

# ANNUAL 2025/26 TARIFF CONSULTATIONS

STRATEGIC USERS





# ANNUAL 2025/26 TARIFF CONSULTATIONS PROGRAMME

# STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION MEETING ON ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN AND TARIFF SETTING FOR 2025/26 FINANCIAL YEAR

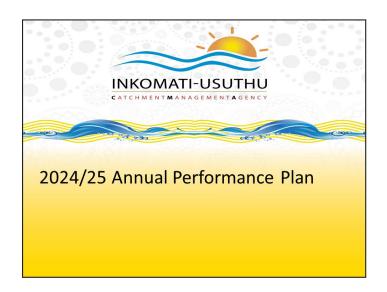
Date: 04 July 2024 | Time: 10:00 to 14:00

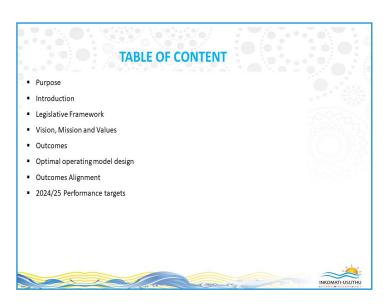
Venue: The Capital Mbombela

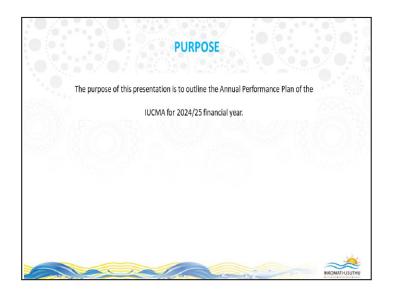
Programme Facilitator: Dr. Tendai Sawunyama (Manager: Resource Planning & Operations)

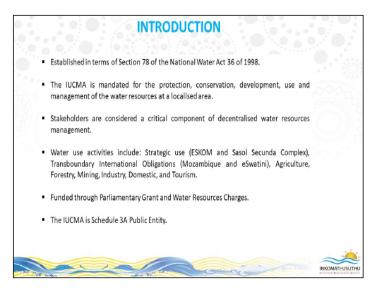
Item:	Proposed Time:	Person Responsible:
Registration and Morning Tea	9:30 - 10:00	All
Opening and Welcome	10:00 - 10:10	Governing Board Member:
		Ms S Wiggins
Annual Performance Plans for 2024/25	10:30 - 10:50	Acting Chief Executive Officer:
		Dr N Mhlanga-Ndlovu
Water Resources Status	10:50 - 11:10	Acting Executive Water Resource Management:
		Mr M Selepe
waste Discharge Charge System	11:10 - 11:30	Department of Water and Sanitation
2025/26 Proposed Budget and Tariff	11:30 - 11:50	Chief Financial Officer :
		Ms S Mabunda
Infrastructure Tariffs for 2025/26	11:50 - 12:20	Department of Water and Sanitation
Question and Answers	12:20 - 12:50	All
Closure	12:50 – 13:00	Governing Board Member:
		Ms S Wiggins
Lunch	13:00 -14:00	All

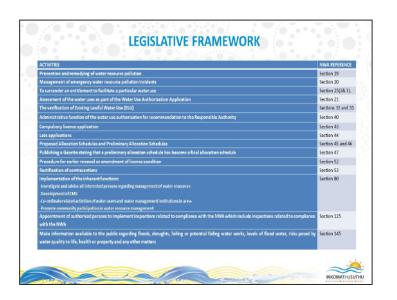




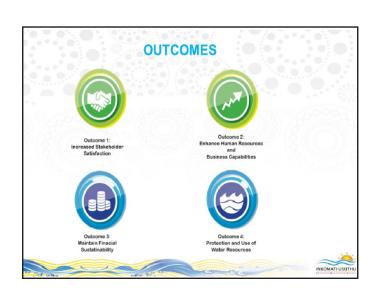


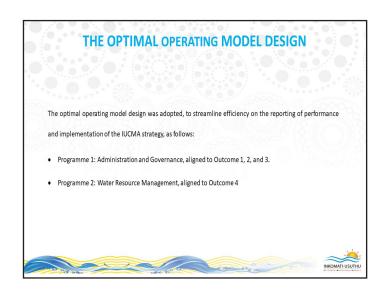


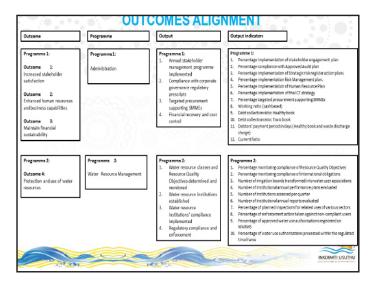


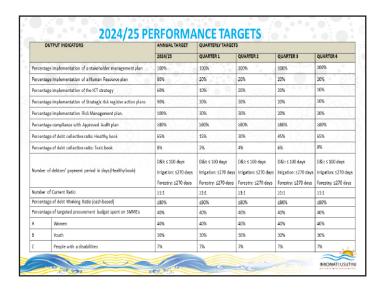


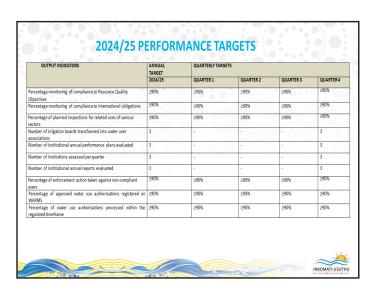






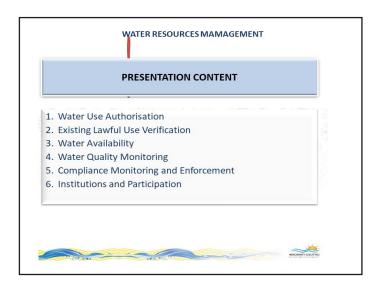




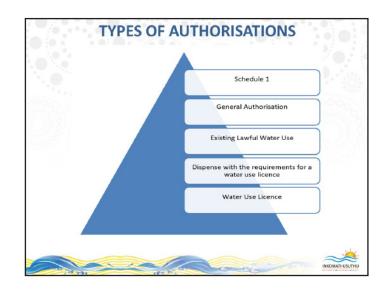




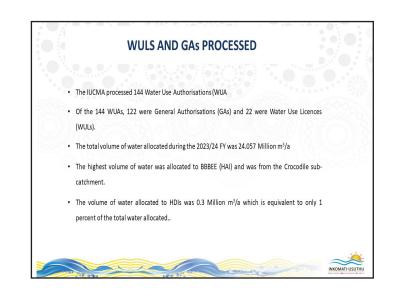








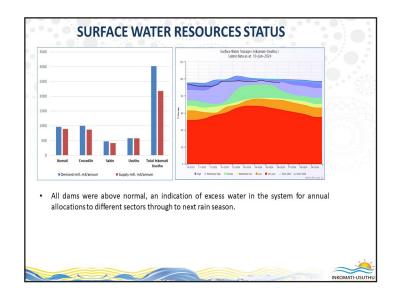
	TYPES OF WATER USES				
s21(a)	taking water from a water resource;				
s21(b)	storing water;				
s21(c)	impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse;				
s21(d)	engaging in a stream flow reduction activity (currently only commercial afforestation);				
s21(e)	engaging in a controlled activity – activities which impact detrimentally on a water resource (activities identified in s37(1) or declared as such under s38(1)) namely:				
	<ul> <li>irrigation of any land with waste or water containing waste which is generated through an industrial activity or a waterwork;</li> </ul>				
	an activity aimed at the modification of atmospheric precipitation;				
	a power generation activity which alters the flow regime of a water resource; or				
	intentional recharge of an aquifer with any waste or water containing waste				
s21(f)	discharging waste or water containing waste into a water resource through a pipe, canal, sewer, sea outfall or other conduit;				
s21(g)	disposing of waste or water containing waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource;				
s21(h)	disposing in any manner of water which contains waste from, or has been heated in, any industrial or power generation process;				
s21(i)	altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse;				
s21(j)	removing, discharging or disposing of water found underground if it is necessary for the efficient continuation if an activity or for the safety of people; and				
S21(k)	using water for recreational purposes				

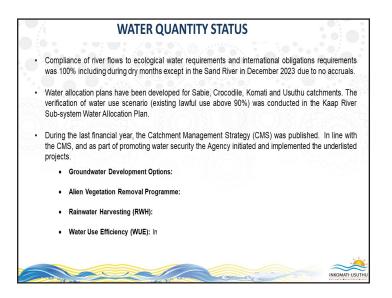


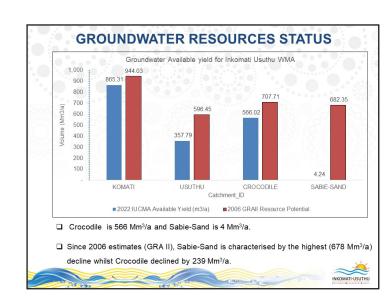
Catchment	ELU Verification	Total identified	Percentage
Usuthu	841	1437	58,5
Upper Komati	210	606	34,7
Lower Komati	331	409	80,9
Crocodile	2422	3201	75,7
Sabie	263	335	78,5

SECTOR	Usuthu Volume (m3/a)	Upper Komati Volume (m3/a)	Sabie Sand Volume (m3/a)	Crocodile Volume (m3/a)	Lower Komati Volume (m3/a)
AGRICULTURE - Irrigation	25 520 153	62 094 669	58 743 648	507 570 656	373 525 393
SFRA	169 252 485	58 523 816	71 462 311	121 068 397	5 909 879
INDUSTRY	38 372 582	134 215 788	2 311 203	38 017 712	3 003 697
MINING	1132583	14 483 535	195 250	3 924 380	1 185 271
WATER SUPPLY SERVICE	15 484 206	20 284 372	126 378 742	53 746 138	31 135 957
OTHER (Non-Billable)	325 913	469 529	204 147	1 789 819	273 100
TOTAL	250 087 922	290 071 709	259 295 301	726 117 103	415 033 297
Percentage	12.89%	14.95%	13.36%	37.42%	21.39%

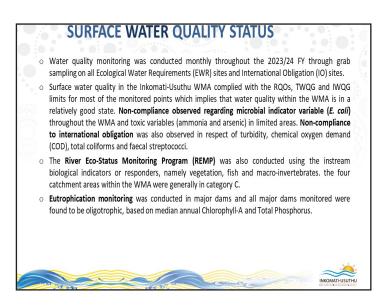
# WATER USE INFORMATION UPDATE AND WASTE DISCHARGE CHARGE SYSTEM NOTICE 1. Government Gazette 48187, Notice # 3137 of March 2023 Critical to update and/or amend water use/rs • Continuous update and/or amendment of all water user's personal/juristic contacts details and water use/s allocation information. 2. Government Gazette 48187, Notice # 3138 of March 2023 • Notice to register information on wastewater related water uses for ss 21 (e,f,g,h and j), see next slide for more details • Excluded: Schedule 1 & Irrigation Board/ Water User Association water users 3. Consequences of failure to comply with the regulation • Any person who fails to comply with this notice will be guilt of an offence

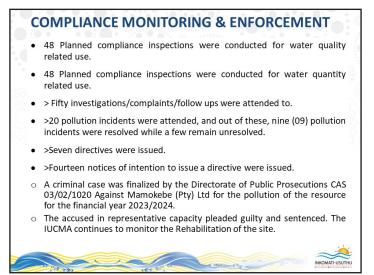




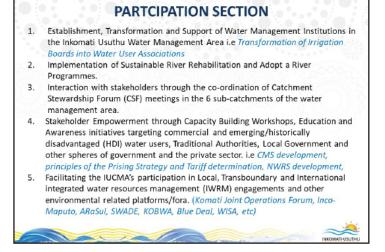




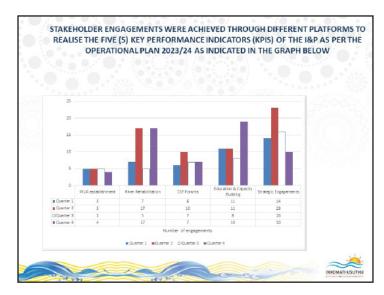




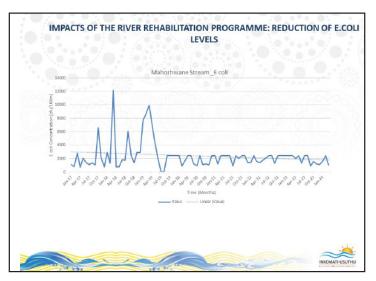


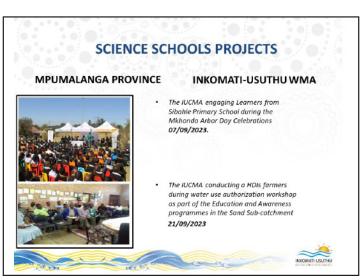


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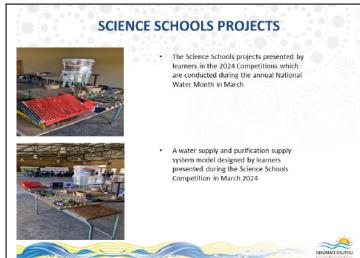


# **RIVER REHABILITATION PROGRAME IN THE WMA** The Sustainable River Rehabilitation Programme (SRRP) is implemented in the six sub-catchments where 6 project sites were identified in the water management area from 90 people participating Community Groups involved in the River Rehabilitation Programme during 2023/24 This programme contributes to income generation and unemployment reduction within the rural communities (especially amongst the youth and River Rehabilitation Teams at work women) in the WMA.









# **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- The verification and validation initiative will be continued as a very important measure in addressing water allocation management in the WMA.
- Water Quality in the upper Komati is generally good but punctuated by microbial (E. coli)
  pollution) and Salts(EC and Sulphate) which indicated non-compliance at various sites
  due to WWTWS & its associated infrastructure and mining activities. The IUCMA is
  working on implementing a mining impact management plan.
- The IUCMA will continue to monitor compliance to licence conditions and apply enforcement to address land use activities impacting on water resources (Source Directed Controls) as per the provision(s) of the NWA.
- The River Rehabilitation Programme is implemented and is to be continued in areas where some of the municipalities are not providing waste removal services as part of addressing water quantity and quality improvement in the WMA. The IUCMA is engaging these Municipalities to conclude service level agreements.
- The IUCMA will continue to pursue the Ministerial Directive through Gazette No. 48483
  Notice No. 3355 dated 28 April 2023, a notice of intention to transform Irrigation Boards
  into Water User Associations (WUAs) as a means of ensuring equitable access to water.





# **LEGISLATIVE MANDATE**

The purpose of the meeting is to consult with stakeholders on the proposed water resource management charges for the 2025/26 financial year as per the following legislation:

- ✓ Section 57 of the National Water Act 36 of 1998
- ✓ Pricing Strategy of April 2007\*
- ✓ Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) 1 of 1999
- ✓ National Treasury Regulations 2005
- \* Strategy undergoing review

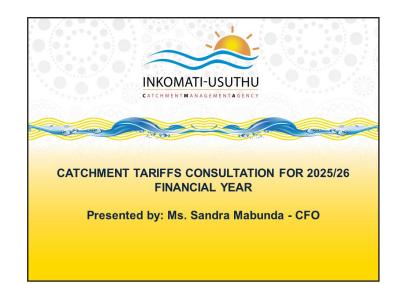


# PROJECTED BUDGETED EXPENDITURE BY NATURE FOR 2024/25

- The budget has been formulated to respond to strategic outcomes identified by costing-associated cost drivers.
- The projected budget for 2024/25 is presented with a 9% increase based on the budget approved and applied for 2023/24.
- The proposed budget of the IUCMA is made up of the following expenses by nature of expenditure:
- 71% (R110,2 million) allocated to salaries and wages for key positions that are deemed critical for the delivery of the overarching mandate;
- 25% (R39million) allocated to goods and services;
- Less than 1% (R714k) allocated to repairs and maintenance as well a capital
- outlay; and 1,8% (R2,7 million) allocated to board-related costs.

	APPLIED BUDGET	PROPOSED BUDGET		MOVEMENT	
DESCRIPTION	2024/25	2025/26	Rand	%	
Salariers and Wages	107,005,603	110,215,771	3,210,168	3%	
Goods and Services	29,949,572	39,454,543	9,504,971	32%	
Repairs and Maintenance	450,000	463,500	13,500	3%	
Capital Outlay	200,000	206,000	6,000	3%	
Board Related Costs	2,691,050	2,707,581	16,531	1%	
GRAND TOTAL	140,296,224	153,047,395	12,751,170	9%	





# **OUTCOME OF TARIFF CONSULTATION**

# ✓ Tariff determination cycle:

- The tariff consultations within the Catchment Management Area (CMA) of the IUCMA serve as the first process in tariff determination.
- Following catchment-based sessions, the IUCMA will participate in sectoral tariff consultations where tariffs will be further deliberated.
- All recommendations from (i) and (ii) will be formally submitted to the Minister of Water and Sanitation as the final determiner of applied tariffs for 2025/26.
- Tariffs, as presented today, are influenced by the following factors:
- Water Pricing Strategy;
- Proposed budget for 2025/26; and
- Currently registered water volumes.



# WATER PRICING STRATEGY

# 1. FORESTRY (capped by pricing strategy)

The application of the strategy requires the Agency to apply the following computations:
✓ Capped at R10 per hectare. The Agency has not yet reached this tariff therefore any increment is applicable. The Agency has reviewed 4-year trend and found that a 21% increment is within acceptable limits given the projected registered volumes.

IRRIGATION (capped bypricing strategy)
 The application of the strategy requires the Agency to apply the following computations:
 Capped at 1,5c per cubic meter. The Agency has reached the cap therefore the applicable increment rate should be PPI of 5.5%.

3. DOMESTIC INDUSTRY (not capped by pricing strategy)
The Agency has reviewed 4-year trend and found that the application 11% is within acceptable limits given the projected registered volumes.

# 4. WASTE DISCHARGE CHARGE

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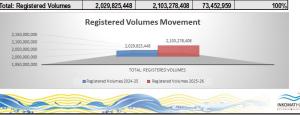
The Department of Water and Sanitation implemented waste discharge charge as per Water Pricing Strategy as of 01 April 2024. The department issued a government notice No. 3138 of 2023 to notify all water users to register water use especially section 21 (e) (f) (g) (h) and (j). The agency is therefore proposing an increase of 7% of the 5.07c tariff approved in the current year.



# **REGISTRED VOLUMES**

- The Agency is continuously reviewing the correctness of its registered volumes and as such the volumes are prone to adjustments.
- Additional notable changes to volumes include the voluntary surrender of water rights as well as the
- Additional notable changes to volumes include the voluntary surrender of water rights as well as the conversion of land use that impacts volumes per sector.
   The Agency's largest allocation remains under Irrigation (50%).
   This sector whilst consuming the most volumes has the lowest assurance. The low assurance inadvertently reduces results in the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest tariff being applied.
   An increase of 4% on registered volumes has been recorded in the projections of 2025-26 FY

Sectors	Registered Volumes 2024-25	Registered Volumes 2025-26	Movement	2025-26 Projected Allocation in %
Domestic & Industry	434,551,561	445,835,179	11,283,618	21%
Irrigation	1,016,907,245	1,051,304,638	34,397,393	50%
Forestry	424,141,080	425,962,037	1,820,957	20%
Waste Discharge Charge	154,225,563	180, 176, 555	25,950,992	9%
Total: Registered Volumes	2,029,825,448	2,103,278,408	73,452,959	100%



# PROPOSED FUNDING STREAM BY NATURE FOR 2024/25

The Agency's funding stream comprises the following major streams per the National Water Act

- 49% (R75,5 million) is expected to be received as a grant appropriated by parliament:
- 48% (R63.8 million from abstraction & streamflow reduction and R9.8 million from water discharge charges) is expected to be billed to lawful water users in the catchment with a recoverability of 70% in 2025/26, and
- 2.5% (R3,9 million) funded through interest received.

BERRY CONTROL OF	APPLIED BUDGET	PROPOSED BUDGET	MOVEMENT	
SOURCE OF FUNDING	2024/25	2025/26	Rand	%
Augmentation	72,306,000	75,545,000	3,239,000	4%
Water Resource Charges - Abstraction & Streamflow reduction	56,606,688	63,804,533	7,197,845	13%
Water Resource Charges - WWDC	7,819,236	9,812,775	1,993,539	25%
Interest Received	3,564,300	3,885,087	320,787	9%
GRAND TOTAL	140,296,224	153,047,395	12,751,171	9%

# **DEBTORS PERFORMANCE FOR 2023/24** Total debt owed year to date amounts to R113.1 mil. The highest debt is owed by companies, Irrigation Boards and Municipalities at 46%, 28% and 17% respectively. Of the reported debt outstanding, 76% of the debt is older than 180 days and 24% ranges between 120 days to the current. **Debtor's Perfomance**

## PROPOSED TARIFFS FOR 2025/26

- The Agency has proposed tariff increments that are aligned with the Pricing Strategy.
- Proposed increments range from 5,5% to 21% across the 3 sectors
- The Agency has implanted the Waste Discharge Charge System in the current year
- Proposed tariffs are deemed to support economic activities in the catchment whilst supporting the Agency to attract sufficient funding to protect the resource.

Sectors	Domestic/ Industrial c/m3	Irrigati	on c/m3	Forestry c/m3	Waste Discharge Charge c/m3
Proposed 2025/26 Tariffs	5,64c	2,70c		2.41c	5,45c
% Increments	11%	5.5%		21%	7%
Capping Policy Applications as per Pricing Strategy	D&I - no capping applicable	g Irrigation – Base as per Water Pri	year x PPI of 5% cing Strategy	Cap has not yet been reached.  SFRA – R10 per hectare [10,000c/m3] + Base year x PPI of 5% as per Water Pricing Strategy.	
410.00	R	egistered	Andrew Make Property	Percentage	

Sectors	Registered Volumes 2025-26	Proposed Tariffs	Percentage Increase	Projected Revenue
Domestic & Industry	445,835,179	5.64	11%	25,145,104
Irrigation	1,051,304,638	2.70	5,5%	28,385,225
Forestry	425,962,037	2.41	21%	10,265,685
Total: Abstraction	1,923,101,853			63,796,014
Waste Discharge Charge	180,176,555	5.45	7%	9,819,622
Total Projected Revenue: 2024-25	2,103,278,408			73,615,63

# **DEBTORS PERFORMANCE FOR 2023/24**

- Collection rates have improved over the years as noted by the five-year analysis
- ✓ Collections have increased from 44% to 80% over the last five years due to increased strategic engagements as well as the implementation of a responsive debt management strategy.
- There is a slight decrease in terms of collection rate in the 2023-24 compared to 2022-23 FY due to an increase in actual billables.

Period	Projected Billing	Actual Billing	Actual Payments	Collection Rates
2019-20	51,967,518	47,601,490	20,845,686	44%
2020-21	42,139,563	44,897,733	32,880,946	73%
2021-22	55,485,141	34,894,114	23,614,065	68%
2022-23	54,425,408	40,350,434	54,214,046	134%
2023-24	64,425,924	55,902,181	44,617,161	80%

### Collection Rates



# **FUTURE PLANS ON IMPROVING THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE AGENCY**

The Agency continuously assesses opportunities to improve its economic viability by the development and identification of innovative solutions.

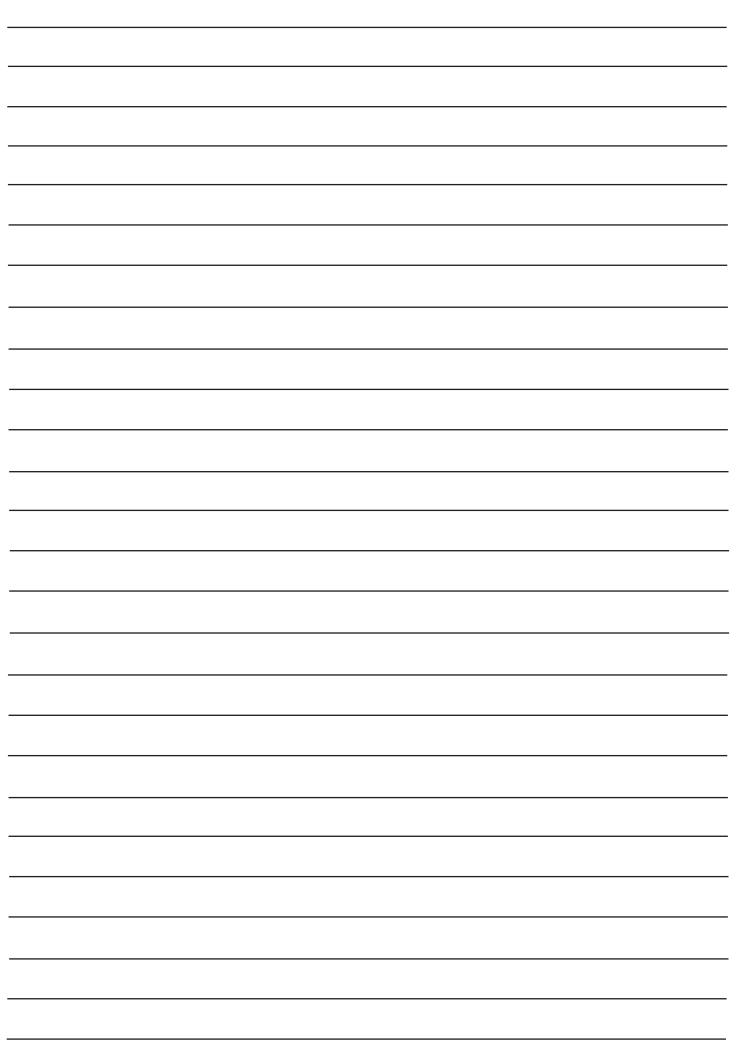
- i. Implementation of a responsive and measurable debt management strategy that ensures:
- ✓ Customer data integrity
- ✓ Legal action against non-paying customers
- ✓ Increased engagement at strategic levels

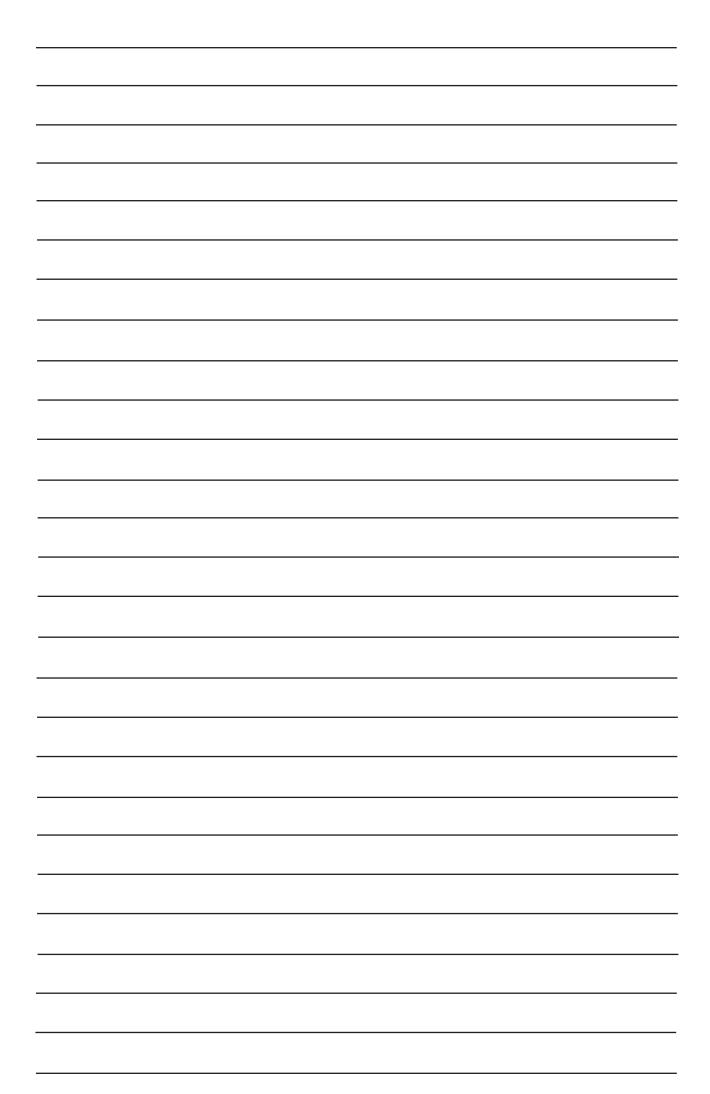
# ii. Implementation of cost containment strategy

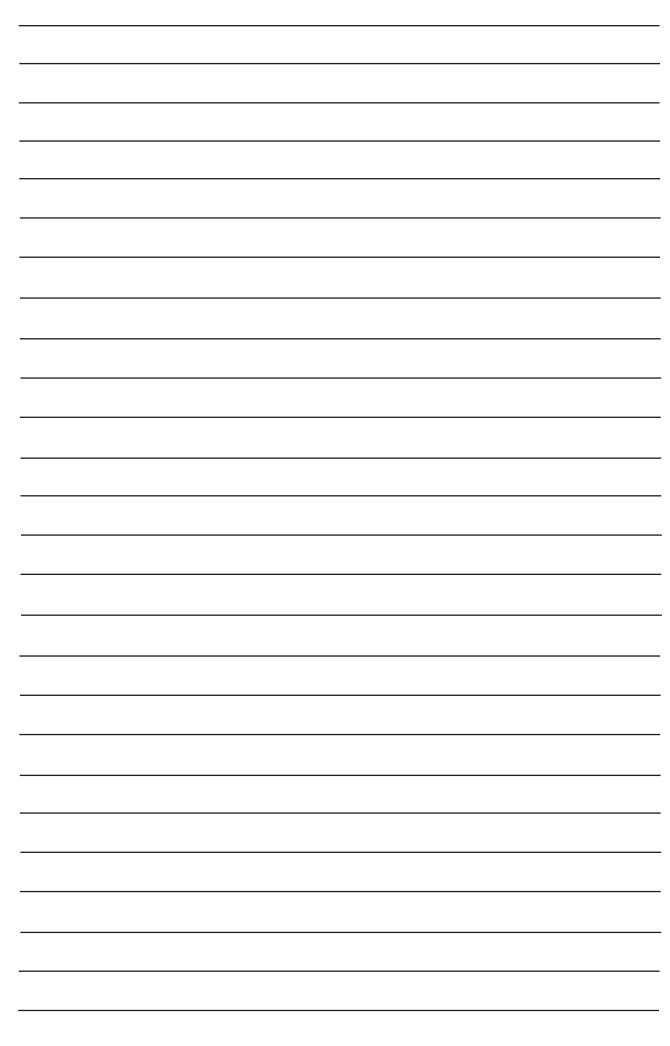
- The Agency has already seen material savings under goods and services in financial year 2023/24.
- iii. Identification of alternative funding streams to augment the currently strained revenue streams
- Management has identified areas worth exploration. Management is now actively working on a concept document that hopes to see a change of how CMA's are funded and managed.













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