
5	Chamarel	M	400	783	210	9
		F	383			
6	Flic en Flac	M	1,092	2,197	1,906	21
		F	1,105			
7	La Gaulette	M	1,318	2,668	712	13
		F	1,350			
8	Grande Rivière Noire	M	1,594	3,189	962	27
		F	1,595			
9	Gros Cailloux	M	1,170	2,315	651	5
		F	1,145			
10	Le Morne	M	644	1,300	391	5
		F	656			
11	Petite Rivière	M	2,317	4,591	961	27
		F	2,274			
12	Richelieu	M	4,026	7,906	808	10
		F	3,880			
13	Tamarin	M	1,842	3,766	1,388	21
		F	1,924			
GRAND TOTAL				53,447	13,665	198

COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL		
SN	NAME	REPRESENTATIVE OF VILLAGE COUNCIL
1	MAGDELEINE André Gilbert Steeve	ALBION
2	BAUDA Jean Eurick	BAMBOUS
	MUNGRA Ajitsing	
4	POONA Louis Christian	CASCABELLE
5	LEU-GOVIND Marie Véronique (Ms)	CASE NOYALE
6	SEESAHYE Jean Berty	CHAMAREL
7	DANSANT Jean – Yves	FLIC EN FLAC
8	PAPECHE Nicole Marie Anne (Ms)	GRANDE RIVIÈRE NOIRE
9	ORTOO Kemraz	GROS CAILLOUX
10	LAMARQUE Louis Chérubin	LA GAULETTE
11	JEAN Clayvie (Ms)	LE MORNE
12	BISSESSUR Anil Kumar	PETITE RIVIÈRE
13	FABIENNE Désiré Henrico	RICHELIEU
14	CHETTY Noël Doget Oxsinice	TAMARIN

SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

SN	NAME	POST
1	M. A. BHUJOHORY (Ms)	Ag. Chief Executive
2	G. RUGHOO	Ag. Deputy Chief Executive
3	M. JALIM (Ms)	Assistant Chief Executive – Village Councils
4	A. K. DUSOYE	Assistant Chief Executive – Village Councils
5	S. DODAH (Ms)	Human Resource Management Officer
6	M. B. ARMOOGUM (Ms)	Ag. Financial Controller
7	N. D. HOSSENALLY (Ms)	Information Technology Officer / System Administrator
8	P. BALLOO	Head, Public Infrastructure Department
9	R. PHUL	Head, Land Use and Planning Department
10	R. SOOKUN	Chief Health Inspector
11	B. NARAYEN	Chief Inspector of Works
12	S. MADOUBACAS (Ms)	Accountant
13	A. LATTOO (Ms)	Internal Auditor
14	V. GOOMANY	Principal Welfare Officer
15	L. NANINE (Ms)	Principal Financial Officer
16	R. LUCHMUN	Principal Financial Officer
17	M. N. GHASEETA	Principal Health Inspector
16	M. P. SONEEA	Senior Health Inspector
17	L. SUNASSEE (Ms)	Safety and Health Officer
18	Y. J. UBHEERAM (Ms)	Human Resource Officer
19	S. NOKOOL (Ms)	Ag. Planning and Development Officer
20	S. FOWDAR	Supervisor Lighting Section

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

COUNCIL MEETINGS: As per the Local Government Act 2011, the Council can meet in ordinary meetings as often as its businesses may require and at least once every fortnight for the transaction of its businesses. Meetings of the Council are chaired by the Chairman of the District Council.

COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: In line with the relevant provisions of the Local Government Act 2011, an Executive Committee has been set up by the Council with the duties and powers to:-

- (i) *determine applications for Outline Planning Permissions and Building and Land Use Permits and;*
- (ii) *to approve Procurement of Goods and services for which the value exceeds Rs 100,000.*

The term of office of an Executive Committee is 2 years commencing after the election of the Chairperson of the District Council (*which the last time took place on 13 December 2012*).

COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairperson	:	Mr N. D. O. CHETTY
Vice-Chairperson	:	Mrs N. M. A. PAPÊCHE
Members	{	Mrs M. V. LEU-GOVIND
	:	Mr J. Y. DANSANT
	:	Mr D. H. FABIENNE
	:	Mr A. MUNGRA
	:	Mr L. C. POONA

In the event a recommendation made by the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee is rejected by the Executive Committee, the matter is referred to the Minister for determination as per the Local Government Act 2011. .

PERSON AGGRIEVED BY DECISION OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL: Any person aggrieved by a decision of a District Council with regards to an application for Building and Land Use Permit may within 21 days of receipt of notification, appeal to the Environment and Land Use Appeal Tribunal.

OBLIGATIONS OF HOLDER OF BUILDING AND LAND USE PERMIT: any person who has been issued a Building and Land Use Permit, shall before starting a classified trade and at all times in the course of carrying on the classified trade,

comply with such guidelines as may be issued by the Fire Services, Sanitary Authority, other authorities as may be prescribed and the Ministry responsible for the subject of environment and shall inform the District Council of the date from which he occupies the building.

THE PERMITS AND BUSINESS MONITORING COMMITTEE (PBMC) COMPOSITION:

- ~ *The Chief Executive or his/her representative as Chairperson*
- ~ *The Head of the Finance Department or his/her representative*
- ~ *The Head Land Use and Planning Department or his/her representative*
- ~ *The Head Public Infrastructure Department or his/her representative*
- ~ *The Head Public Health Department or his/her representative*

PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE: Any procurement of goods and services by the District Council is determined by a Procurement Committee comprising:-

- ~ *The Chief Executive or his / her Deputy*
- ~ *The Financial Controller or his / her Deputy*
- ~ *One Senior Officer in charge of a department other than that of the Administrative and the Finance Departments.*

In addition to the Council meetings and meetings of the Executive Committee, the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee, the Council has equally set up the Anti-Corruption Committee and the Ethics Committee. Ad-hoc committees are more over constituted as and when required in view of looking into the organisation of a particular event for e.g Independence Day Celebrations, sports competitions etc.

These committees lapse once the event has taken place.

There are also Sub Committees which are constituted now and then by the Council with a view to facilitating the organisation of activities.

ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE: With a view to better implementing the Public Sector Anti-Corruption Framework, this council has set up an Anti-Corruption Committee.

The Anti-Corruption Committee which comprises solely Officers of the Council supports the latter in its endeavour to promote a culture of zero corruption and combat corrupt practices of any form.

It is worth noting that an Anti-Corruption Policy has been approved by the Anti-Corruption Committee and the Council where it has been laid down that the District Council of Black River is committed to promoting and adhering to the highest standards of probity, transparency and accountability in its operation and management.

The District Council of Black River has furthermore, with the adoption of this policy, engaged itself to fully and unequivocally adopt a zero tolerance stance towards corruption and other malpractices and ensure compliance with the Anti-Corruption Legislation.

THE ETHICS COMMITTEE: This Council is called upon to set up an Ethics Committee comprising the Chairperson of the District Council and five Councillors. The terms of reference of the Ethic Committee are:

- (i) *To promote and disseminate the values of the code of conduct for Councillors.*
- (ii) *To review the overall progress in the implementation of the code of conduct for Councillors.*
- (iii) *To monitor and evaluate the internalisation of ethical behaviour among Councillors.*
- (iv) *To provide guidance to Councillors on ethical issues.*

- (v) *To consider types of complaints made against Councillors and address the ethical issues arising.*

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD IN 2013

Hereunder are details of the number of Council and Committee Meetings held during the year 2013:-

SN	MEETING	NO. OF MEETING
1	Council Meeting	29
2	Executive Committee	52
3	Permits and Business Monitoring Committee	52
4	Procurement Committee	52
5	Other Meetings	25

DEPARTMENTS OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLACK RIVER

For the efficient discharge of its duties and functions, the District Council of Black River is constituted of the following departments:-

- ~ *Administrative Department*
- ~ *The Finance Department*
- ~ *The Land Use and Planning Department*
- ~ *The Public Infrastructure Department*
- ~ *The Public Health Department*
- ~ *The Welfare Department*

All the departments of the Council are under the supervision of the Ag. Chief Executive.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT: Acts as the spearhead for the other departments of the District Council. It represents the central administration and is headed by the Chief Executive, who has, among others, the responsibility for the overall administration of the Council and to coordinate and ensure the smooth running of works in all the departments and sections.

The Chief Executive is assisted by the Deputy Chief Executive and the Assistant Chief Executives.

The Administration Department comprises the following:-

-Human Resource Management Section

-The Committee Section

-The Internal Audit Section

-Information Technology Section

-Registry

THE INFORMATION SERVICE DESK (ISD)

The above service which was set up in 2001 equally falls under the Administration Department. With the increasing demands and expectations of the inhabitants and the public in view of prompt and quality service delivery, the ISD has become an undeniable instrument to instil a new mindset for more concern about better performance and perpetual movement towards reduction in the number of probable complaints.

It is to be noted that the ISD registered 282 complaints in respect of scavenging service during the year 2013. These complaints were mainly linked to the reinstatement of a twice weekly service in lieu and instead of a once weekly service.

The scavenging service has by now already been restored to a twice weekly service to the satisfaction of all the inhabitants of the region.

Complaints in relation to barelands are very common. Actions are envisaged against contraveners in line with the provisions of the law.

Due consideration is given to all complaints registered at the ISD. There are many cases where action in respect of requests for new lamps is delayed due to unavailability of funds. However, these requests are attended to once new lamps are procured.

THE HUMAN RESOURCE SECTION

The District Council of Black River operates in a dynamic environment. The demands, aspirations and expectations of its local community for an effective, efficient and better quality service have increased. The Council is hence constituted of people working together to achieve its objectives and, it relies heavily on its Human Resource which is the pivot on which the wheel of any organisation turns.

The aim of Human Resource Section at the District Council of Black River is to provide a fully competent, professional, well-motivated and diverse workforce capable of delivering a first class service.

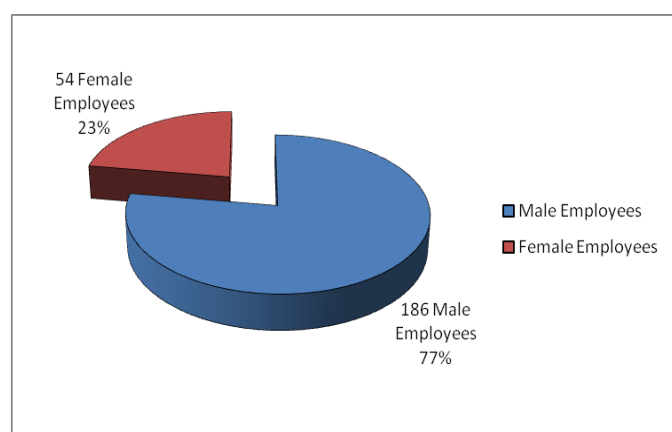
The section is headed by the Human Resource Management Officer, who is assisted by the Human Resource Officer and two management Support Officers.

At present, the Council has an altogether workforce of 240 employees working in the six different departments. Staff cost represents a large proportion of the council's recurrent budget.

The gross staffing costs for year 2013 amounted to Rs 85,433,793 representing 45% of the District Council's gross expenditure for that year.

EMPLOYEES ON ESTABLISHMENT AND IN POST:

As at 31 December 2013, there were 289 posts on the establishment of the Council and 240 employees in post out of which there were 186 male employees and 54 female.



Department	No. in Post	Male	Female
Administration Department	69	37	32
Finance Department	14	9	5
Public Infrastructure Department	99	97	2
Welfare Department	10	2	8
Land Use and Planning Department	13	8	5
Public Health Department	35	33	2
TOTAL	240	186	54

FILLING OF VACANCIES FOR YEAR 2013

Recruitment exercise carried out by the Local Government Service Commission is as detailed hereunder:-

Post	No of persons recruited	Male	Female
General Worker	2	1	1
Attendant / Senior Attendant	2	2	-
Handy Worker (Special Class)	3	3	-

RETIREMENT DURING YEAR 2013

Post	No of persons retired	Male	Female
Attendant / Senior Attendant	1	1	-
Sewing Teacher (Part Time)	1	-	1
Plant and Equipment Operator	1	1	-

DECEASED DURING YEAR 2013

Post	No of persons retired	Male	Female
Lorry loader	1	1	-
Pensioner	1	-	1

TRAINING COURSES / WORKSHOPS ATTENDED BY EMPLOYEES	
WORKSHOP / COURSES	ATTENDED BY
Seminar on IPSASs (International Public Sector Accounting Standards)	Accountant
Managing Safety, Health and Welfare in Construction	Safety and Health Officer/ Senior Safety and Health Officer
Institution Occupational Safety & Health Management – Understanding the Noise Regulations & New OSH Regulations 2011/12	Safety and Health Officer/ Senior Safety and Health Officer
Ministry of Finance & Economic Development - PPO Bid Evaluation	-Chief Inspector of Works -Assistant Chief Executive -Accountant
ICAC – Capacity Building Programme on Corruption Risk Management	-Assistant Chief Executive -Head, Public Infrastructure Department -Internal Auditor
Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations & Emp. - Fire Safety for Safety and Health Officers	Safety and Health Officer/ Senior Safety and Health Officer
Ministry of Housing and Lands - Workshop on Outline Planning Schemes for Urban Areas	Head, Land Use and Planning Department
Ministry of Environment & Sustainable Development – Capacity Development on Coastal Protection & Rehabilitation Project in Mauritius	Civil Engineer
MITD – Trade Test Masonry	Tradesman's Assistant (Mason)
Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations & Emp. - Seminar on Occ. Safety & Health	Safety and Health Officer/ Senior Safety and Health Officer
MLG - Short Course Vehicle Fleet Maintenance and Management	-Chief Inspector of Works

TRAINING COURSES / WORKSHOPS ATTENDED BY EMPLOYEES	
WORKSHOP / COURSES	ATTENDED BY
Workshop on training for workforce dealing with pesticides	-Senior Inspector of Works -Safety and Health Officer/ Senior Safety and Health Officer
Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations & Employment - Seminar for employees	-Human Resource Management Officer -Human Resource Officer
Premier Engineering Training Centre Workshop – Employment Law – A Pragmatic Approach	Ag. Deputy Chief Executive
MRC – ½ day Seminar – A Secure Data Access Model for the Mauritian Healthcare Service	Safety and Health Officer/ Senior Safety and Health Officer
Basic Landscaping Programme	Chief Inspector of Works

TRAINING PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED IN-HOUSE FOR THE SAFETY AND WELFARE OF EMPLOYEES	
Safety Training for Electrician (Toolbox Talk) re. Work at Height	
Non Communicable Diseases Screening by Ministry of Health & Quality of Life	
Talk on Male Health Issues by Mauritius Family Planning Association	
2nd Talk on Male Health Issues by Mauritius Family Planning Association	

THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Finance Department is responsible for:

- ~ *The collection of all revenues accruing to the Council*
- ~ *Effecting all payments for goods and services including salaries to its employees*
- ~ *Preparing the yearly estimates and yearly financial statements for submission to the Ministry and the National Audit Office respectively*
- ~ *Procurement of goods and services for the Council*
- ~ *The overall financial administration of the Council providing financial advice, financial information and exercising financial control on all financial transactions.*

The department comprises the following sections:

- ~ *Income*
- ~ *Expenditure*
- ~ *Payroll*
- ~ *Stores*

GRANT IN AID: The total recurrent budget of the Council for the year 2013 was Rs 218,237,004. It was financed mainly from the grant in aid received from the Government and the Council's own source of revenue. The amount of grant in aid received was Rs 109,210,000, representing 63.78% of the total revenue. An additional grant of Rs 34.2 million was received to meet the recurrent costs for scavenging services and street lighting for the year ending 31 December 2013.

Council's own sources of revenue:

- ~ *Trade Fees*
- ~ *Advertising Fees*
- ~ *Scavenging Fees*
- ~ *Building and Land Use Permit*

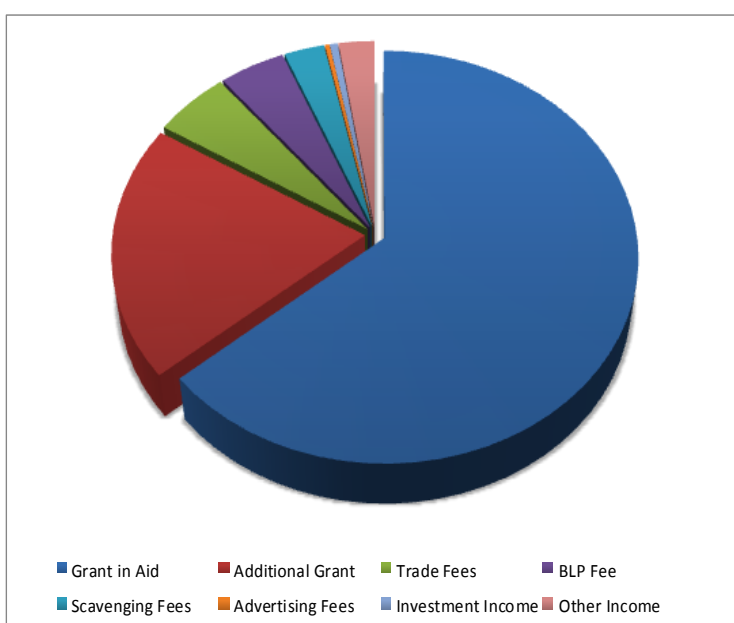
CLASSIFIED TRADES: Any person who wishes to carry out a classified trade shall register with the Registrar of Companies and seek a Building and Land Use Permit (*where applicable*) at the Land Use and Planning Department of the Council.

The payment of fees, dues and charges in respect of classified trades is due by the 01 January of each year and is payable:-

- (i) *Within 15 days of the start of a classified trade; and*
- (ii) *Thereafter in respect of every subsequent financial year, in two equal instalments, the first one on or before 31 January and the second on or before 31 July next year ensuing.*

A surcharge of 50% shall be leviable on any amount not paid within the period specified above.

INCOME FOR YEAR 2013: Income received for the year 2013 is detailed as follows:-



SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES BY PROGRAMMES

CODE	PROGRAMMES	REVISED ESTIMATES 2013 Rs
1	Policy and Management of the Council	48,106,050
2	Provision and Maintenance of Community Based Amenities	62,236,558
3	Development control within the Council's Area	7,635,403
4	Sound and Healthy Conditions in the Council's Area	94,892,779
5	Promotion of Sports, Welfare, Education and Cultural Development-	5,366,214
TOTAL		218,237,004

SUMMARY PBB FOR YEAR 2013

Code	Economic Categories	Compensation to Employees (code 21)	Goods and Services (code 22)	Subsidies/grants/Social Benefits (codes 25 - 28)	Acquisition of Assets (codes 31 - 32)	TOTAL
1	Policy and Management of the Council	34,565,692	7,100,000	6,135,358	305,000	48,106,050
2	Provision and Maintenance of Community-Based Infrastructure and Amenities	29,441,558	32,525,000	270,000	0	62,236,558
3	Development Control within Council's Area	6,480,403	1,155,000	0	0	7,635,403
4	Sound and Healthy Conditions in the Council's Area	29,343,254	64,554,025	995,500	0	94,892,779
5	Promotion of Sports, Welfare, Education and Cultural Development	2,643,320	2,105,000	617,894	0	5,366,214
TOTAL		102,474,227	107,439,025	8,018,752	305,000	218,237,004

The main challenges as addressed in the Programme Based Budget for 2013 and its related outcomes are as follows:-

SN	CHALLENGES	OUTCOMES
1	Review Grant in aid to enable more realistic funding of services.	The Council has faced financial difficulties to meet its recurrent expenditure. Additional grants have been received to compensate increase in salaries and other benefits following the PRB report 2013, and to meet all costs incurred by Council.
2	Reduce arrears of revenue	Survey is being carried out to identify all debtors in order to recoup most of arrears of revenue.
3	Revision of trade fees and introduction of new fees in respect of restaurant, hotels and tourist residence, etc	Necessary action has been initiated to review existing fees and introduce new fees.
4	Reduce cost of scavenging services by providing in house scavenging services in the Council's area	Survey of an in-house scavenging service has started to evaluate the cost implication of capital investment, maintenance and human resource.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT YEAR 2013

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THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLACK RIVER

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2013

2012			2013	
Rs		Note	Rs	Rs
	FIXED ASSETS			
134,940,689	Capital Outlay	(2)		135,795,370
339,013,648	Other Long Term Outlay	(2)		344,534,399
38,428,537	LONG TERM INVESTMENT	(3)		48,479,180
512,382,874				528,808,950
	CURRENT ASSETS			
3,000,000	Short Term Investments	(4)	3,000,000	
1,198,293	Stock	(1)	1,354,185	
1,508,173	Debtors	(5)	2,384,376	
23,500,077	Cash and bank	(6)	30,346,394	
29,206,544			37,084,955	
	Less CURRENT LIABILITIES			
4,157,409	Creditors	(7)	18,916,285	
1,881,752	Deposits		1,886,630	
6,039,161			20,802,915	
23,167,383	NET CURRENT ASSETS			16,282,040
535,550,256				545,090,996
	FINANCED BY			
65,380,285	District Council Fund	(8)	56,750,205	
422,559,421	Capital Grant	(11)	428,503,759	
35,411,983	Pension Fund		46,136,302	
	LONG TERM LIABILITIES			
	PROVISIONS			
3,901,639	Passage Fund		4,012,144	
8,296,928	OTHER BALANCES	(12)	9,688,586	
535,550,256				545,090,996

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Mr D.O. Noël Chetty
Chairman

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M A Bhujohory (Ms)
Ag Chief Executive

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLACK RIVER

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ending 31st December 2013

	Dec-12	Dec-13
	Rs	Rs
<u>Income</u>		
Government Grant In Aid	126,324,000	143,410,000
Investment Income	1,483,018	933,285
Rentals	25,550	60,100
Fees – 8 th Schedule	10,926,775	9,159,025
Publicity Fees	473,615	551,467
Scavenging Fees	4,984,950	4,820,325
Permits	6,745,762	7,916,522
Other Income	6,053,947	1,757,978
Independence & other grants	4,950,300	2,617,000
	161,967,916	171,225,702
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Compensation of Employees	73,559,025	91,982,331
Goods and Services	87,573,966	81,600,406
Grants and Subsidies	2,221,646	2,113,144
Employer Social Benefits	3,793,030	4,726,054
Contribution	202,677	191,965
Acquisition of non-financial assets	105,098	245,796
	167,455,442	180,859,697
Deficit	(5,487,526)	(9,633,995)

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLACK RIVER

Cash Flow Statement for the year ending 31st December 2013

	Dec-12	Dec-13
	Rs.	Rs.
Operating Activities		
Cash received from Grant-in-Aid	144,460,000	143,410,000
Cash received from Rates & Taxes	7,655,377	4,266,442
Cash received from Fees – 8 th Schedule	14,991,600	9,168,025
Cash received from other sources	23,817,374	28,742,168
Cash received from Fees – 10 th Schedule	7,121,523	7,916,522
	198,045,873	193,503,157
Cash payment to suppliers/contractors, etc.	(90,309,203)	(84,113,888)
Cash paid to and on behalf of employees	(94,996,952)	(123,011,736)
<i>Net Cash Inflow from operating activities</i>	12,739,718	(13,622,467)
Returns on Investment and Servicing of Finance		
Interest received on investment	2,704,432	933,285
Interest paid on loan / debentures/bank charges	(18,054)	(22,884)
<i>Net Cash Outflow from R.O.I. and S.O.F.</i>	2,686,378	910,400
<u>Investing Activities</u>		
Investments	-	-
Payment to increase Capital Outlay	(33,502,152)	(8,139,016)
<i>Net cash outflow from investing activities</i>	(33,502,152)	(8,139,016)
<u>Financing Activities</u>		
Transfer of funds	311,673	2,083,789
Government Grants	29,249,575	11,207,384
Advance from Government	-	12,600,000
<i>Net Cash Inflow from financing activities</i>	29,561,248	25,891,174
<i>Sub-total</i>	11,485,192	5,040,092
Cash Inflow from Retention Fund	1,593,032	-
Net Increase in Cash	13,078,224	5,040,092

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLACK RIVER

Notes to the Account

Accounting Policies

(i) The Accounts have been prepared on a historical cost basis and in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

(ii) In line with accounting practice applicable for local authorities no depreciation is charged in the Accounts.

(iii) All income have been taken on a cash basis.

(iv) Stock has been valued at weighted average cost.

(v) Amount due in respect of trade, scavenging and publicity fees have been disclosed as notes to Accounts.

Fixed Assets

(i) Capital Outlay Schedule

Balance as at 01.01.2013 Rs	Additions Rs	Deductions Rs	Balance as at 31.12.2013 Rs
134,940,689	854,688		135,795,377

(ii) Other Long Term Capital Outlay

Balance as at 01.01.2013 Rs	Additions Rs	Deductions Rs	Balance as at 31.12.2013 Rs
339,013,648	5,520,751	-	344,534,399

(iii) Schedule for Capital Outlay as at 31 December 2013

	Opening Balance as at 01.01.13	Additions	Disposal	Closing Balance as at 31.12.13
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
Land & Building	56,833,285	-	-	56,833,285
Capital Projects in villages	375,716,921	5,944,339	-	381,661,260
Motor Vehicles	15,361,542	-	-	15,361,542
Tools & Equipment	3,169,931	7,574	-	3,177,505
Sports Equipment	1,617,767	10,950	-	1,628,717
Furniture & Equipment	21,254,891	412,576	-	21,667,468
TOTAL	473,954,337	6,375,438	-	480,329,776

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLACK RIVER

Notes to the Account

Long Term Investments

	Opening Balance as at 01.01.13	Additions	Transfers	Closing Balance as at 31.12.13
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Renewal Fund	3,016,554	731,978	1,399,000	2,342,878
Superannuation fund	35,411,983	11,096,698	372,379	46,136,302
TOTAL	38,428,537	11,828,676	1,771,379	48,479,181

Short Term Investments

Account name	Deposit 12 months - maturing 23/05/2014
	Rs
Passage Fund	3,000,000

Debtors

Car Loan to Officers

Rs
2,384,376

Other Debtors

Trade fees
Scavenging Fees
Publicity Fees

3,173,475
1,958,050
361,237
5,492,762

Cash at Bank

Balance as per Cash in hand and at Bank:

Petty Cash
Savings A/C MPCB
Savings A/C Retention Money
DCP Account
Savings A/c-Bank One

Rs.
237
29,374,419
5,929
791,408
201
174,200
30,346,394

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLACK RIVER
Notes to the Account

Creditors

	Rs.
Creditors- Outstanding cheques	4,600,056
Retention Money	964,789
Stale Cheques	49,076
Deposits A/c- Deductions Employees 2013	297,762
Advance Grant	12,600,000
	<u>18,511,682</u>

District Council Fund

	Rs
Renewal Fund	18,933,866
Revenue Reserve (Note 9)	(8,790,024)
GRF Revenue Contributions (Note 10)	46,606,363
	<u>56,750,205</u>

Revenue Reserve Account

	Rs.
Balance b/f	692,188
Deficit for the year	(9,633,995)
Add Stale Cheques written back	151,782
	<u>(8,790,024)</u>

GRF Revenue Contributions

	Rs.
Balance b/f	46,175,263
Additions	431,100
	<u>46,606,363</u>

Capital Grant

	Rs.
Balance b/f	422,559,42
Additional Grant	5,944,33
	<u>428,503,75</u>

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLACK RIVER
Notes to the Account

Other Balances

Account name	Opening balance as at 01.01.13	Additions	Payments	Adjustments	Closing balance as at 31.12.13
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
Capital Grant 07/08 & LIF 08/09	228,082			-	228,082
Morcellement Fund	936,902			-	936,902
LIF ICRA 2010 Cap Projects Rs8M &					

THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

INTRODUCTION: The District Council of Black River has since its creation in 1989, contributed enormously in the development of the south western region of the island.

Due to the rocky and poor nature of its soil, much less importance had been given to this part of the island, until recently when the touristic worth of this part was fully recognized. The District Council of Black River extends from Richelieu Village down to Le Morne village. The District comprises thirteen Village Councils, most of which are located immediately at the foot of the mountains of the Black River Range and the western coast of the island.

One of the main functions of the Council, as a service provider, is the improvement of community based amenities within the area falling under its jurisdiction. As such the Council is among others responsible for:

- (a) *Construction and maintenance of non-classified (rural) roads*
- (b) *Construction and maintenance of drains along non classified (rural) roads*
- (c) *Construction of social halls, library and other buildings*
- (d) *Provision of sports infrastructure namely football, volleyball and basketball grounds, children playgrounds and related amenities*
- (e) *Construction of recreational parks*
- (f) *Fixing and maintenance of street lighting and traffic signs*
- (g) *Design, supervision and management of building and engineering projects undertaken by in-house labour or contractors*
- (h) *Fixing of decorations (flags, buntings, etc) for social, sports and religious activities*
- (i) *Maintenance of the District Council's vehicles*
- (j) *Assessing Building and Land Use Permits, EIA Report, Morcellement projects*

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

The Public Infrastructure Department is responsible for the overall planning, implementation and maintenance of all infrastructural projects of the Council. It has a dedicated team to ensure the proper running of the department. The department plans, designs, appoints contractors having the required capacities and experience through pre-established public procurement processes (which are seen to be transparent, fair and equitable) for execution as

well as supervision and administration of all capital projects.

It also executes many projects (*mostly minor ones*) using its own labour force.

SUMMARY OF PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN FROM 2005 ONWARDS

Many projects have been implemented from 2005 onwards. A summary of these main projects achieved and those in progress are given in the table below.

Projects	YEARLY VALUE OF PROJECTS REALISED (RS MILLION- M)								
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
1. Construction and Resurfacing of Roads	10	11.2	10.6	14.9	14.9	22.3	-	-	4.0
2. Construction of Drains	7.2	5.8	8.4	9.4	9.4	5.6	3.0	-	4.5
TOTAL	17.2	17.0	19.0	24.3	24.3	27.9	3.0	-	8.6

MAJOR PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN YEAR 2013

VILLAGE COUNCIL	S.N	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	COST (RS)
Albion	(i)	Reconstruction of part of Avenue des Mulets	126,953
	(ii)	Resurfacing of Flamingo Street	556,366
Bambous	(i)	Absorption drain at Ahmad Jeewan Lane	374,169
Cascavelle	(i)	Resurfacing of Mere Theresa & Neptune Roads	574,410
	(ii)	Absorption drain at Cascavelle Branch Road	116,686
Chamarel	(i)	Extension of Vincent Road	544,188
Flic en Flac	(i)	Resurfacing of Petite Marie Avenue	1,278,610
Grande Rivière Noire	(i)	Absorption drain at La Jetee Road	374,169
Gros Cailloux	(i)	Construction of Lotus Lane	895,844
La Gaulette	(i)	Extension of Issac Labonne drain at Coteau Raffin	946,352
Le Morne	(i)	Drain at Avenue Saponaires	449,437
Petite Rivière	(i)	New road off Princess Margaret Lane	424,084
	(ii)	Tarring of Gopeechand Lane	116,137
Richelieu	(i)	Drain at Shakespeare Avenue	665 884
	(ii)	Drain at Sentinelle Lane	382,768
Tamarin	(i)	Drain at Avenue Dorades	827,297

LAND USE & PLANNING DEPARTMENT

BUILDING AND LAND USE PERMIT APPLICATIONS

KEY FUNCTIONS:

1. Process applications for Building and Land Use Permits within the legal time frame.
2. Monitor development
3. Attend to complaints
4. Take action against unlawful development.

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK:

1. Local Government Act 2011
2. Town and Country Planning Act 1954
3. Environment Protection Act 2002
4. Planning and Development Act 2004
5. Building Control Act 2012

CHALLENGE:

1. Ensure that 100% applications are determined within the legal time frame.
2. Ensure that all developments are carried out as per approved plans.
3. Manage the pressure for development within unspoilt coastal areas and mountain slopes.

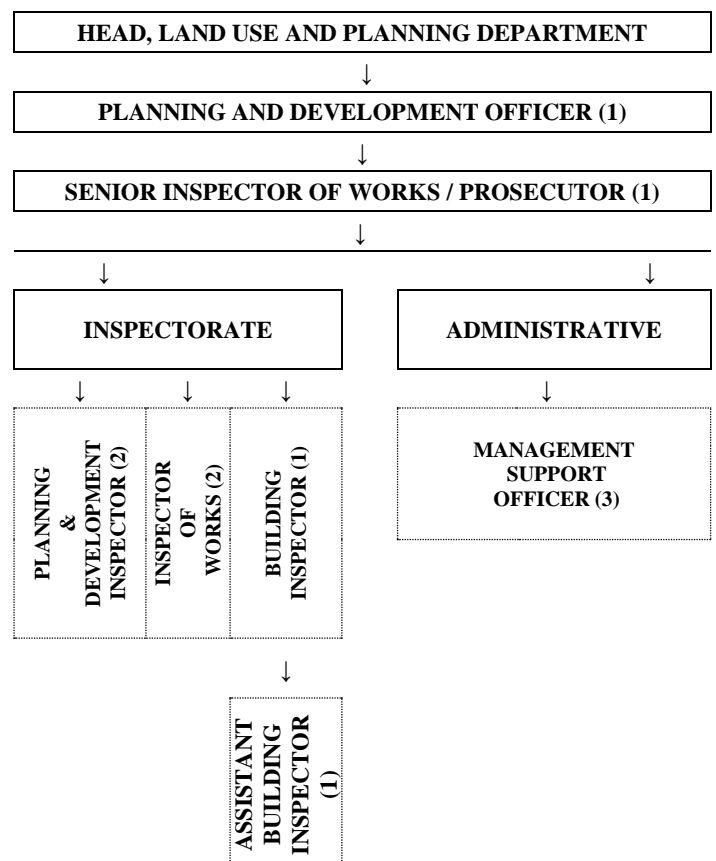
YEAR 2013

DETAIL	No. of applications received	No. of applications approved	No. of applications rejected	No. of Applications in abeyance
Residential	641	594	2	2
Commercial	88	68	4	2
Excision/Subdivision of land	98	82	4	-
Industrial	28	22	1	-
Outline Planning Permission	17	13	1	2
Services	16	13	1	-
Sui Generis	18	15	-	1
TOTAL	906	807	13	7

APPLICATIONS SET ASIDE = 69

LAND USE AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT

STAFFING



THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Public Health Department has the overall responsibility to maintain a clean environment within the District of Black River. This is achieved through the enforcement of Black River District Council Regulations, Environmental Laws and Prosecutions as well as the effective and efficient monitoring of:-

- (i) *The scavenging service*
- (ii) *The cemeteries and cremation grounds*
- (iii) *Trades / Business & Commercial activities*
- (iv) *Ex-Post Control*
- (v) *Barelands*
- (vi) *Rodent Control*

The Public Health Department also implements all policies and decisions of the Council pertaining to health and environment.

The main functions of the department are as follows:-

- (a) *Provision of street cleaning and refuse collection*
- (b) *Cleaning of canals, rivulets and drains (open & Covered)*
- (c) *Cleaning of wastelands*
- (d) *Collection of bulky waste including e-waste*
- (e) *Management and control of cemeteries and cremation grounds*
- (f) *Management and control of rodent with the Council's area*
- (g) *Processing of applications for trade fees/classified trades*
- (h) *Attending to complaints*

1. SCAVENGING SERVICE: Provision of scavenging service is a major statutory duty which falls under the responsibility of the Public Health Department. The said service is at present fully contracted out and Officers of the department are responsible for its organisation and supervision.

A twice weekly refuse collection service is provided to all households and economic operators for a better quality environment.

Moreover, most hotels and restaurants are offered scavenging service upon payment of the relevant scavenging fees.

2. CLEANING OF DRAINS: The cleaning of open drains was effected twice weekly whereas for covered drains same was undertaken as and when required or at least twice a year.

Sweeping of roads was done daily along the main roads and twice weekly for interior roads.

A monthly scavenging fee was claimed to all economic operators as per the Black River District Council Collection & Disposal of Refuse Regulations. As for residential premises (*households*) scavenging service is provided free of charge.

Bulky wastes campaigns (*collection of old furniture, electric appliances, used tyres etc.*) and Environment Days were organised frequently to help inhabitants to dispose of their unwanted materials.

3. CEMETERIES AND CREMATIONS GROUNDS

Cemeteries - Locations: *Flic en Flac, Grande Rivière Noire, St Martin-Mont Roches, Bambous and Richelieu.*

Cremation Grounds: *Richelieu, St Martin Mont Roches, Beaux Songes and Médine.*

LATE NIGHT BURIAL: Since 2008, lighting facilities have been provided at St Martin Mont Roches Cemetery for facilitating night burials for the Muslim Community.

3. PUBLIC LAVATORIES: There are public lavatories at La Gulette and Bambous and same are cleaned and maintained by the District Council.

4. EX- POST CONTROL: Inspectors of the Public Health Department carry out regular control and inspection of business premises to ensure compliance with the Business Facilitation Act and the Black River District Council Regulations.

5. BARELAND: Several residential Morcellements for residential purposes were approved in the Council's area during the past years and these have led to a proliferation of barelands remaining overgrown with noxious vegetations which represent a threat to public security and public health. Owners whose lands are overgrown with noxious vegetations are served with notices (*under the Black River District Council Regulation or Eyesore Abatement Notice under the EPA*).

A maximum of one month delay is given to them to clean their lands.

Non-compliance with these notices results in prosecution under the above laws.

In the absence of a Cadastral Section at the District Council of Black River several owners of land are untraceable and cannot thus be served notices. In such cases those barelands located near occupied housing units are cleaned by the District Council labour. Records are kept so that ultimately when the owners are traced out, the sums due are claimed from them.

6. RODENT CONTROL

A once monthly service is being provided in all the 13 villages by the District Council labour with a view to controlling the rodent population and decrease the risk of potential diseases.

ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME AND CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN

YEAR 2013

SN	ACTIVITY	ACTION TAKEN
1	Clearing of barelands	733 <i>(Barelands cleared)</i>
2	Eyesore Abatement Notice to clear barelands	500 <i>(Notices served)</i>
3	Fixed Penalty for non-compliance of abatement notice	5 <i>(Penalty served)</i>
4	Collection of bulky waste	3 <i>(Occasions)</i>
5	Collection of used tyres	120 <i>(Used tyres collected)</i>
6	Rodent Control	Monthly in all the 13 villages
7	Cleaning of drains, rivers and canals	Twice weekly
8	Sensitisation Programme	All throughout the year

WELFARE DEPARTMENT

The staff of the Welfare Department comprises one Principal Welfare Officer, one Welfare Officer, one Supervisor Sewing Classes and six sewing Mistresses.

The main activities of the department are:

- *Planning, organisation, supervision and coordination of all sports and welfare activities organised by the Council.*
- *Responsible for the running of sewing classes dispensed in Village Halls.*
- *Coordinating activities at National Level such as National Day / Divali / Christmas Celebrations and other festivals.*
- *Planning, organising and participating in twinning programmes and activities with Anse Boileau of Seychelles with which the Council is so far twinned.*
- *Collaborating with Village Councils, Sports Federations, “forces vives” and other ministries and departments for the organisation of sports, cultural, literary, religious and other recreational activities.*

BUDGET – JANUARY 2013 TO DECEMBER 2013

- *Sports & Welfare Activities - Rs 250,000/-*
- *Regionalisation of Sports - Rs 240,000/-*
- *Social Activities - Rs 300,000/-*
- *Cultural activities – Rs 125,000/-*
- *Activities in connection with twinning – travelling, training and subsistence allowance – Rs 600,000/-*

DUTIES OF THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT

- To plan the organisation of the following activities organised by the Council:-
 - **Welfare**
 - **Cultural**
 - **Recreational**
 - **Youth**
 - **Sports**
 - **Educational**
 - **Religious**
 - **Twinning**
 - **Any other related activities**

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS REALISED BY WELFARE DEPARTMENT FOR PERIOD JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2013

S.N	DATE	ACTIVITIES
1	January	Coordination in connection with Cavadee Festival with religious organisations of the District Council of Black River area.
22	February to March	Coordination in connection with the Abolition of Slavery Coordination in connection with Maha Shivaratree Festival with religious organisations of the District Council of Black River area. Mega cultural show in connection with National Day Celebrations at Tamarin National Day Celebrations at the District Council of Black River and tree planting PowerPoint presentation on project – Education and Economic Development (mushroom production project by 25 persons from La Valette Village) Women’s Day at District Council of Black River
3	April to June	Coordination in connection with Easter Festival with organisations of District of Black River area. Educational twinning exchange Anse Boileau, Seychelles (one week activity at Flic en Flac Village) Distribution of gifts and certificates to sewing class pupils
4	July to August	Coordination in connection with Assumption Day Return Educational twinning exchange with Anse Boileau, Seychelles
5	September, November to December	Coordination in connection with Ganesh Chaturthi Festival Petanque Regional Championship at Bambous Divali Nite Celebrations at Gros Cailloux Picnic/Educational Tour for sewing class pupils Exhibition and talk in connection with 16 days campaign against Gender based violence Gala de boxe organised at Bambous Athletic Competition organised at Bambous Lunch and cultural show organised in the context of Elderly Day and 114 th Birth Anniversary of SSR organised at Domaine Anna Participation in Festival Kréol – Seychelles

TWINNING ACTIVITIES: The Council is twinned with the District of Anse Boileau, Seychelles since February 2004 with the view to establishing close relations and exchange programmes for the benefit of the population of the two regions in the fields of education, sport, culture and socio-economic.

The exchanges effected till date are as follows:

1. *Signature of Protocol of Twinning*
2. *Women's Associations Visit*
3. *Senior Citizens Visit*
4. *Educational Visits (Primary School Children)*
5. *Participation in Festival Kréol*
6. *Painting competition*

YEARLY ACTIVITIES: Amongst all activities organised by the District Council of Black River, the current yearly activities are National Day Celebrations, Music Day, Educational Twinning Exchanges with Anse Boileau, Divali Celebrations, Elderly Day Celebrations as well as sports activities.

The most popular activity is the Elderly Day Celebrations organised in the context of the Birth Anniversary of late Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam. The event was celebrated, under the patronage and sponsorship of Domaine Anna Restaurant Flic en Flac and this event has become a recurrent feature for the past ten years.



MEGA CULTURAL SHOW AT TAMARIN

OTHER ACTIVITIES



INAUGURATION OF PARCOURS DE SANTE AT BAMBOUS



ELDERLY DAY CELEBRATION AT DOMAINE ANNA



GALA DE BOXE

CONCLUDING NOTE

As in the previous years, the main problem encountered by the District Council during the year 2013 has been a shortage of funds. However, the support of the Ministry of Local Government and Outer Islands has again been undeniable in helping the District Council to meet its commitments. Projects that have been deferred due to the unavailability of funds are given priority consideration once funds are made available to that effect.

It is worth noting that all the villages falling under the jurisdiction of the District Council of Black River are given equal consideration whenever funds are allocated for the implementation of capital projects. The Council ascertains that development in all the regions in Black River is done at par and that there is no village that lags behind in terms of infrastructural development.

Much emphasis is laid by Management on the notion “Value for Money” transparency and accountability. No effort is spared to reduce wastage or inefficiency. Despite its financial constraints, it can proudly be said that the District Council of Black River can rightly be cited as example of good performance in local administration.

