



**THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
OF
VACOAS PHOENIX**

ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020



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MAYOR'S

MESSAGE

Mr. Praveen Kumar RAMBURN
His Worship the Mayor



It is my privilege to present the Annual Report of the Municipal Council of Vacoas Phoenix for period July 2019 to June 2020.

Despite the numerous challenges, the Council is doing its utmost best to cater for the needs and aspirations of its citizens by providing all the necessary facilities, infrastructures and services to them.

The Council has carried out several infrastructural projects as well as promoting and organizing several cultural, welfare, literacy and sports activities during the financial year 2019-2020. The Annual Report is reflective of this and provides citizens with a comprehensive progress report including our activities and achievements for 2019-2020.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the residents, local businesses, volunteers and all stakeholders of Vacoas Phoenix whose contribution is very much appreciated and by working together we all contribute to make town a wonderful place to live in.

I would like to thank all my colleague Councillors for their support and commitment over the past year.

I would also like to thank the Chief Executive Mr Rajcoomar Gangadeen, his Management Team and all the staff and employees of the Municipal Council of Vacoas Phoenix for their support and collaboration in the realization of all the projects.

My sincere thanks go to the out-going Mayor, Mr Farhad Dowlut, for his unflinching efforts and commitment to work for the betterment of the life of the citizens.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MESSAGE

Mr Rajcoomar GANGADEEN
Chief Executive



Pursuant to section 142 of the Local Government Act 2011, I have the honour to submit the Annual Report and Unaudited Accounts of the Municipal Council of Vacoas Phoenix for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

ORGANISATION

PROFILE

Our Mission

To administer in proximity with all the stakeholders and in total transparency in accordance with the concept of corporate governance. Committed to innovate and to provide the best service through teamwork.

Our Vision

Dedicated to provide the best of services to the inhabitants of the Town with focus on enhancing and improving the quality of life through cost effective and innovative means to achieve an excellent level of customer care.

Our Core Values

The inhabitants of the Town are the focus of all our actions. The Human Resource of the Council is one of the important means to our success. Our service to be timely, quality based, dedicated, customer oriented and innovative with a High Standard of Professionalism.

Our Commitment

To continuously improve the quality of public services offered and ensure that such services respond to the needs and wishes of the citizens

Salient Features of Vacoas Phoenix

Vacoas Phoenix is still considered as a 'garden town' given that it is the traditional supplier of vegetables and flowers. Nevertheless, Vacoas Phoenix has witnessed major industrial and commercial developments.

Major Places of Attractions

1. The Special Mobile Force Complex
2. The Gymkhana Club- being the oldest Club in Mauritius with more than 150 years of history behind it.
3. Promenade Père Laval
4. Clarisse House
5. Phoenix Commercial Centre
6. The Vacoas Fair
7. Hare Krishna Land – ISKCON
8. Serge Constantin Theatre – Previously known as Trafalgar Hall or Garisson Hall and which formed part of the military compound of the British Navy during their stay in Mauritius.
9. Pandit Sahadeo Gymnasium
10. National Tennis Centre
11. The Mauritius Glass Gallery
12. The La Marie Treatment Plant
13. Sept Cascades/Tamarind Falls
14. Mare aux Vacoas – the greatest reservoir with a capacity of 25.89 m³ and of an area of 5.60 km²
15. Mare Longue – reservoir of a storage capacity of 6.28 m³ and of an area of 1.05 km²
16. Major and minor craters: Kanaka Crater, Trou de Madame Bouchet, Mt Peruche
17. Candos Hill and the adjoining Wellness Park

It is fundamental and in line with Government's policy for environmental stewardship that the physical survivals of our past are valued and protected as they form part of our cultural heritage and our sense of national identity.

Institutions Found in the Town

1. Mauritius Meteorological Services
2. Special Mobile force
3. Indira Gandhi Centre for Indian Culture
4. ENT Hospital
5. CNT - Head Office
6. Central Water Authority
7. Mauritius Institute of Training and Development
8. The Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology

Twinning Agreements

The Town of Vacoas Phoenix is twinned with the “Commune de Ste. Suzanne” of Reunion Island, the Town of Antsirabé in Madagascar, the City of Pune in India and Nantong City in China. The Town is also twinned with the District Council of Plaisance of the Republic of Seychelles and with Kweneng District Council of the Republic of Botswana.

Address: St Paul Avenue, Vacoas

Web Site: <http://www.vacoasphoenix.org/>

Email: mcvp@la.govmu.org

Tel: 6962975/76/77

Hotline: 6869539

Fax: 6964668

Area: 110 km²

Population of Vacoas/Phoenix: 110,000 inhabitants with an estimated figure of 38,000 households and 5,600 commercial premises.

Number of Wards: 6 (each ward electing 4 Councillors)

COUNCIL

COMPOSITION

Following amendments brought to the Local Government Act, the Municipal Council of Vacoas Phoenix has 24 elected members returned from 6 Wards, each ward electing four Councillors. Members of the Council have been elected to serve for a period of 6 years. The Mayor, Mr RAMBURN Praveen Kumar and the Deputy Mayor, Mr MUNGUR Roy Mike Manfred were elected on 27th June 2019 to serve for a period of two years.

<i>BAUDA Marie Sandrine Béatrice (Miss)</i>	Councillor
<i>BEEHARRY Mohammad Ridwaan Goolam</i>	Councillor
<i>BHUGBUT Jurnil Kumarsingh</i>	Councillor
<i>BUCKTOWAR Kathy Devi (Mrs)</i>	Councillor
<i>DILLOO Mohammud Ehsan</i>	Councillor
<i>DOWLUT Farhad</i>	Councillor
<i>DRIVER Richard</i>	Councillor
<i>FAKEERMAHAMOOD Bibi Shammah</i>	Councillor
<i>KANAKSABEE Rajen Pillay</i>	Councillor
<i>KHOOSYE Dunpath</i>	Councillor
<i>LISIS Jean Michel Alex</i>	Councillor
<i>MOOCHEET Vishal</i>	Councillor
<i>MUNGUR Roy Mike Manfred</i>	Deputy Mayor
<i>NARAYEN Sakooby</i>	Councillor
<i>NUNKOO Ajay</i>	Councillor
<i>NUNKOO Ajay Sharma</i>	Councillor
<i>RAJARATNAM Maynanda</i>	Councillor
<i>RAMBOCUS Abdool Riaz</i>	Councillor
<i>RAMBURN Praveen Kumar</i>	Mayor
<i>RAMCHURN Devianee (Mrs)</i>	Councillor
<i>RAMSOONDUR Navin</i>	Councillor
<i>RUNGLALL Somduth</i>	Councillor
<i>UNJORE-NATHOO Madvi</i>	Councillor
<i>WOODUN Dinesh Kumar</i>	Councillor

MUNICIPAL COUNCILLORS OF VACOAS PHOENIX

WARD 1



Miss Marie Sandrine Beatrice
BAUDA



Mr Mohammad Ehsan
DILOO



Mrs Sakooby
NARAYEN



Mr Ajay
NUNKOO

WARD 2



Mr Richard
DRIVER



Mr Abdool Riaz
RAMBOCUS



Mr Maynanda
RAJARATNAM



Mrs Devianee
RAMCHURN

WARD 3



Mr Dunpath KHOOSYE



Mr Vishal
MOOCHIT



Mr R.M.Manfred
MUNGUR



Mrs Madvi
UNJORE-NATHOO

WARD 4



Mrs Kathy Devi
BUCKTOWAR



Mr Ajay Sharma
NUNKOO



Mr Praveen Kumar
RAMBURN



Mr Dinesh
Kumar
WOODUN

WARD 5



Mr M.R.G Yaseen
BEEHARRY



Mr Kumarsingh Jurnil
BHUGBUT



Mr Farhad
DOWLUT



Ms B.Shammah
FAKEERMAHAMOOD

WARD 6



Mr Jean
Michel Alex
LISIS



Mr Rajen Pillay
KANAKSABEE



Mr Navin
RAMSOONDUR



Mr Somduth
RUNGLALL

ADMINISTRATIVE

TEAM

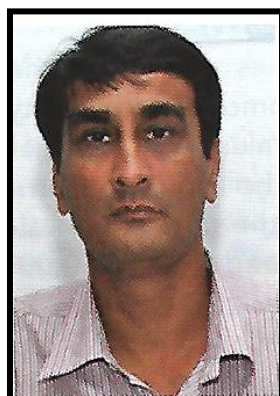


Administration Department

Mr. RAJCOOMAR GANGADEEN

Chief Executive

Finance Department
Mrs. SUSHMA NUNDLOLL
Financial Controller



Public Infrastructure Department

Mr. DEEPNARAIN SEEBALUCK

Head Public Infrastructure Department

(Transferred to the Municipal Council of Quatre Bornes in July 2019)



Public Health Department

Mr. UTTAM KUMAR DOOKHOOAH

Chief Health Inspector

(Transferred to the District Council of Flacq in March 2020)

Land Use and Planning Department

Mr. RAKESH GOORIAH

Head Land Use and Planning Department



Welfare Department

Mr. FARAD CHEDDEE

Chief Welfare Officer

COMMITTEES

Council Meeting

The Municipal Council is made up of elected councillors from different wards of the town. As required under the Local Government Act 2011, the Council is required to meet once monthly for the formulation of policies and examination of all matters pertaining to the administration of the town and take appropriate decisions.

Chairperson: His Worship the Mayor - Mr Praveen Kumar Ramburn

Vice Chairperson: The Deputy Mayor - Mr Roy Mike Manfred Mungur

There had been 18 sittings of the Council during the period July 2019 to June 2020.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee meets only for the approval of the procurement of goods and services exceeding Rs100,000/-.

There had been 16 sittings of the Executive Committee during that period.

Chairperson: His Worship the Mayor - Mr P. K. Ramburn

Vice Chairperson: The Deputy Mayor - Mr R. M. M. Mungur

Members:

1. Councillor M. R. G. Y. Beeharry
2. Councillor J. K. Bhugbut
4. Councillor M. E. Diloo
5. Councillor D. Ramchurn
6. Councillor D. K. Woodun

Procurement Committee

As per section 160 of the Local Government Act 2011 the procurement of goods and services shall be effected by a local authority in accordance with the provisions of the Public Procurement Act.

Any procurement of goods and services by a Local Authority shall be determined by a Procurement Committee composed of –

- (a) the Chief Executive or his deputy;
- (b) the Financial Controller or his deputy; and
- (c) one senior officer in charge of a department other than that of the Chief Executive or the Financial Controller, and shall require the approval of the Executive Committee of the Council, where the total value of the procurement exceeds 100,000/- rupees, or such amount as may be prescribed.

There had been 44 sittings of the Procurement Committee during the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 to consider and determine bids received for the procurement of goods and services not exceeding Rs100,000/- and recommend bids received exceeding Rs100,000 to the Executive Committee.

Permits and Business Monitoring Committee

As per section 115 of the Local Government Act 2011 there shall be, in every Municipal Town Council, a Committee, to be known as the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee, which shall consist of the Mayor or his representative as Chairperson, 4 Councillors to be designated by the Chairperson, the Chief Executive, and the heads of Land Use and Planning, Public Infrastructure and Public Health Departments of the Local Authority. The Chief Executive shall also designate an officer to act as Secretary to the Committee.

There had been 46 sittings of the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee during the period 01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

Public Infrastructure Committee

The Public Infrastructure Committee has been set up to consider all matters pertaining to public infrastructure, the management and maintenance thereof and was composed of the following members:

1. His Worship the Mayor - Mr P. K. Ramburn
2. The Deputy Mayor - Mr R.M. M. Mungur
3. Councillor F. Dowlut (Chairperson)
4. Councillor A. Nunkoo (Vice-Chairperson)
5. Councillor J. K. Bhugbut
6. Councillor J. M. A. Lisis
7. Councillor R. P. Kanaksabee
8. Councillor D. Khoosye
9. Councillor V. Moocheet
10. Councillor D. Ramchurn
11. Councillor S. Runglall
12. Councillor D.K. Woodun

There had been 8 sittings of the Public Infrastructure Committee during the given period.

Public Health Committee

The Public Health Committee has been set up to consider all matters pertaining to refuse collection, cleansing of public places, drains, bare lands, canals and rivers, roadside weeding, maintenance of public conveniences, rodent control and management of cemeteries and markets and was composed of the following members:

1. His Worship the Mayor-Mr P.K. Ramburn
2. The Deputy Mayor-Mr R.M.M. Mungur
3. Councillor J. K. Bhugbut (Chairperson)
4. Councillor M. E. Dilloo (Vice Chairperson)
5. Councillor K. D. Bucktowar
6. Councillor R. Driver
7. Councillor B. S. Fakeermahamood
8. Councillor R. P. Kanaksabee
9. Councillor J. M. A. Lisis
10. Councillor V. Moocheet
11. Councillor A. S. Nunkoo
12. Councillor D .K. Woodun

There had been 8 sittings of the Public Health Committee during the given period.

Welfare Committee

The Welfare Committee has been set up to consider all matters pertaining to welfare, social, recreational, educational, sports and cultural activities and was composed of the following members:

1. His Worship the Mayor - Mr P. K. Ramburn
2. The Deputy Mayor - Mr R. M. M. Mungur
3. Councillor N. Ramsoondur - Chairperson
4. Councillor D. Ramchurn - Vice Chairperson
5. Councillor M. R. G. Y. Beeharry
6. Councillor M. E. Dilloo
7. Councillor F. Dowlut
8. Councillor R. P. Kanaksabee
9. Councillor V. Moocheet
10. Councillor A. Nunkoo
11. Councillor N. Rajaratnam
12. Councillor M. Unjore Nattoo

There had been 8 sittings of the Welfare Committee during the given period.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee has been set up to consider all matters pertaining to finance and was composed of the following members:

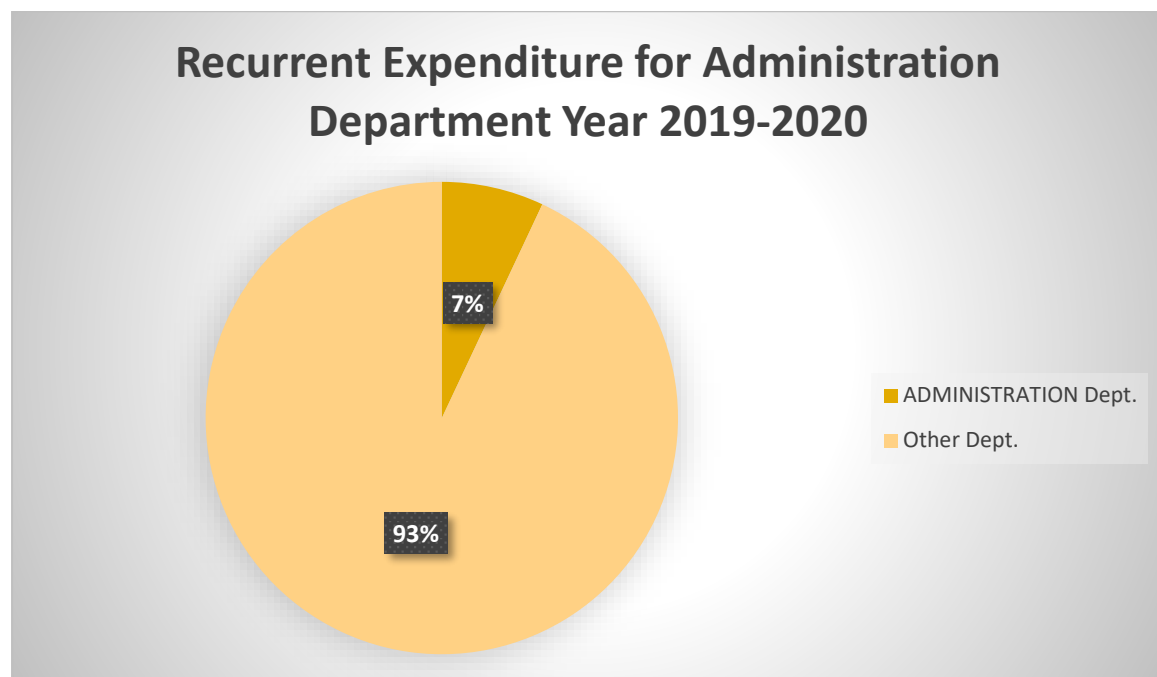
1. His Worship the Mayor - Mr P. K. Ramburn
2. The Deputy Mayor - Mr R. M. M. Mungur
3. Councillor M. R. G. Y. Beeharry - Chairperson
4. Councillor D. K. Woodun- Vice Chairperson
5. Councillor J. K. Bhugbut
6. Councillor K. D. Bucktowar
7. Councillor A. Nunkoo
8. Councillor M. Rajaratnam
9. Councillor D. Ramchurn
10. Councillor N. Ramsoondur
11. Councillor S. Runglall
12. Councillor M. Unjore Nattoo

There had been 8 sittings of the Finance Committee during the given period.

ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT

The total recurrent expenditure for the Administration Department amounts to Rs 30,386,553.61/- which represents 7% of the total recurrent expenditure of the Council for the year 2019-2020.



The Administration Department encompasses the following sections:

- Human Resource Management Section
- Committee Section
- Internal Audit Section
- Information Technology Section
- Registry
- Library and ICT Section

Human Resource Management Section

The Human Resource Management Section deals amongst others with staff discipline, appointments, retirement as well as industrial matters pertaining to Municipal employees after consultation and approval of the Local Government Service Commission and the Parent Ministry - Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management

It also caters for the training needs of employees as well as deals with the Health and Safety requirements of the Council inclusive of all the different grades of workers in their day-to-day activities as required under the Occupation Safety and Health Act 2005.

Gender

There were 723 male employees and 128 female employees in post as at year ending 30 June 2020.

Employees in post

Total number of established posts as at 30 June 2020 = 964

Total number of employees in post as at 30 June 2020 = 851

Appointments

Appointments during the year ending 30 June 2020 are detailed as follows:

<u>Month of Appointment</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Male Appointed</u>	<u>No. of Female Appointed</u>	<u>Total No. of Employees Appointed</u>
July 2019	Driver (HMU) (Roster)	3	-	3
	Driver (Roster)	2	-	2
	General Worker	-	1	1
August 2019	Management Support Officer	-	1	1
	Tradesman Assistant (Electrician)	1	-	1
September 2019	Clerical Officer	1	-	1
October 2019	Incinerator Operator	2	-	2
	Office Management Assistant	1	-	1

<u>Month of Appointment</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Male Appointed</u>	<u>No. of Female Appointed</u>	<u>Total No. of Employees Appointed</u>
November 2019	Handy Worker (Special Class)	1	-	1
	Stores Attendant	-	1	1
	Internal Auditor	-	1	1
	Clerical Officer	1	-	1
	Internal Control Officer/Senior Internal Control Officer	1	-	1
	Welfare Officer	-	1	1
December 2019	Attendant/Senior Attendant	1	1	2
	Handy Worker (sanitation/Disease Control)	1	-	1
January – June 2020	NIL			
		15	6	21

Promotions

Promotions during the year ending 30 June 2020 are detailed as follows:

<u>Promotions</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Male Promoted</u>	<u>No. of Female Promoted</u>	<u>Total No. of Employees Promoted</u>
July 2019 – June 2020	NIL			

Transfers

Transfers during the year ending 30 June 2020 are detailed as follows:

<u>Month of Transfer</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Male Transferred</u>	<u>No. of Female Transferred</u>	<u>Total No. of Employees Transferred</u>
July 2019	Assistant Chief Executive (from Savanne District Council to MCVP)	-	1	1

<u>Month of Transfer</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Male Transferred</u>	<u>No. of Female Transferred</u>	<u>Total No. of Employees Transferred</u>
	Head Public Infrastructure Department (from MCVP to Municipal Council of Quatre Bornes)	1	-	1
August 2019	Office Management Assistant (from Grand Port District Council to MCVP)	-	1	1
	Office Management Assistant (from MCVP to Grand Port District Council)	-	1	1
September 2019	Financial Officer/Senior Financial Officer (from District Council of Black River to MCVP)	-	1	1
	Financial Officer/Senior Financial Officer (from MCVP to District Council of Black River)	-	1	1
	Infant School Teacher (from MCVP to Municipal City Council of Port Louis)	-	1	1
	Infant School Teacher (from Municipal City Council of Port Louis to MCVP)	-	1	1
	Health Inspector (from District Council of Savanne to MCVP)	-	1	1
	Health Inspector (from MCVP to District Council of Savanne)	-	1	1
October & November 2019	NIL			
December 2019	Attendant/Senior Attendant (from MCVP to District Council of Flacq)	-	1	1
	Attendant/Senior Attendant (from MCVP to District Council of Black River)	-	1	1
	Office Management Assistant (from MCVP to Municipal Council of Curepipe)	1	-	1
	Office Management Assistant (from Municipal Council of Curepipe to MCVP)	-	1	1

<u>Month of Transfer</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Male Transferred</u>	<u>No. of Female Transferred</u>	<u>Total No. of Employees Transferred</u>
January 2020	Gardener (from Municipal Council of Curepipe to MCVP)	1	-	1
February 2020	NIL			
March 2020	General Worker (from MCVP to District Council of Black River)	-	1	1
	Office Management Assistant (from Municipal Council of Beau Bassin Rose Hill to MCVP)	1	-	1
	Office Management Assistant (from MCVP to Municipal City Council of Port Louis)	-	1	1
	Principal Accountant (from District Council of Moka to MCVP)	-	1	1
	Principal Accountant (from MCVP to District Council of Moka)	1	-	1
	Financial Officer/Senior Financial Officer (from District Council of Pamplemousses to MCVP)	-	1	1
	Chief Health Inspector (from MCVP to District Council of Flacq)	1	-	1
April & May 2020	NIL			
June 2020	Principal Financial Officer (from District Council of Moka to MCVP)	-	1	1
	Principal Financial Officer (from MCVP to District Council of Moka)	1	-	1
	Civil Engineer (from District Council of Pamplemousses to MCVP)	1	-	1
	Principal Accountant (from Municipal Council of Curepipe to MCVP)	1	-	1

<u>Month of Transfer</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Male Transferred</u>	<u>No. of Female Transferred</u>	<u>Total No. of Employees Transferred</u>
	Principal Accountant (from MCVP to Municipal Council of Curepipe)	-	1	1
		9	18	27

Deaths

The records of deceased employees during the year ending 30 June 2020 are detailed as follows:

<u>Death</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Death Male</u>	<u>No. of Death Female</u>	<u>Total No. of Death</u>
July 2019	Refuse Collector (Roster)	1	-	1
January 2020	Handy Worker (Special Class)	1	-	1
		2	-	2

Resignations

The records of employees who have resigned during the year ending 30 June 2020 are detailed as follows:

<u>Resignations</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Male who resigned</u>	<u>No. of Female who resigned</u>	<u>Total No. of Employees who resigned</u>
August 2019	Attendant/Senior Attendant	-	1	1
October 2019	Library Clerk	-	1	1
June 2020	Civil Engineer	1	-	1
June 2020	Assistant Inspector of Works	1	-	1
		2	2	4

Terminations

The records of employees whose employment have been terminated during the year ending 30 June 2020 are detailed as follows:

<u>Termination</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Male who have been terminated</u>	<u>No. of Female who have been terminated</u>	<u>Total No. of Employees who have been terminated</u>
July 2019 to June 2020	NIL			

Retirements

Retirements during the year ending 30 June 2020 are detailed as follows:

<u>Retirements</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Male Retired</u>	<u>No. of Female Retired</u>	<u>Total No. of Employees Retired</u>
July 2019	Supervisor Refuse Collection (Roster)	1	-	1
August 2019	Mason	1	-	1
October 2019	Mason	1	-	1
	Refuse Collector (Roster)	1	-	1
December 2019	Handy Worker (Special Class)	1	-	1
January 2020	Library Attendant	1	-	1
February 2020	Attendant/Senior Attendant	1	-	1
	Overseer	1	-	1
March 2020	Security Guard	1	-	1
	Driver (HMU)	1	-	1
	Attendant/Senior Attendant	1	-	1
	Chemical Sprayer Operator	1	-	1
April 2020	Carpenter	1	-	1
	Refuse Collector (Roster)	2	-	2
May 2020	Refuse Collector (Roster)	2	-	2
	Infant School Teacher	-	1	1
	Attendant/Senior Attendant	1	-	1
June 2020	General Worker	1	-	1
		19	1	20

Training and Development

In order to enhance service delivery and also to keep pace with the increasing demand for high performance, continuous improvement, modernisation and efficiency, training opportunities were provided to employees whenever possible.

Several officers/employees including Heads of Department have attended workshops and seminars such as:

TRAINING

- 1) Workshop on Strengthening the Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity
- 2) Basic Course in Paintwork
- 3) On the Job Training – Off Airport Craft Simulation Exercise 2019
- 4) Training Workshop on Natural Hazards, Preparedness, Response & Recovery Measures to Disasters
- 5) Workshop – Making Cities Sustainable & Resilient – Flood Risk Mapping and Flood Modelling
- 6) Training in India under ITEC/SCAAP Programme Municipal Solid Waste Management
- 7) Inception Workshop for Integrated Management of Flood Risks and Land Drainage Master Plan
- 8) Workshop Strengthening Financial Management in the Public Sector
- 9) Online Courses on – Strategic Skills for Procurement Practitioners Contributing to Organisation Success
- 10) Training Programme on Cybersecurity Fundamentals

Committee Section

The Committee Section is responsible for the issue of summons for Council and Committee Meetings as well as the recording of minutes of proceedings thereof and ensures that minutes are promptly prepared and circulated.

Hereunder are details of Committee and Council meetings for the year ending 30th June 2020.

SN	MEETINGS	NO. OF SITTINGS
1.	Council	18
2.	Executive Committee	16
3.	Permits and Business Monitoring Committee	46
4.	Public Infrastructure Committee	8
5.	Public Health Committee	8
6.	Welfare Committee	8
7.	Finance Committee	8
8.	Procurement Committee	44

Internal Control and Internal Audit Section

Internal Control and Internal Audit are vital elements of good financial management. They ensure that appropriate procedures, practices and controls are operating to achieve departmental objectives by preventing errors, waste and extravagance.

An Internal Audit Section has been established since long within the Municipal Council of Vacoas Phoenix to ensure proper internal control and auditing of the Municipal Council. The Internal Audit Section carried out audit in cash collection, expenditure, payroll, stores, cash book and checks over the financial activities of the Municipality.

Information Technology Section

During the past year, the Information Technology (IT) Section continued to focus on the efficient and effective delivery of technology services. Over the past decade, the Municipal Council has increasingly leveraged Information Technology to improve services offered to inhabitants of the township. Through the use of technology, the Council has improved the delivery of services and increased the efficiency of its own work processes.

With the greater emphasis being put on the computerisation of several Municipal activities, the IT Section is being called upon to play a crucial role. The IT Officer/Systems administration is in charge of the section and is assisted by two Assistant IT Officers. The IT Section's primary responsibility is to look into matters pertaining to the introduction, development, deployment, maintenance and upgrading of Information Technology Infrastructures and is also called upon to play a vital role in advising the Council on IT related issues.

During the year under review, the National E-Licensing System for Online Building and Land Use Permit has been introduced. Through this platform, members of the public can submit applications anywhere, anytime and using any smart device.

The application procedures have also been streamlined rendering the system more user-friendly.

Complaints are now registered via the Citizen Support Unit Portal and this enables better follow-up of complaints.

Information and Service Centre (ISC)

The information and Service Centre assists members of the public who call at the Municipal Council for information on the amenities/facilities and services provided by the Municipal Council.

Grievances and complaints are also received at the ISC which ensures that prompt attention is given to them and thereon feedback is given to the complainants promptly.

Grievances and complaints are also registered on the Citizen Support Portal.

Through the Citizen Support Portal, an inhabitant can register his complaint on a database managed by the Citizen Support Unit. Those who do not have access to internet have the possibility to go and register their complaints at the Citizen Advice Bureau nearest to their residence.

THE OUTBREAK OF COVID-19 IN MAURITIUS AND ITS IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL

The COVID-19 Pandemic is affecting the world in different ways and governments across the globe are responding in various ways.

The immediate effects of any such pandemic include the significantly large number of deaths, impoverishment of the population and the worsening of the economy.

Countries varied in their degree of preparedness to face COVID-19 and as a result, their responses to deal with it are wide ranging.

At one end of the spectrum, we have those who preferred early lockdown while at the other end we have those who adopted lax confinement rules.

The first three cases of COVID-19 in Mauritius were detected in 18 March 2020, all individuals with travel history abroad. The detection of four further cases the next day prompted the government to implement its first series of stringent measures like the closing down of schools and allowing only essential services to operate (shops, banks, supermarkets, hospitals, police, clinics and those engaged in providing scavenging service to the general public as well as cremation services), the borders were closed to international arrivals except for repatriation flights for nationals who were stranded abroad.

There was a limited public transport service and private vehicles were subject to police checks on all major routes. Only people with a Work Access Permit (WAP) were allowed to circulate.

The Council was called upon to provide the following two essential services:

- Refuse collection to the general public
- Cemetery and cremation services

However, workers of the Council were also requested to carry out the following additional activities during the COVID-19 outbreak:

- To provide transport facilities and to assist in food distribution to the needy inhabitants.
- To assist officers of the Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection to effect surprise checks in shops and supermarkets for price control.

- Washing and disinfection of bus terminals and bus shelters

Working Conditions and Environment

Masks, hand sanitizers, reusable overalls, alcohol were given to all employees in the grade of Refuse Collectors, Drivers, Supervisors, Burial Ground Attendants to protect themselves as they were exposed to more risks whilst in the performance of the duties.

To be able to provide the above services, changes were brought to the working conditions and environment of Refuse Collectors.

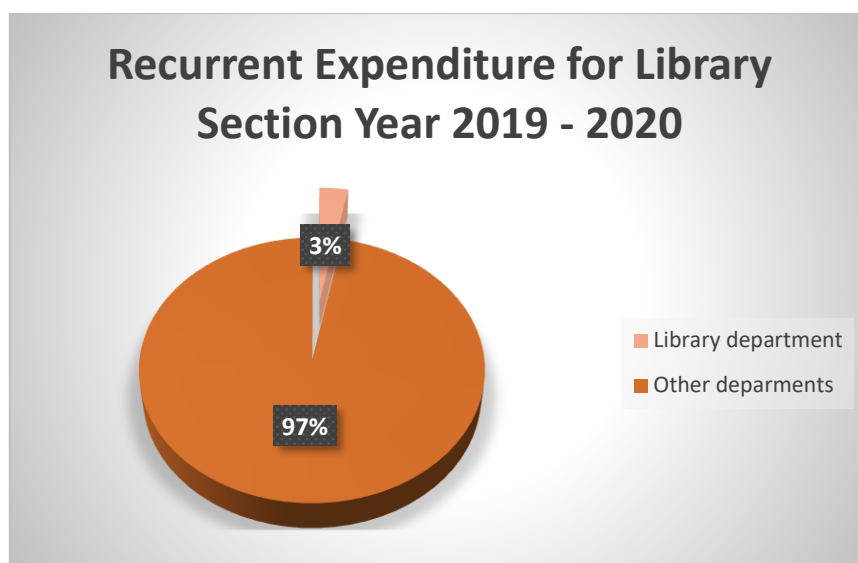
For instance, Refuse Collectors were instructed that instead of waiting for scavenging lorries to come on site for collection of refuse, they were called upon to inform inhabitants on a sheet wise basis to remove their household refuse and place them outside their premises for collection.

The Ministry of Health and Wellness tested all the employees involved in the provision of scavenging service to ensure they have not been contaminated while performing their jobs.

Library Section



The total recurrent expenditure for the Library Services amounts to Rs 13,538,471.19/- which represents 3% of the total recurrent expenditure of the Council for the year 2019–2020.



The Municipal Council of Vacoas Phoenix is a dynamic civic resource that promotes free and open access to information materials and services to all members of the community to advance knowledge, foster creativity, encourage the exchange of ideas, build community and enhance the quality of life.

The Municipal libraries provide access to a wide collection over 155,000 documents including books and magazines for our users.

It is the Libraries' vision and function to:

- Align physical & digital resources to ensure the library is reaching its service community in both its physical & virtual spaces
- Provide contemporary high interest materials
- Supply information for life long-learning
- Offer a gateway to outside resources
- Stimulate young children interest in reading & learning and supplement the educational needs of school-age children

Municipal Libraries and Reading Points found within the Town

There are one Main Library namely, Malcolm de Chazal Library, one branch, seven sub libraries and two reading points.

Malcolm De Chazal Library

The Main Library comprises of children, reference, adult lending, periodical, binding and Wi-Fi section. The library also includes a cybercafé equipped with 5 computers, 1 scanner, 2 printers (1 Black & White, 1 colour)



Children's Section

Reference Section



Adult's Lending Section

Wifi Section



Periodical Section



Cybercafé

During the period 01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020, the Malcolm de Chazal Library:

- Registered 211 new members
- Responded to 1,065 reference requests
- Circulated 30,320 library materials to users
- Welcomed 182 visitors to the Wi-Fi Section
- Welcomed 1,209 newspapers and magazines readers

Branch, Sub Libraries and Reading Points

The Branch and Sub Libraries consist of children, Reference, Adult lending, periodical and Wi-Fi section. The reading point provides access to newspapers and magazines only.

Branch library	Sub Libraries	Reading Points
❖ Palmerston Branch Library	❖ Carreau Laliane Municipal Sub-Library ❖ Cité La Caverne Muncipal Sub-Library ❖ Glen Park Sub-Library ❖ Hollyrood Municipal Sub-Library ❖ Paillotte Municipal Sub-Library ❖ Solferino Municipal Sub-Library ❖ Mesnil(Parisot)Municipal Sub-Library	❖ Quinze Cantons Reading Point ❖ Petit Camp Reading Point

During the period 01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020, the Branch and Sub Libraries:

- Registered 100 new members
- Circulated 14,282 library materials to users
- Welcomed 9,606 visitors

Wifi Services are available in branch and Sub Libraries

2 PCs are available at Palmerston Branch Library and 1 PC is available in each sub-library for the public.

Services offered

- Children's Section
- Magazines and Newspapers Reading Section
- Adult Lending Section
- Adult Reference section and Reader's Advisory
- Free wireless internet (Wi-Fi)
- Internet services
- Scanning and Printing
- Photocopy
- E-books through Municipal website (www.vacoasphoenix.org)

The Municipal Library also provides books on loan to the following Community Centres:

Community Centres	No. of Books
Cinq Arpents Community Centre	140
Hermitage Community Development Association	50
Henrietta Community Centre	50

Library Reading Materials Acquired

Library reading materials are acquired to develop collections to satisfy the diverse needs of users at all levels. Books and magazines are either purchased in accordance with procurement procedures or received in donation.

The total number of library materials acquired during the period 01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 was 15,470 as shown in the table below:

*Due to first lockdown the library was closed since March up to mid of June 2020. Since then, public access for newspapers and periodicals were not made available in order not to spread the virus.

Library Materials (Books and Periodicals)	Quantity	Amount Spent (Rs)
Books	725	166,877.69
Newspapers (Main, branch & subs, reading points& social centres)	12,920	201,584.00
Magazines (Main, branch, subs & reading point)	1,824	274,432.00
Donations	1	Nil
Binding materials		11,980.65
Total	15,470.00	654,873.39

Amount spent under the code Books & Periodicals – 3806 1004 = Rs 654,873.39

Bindery



The Binding Section is responsible for:

- Binding and repairs of reading materials including newspapers, Government Gazettes and magazines.
- Spiral binding and hard covers

The total number of library materials bound and repaired during the period 01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

Reading materials	Quantity
Books	725
Newspapers	712
Magazines	190
Government Gazette	12 batches

- Binding of pay sheets, rates, schedules and miscellaneous receipts for the Financial Controller's Department
- Binding of documents from Human Resource, Committee, Health and Works Departments such as Minutes of Proceedings, Audit Report, Staff Lists and Attendance Registers.

Activities held during year 2019-2020

In the context of the 52th Anniversary of Independence of Mauritius and the 28th Anniversary of the Republic of Mauritius and the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the 'Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie' (OIF), the Council organised the following activities:

August 2019:

- World Book & Copyright Day Celebrations



February 2020

- Dictée :(34 pupils from 17 Primary Schools)



- Reading Aloud :(18 pupils from 18 Primary Schools)



March 2020

- À vous la Réponse (40 Participants)



The table below summarises the activities performed and the amount spent during the financial year 2019-2020

<i>Expenditure code</i>	Targeted Literary Activities (Students in the town of Vacoas Phoenix)	Budget Amount approved (Rs)	Literary activities performed	Total amount spent (Rs)
		190,000.00		133,819.50
Library activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Book & copyright day celebration (Open to public) International Day of Non-Violence for Primary and Secondary institutions <p>Primary students</p> <p>Secondary students</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Book Day at Saint-Pierre Market fair (date: 9th and 10th August 2019) Donation of Cheques for Mahatma Gandhi Secondary School <p>Celebration of 52th Independence anniversary /</p> <p>50th anniversary of OIF (Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dictée Reading Aloud À vous la réponse 	

New Model Library due to COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 Pandemic impacted libraries rapidly shifting community and institutional needs towards a **New Model Library**. When COVID-19 became a global pandemic in March 2020, libraries had to act fast. Library halted any service or program that could potentially spread the virus that is shutting off access to the buildings and stopping the circulation of all books.

The sudden shift to an almost entirely virtual world also exacerbated and highlighted many aspects of the digital divide. During the COVID-19 pandemic, people were discovering, accessing, and using the library with a focus on materials which were available online, that is a shift toward online resources

Barriers which library staff had to overcome included:

- Reliance on library systems that they could not access remotely
- Working from home without adequate space, technology, and connectivity
- Family obligations that conflicted with work responsibilities
- Increased training needs to support new work environments and service delivery models

The challenges Libraries faced to meet the surge in demand included:

- High costs of licensing and maintaining digital resources in the face of budgetary or access restrictions, especially E-books. Free E-Books, E-Magazines were being selected in order to display on the Municipal website.
- Difficulty finding and accessing digital resources

Despite increased use of digital resources, online services, and virtual programming, librarians strongly emphasized the essential role of physical spaces for the communities. We planned to redouble efforts to make spaces more welcoming for people to gather.

The purpose of the library is to preserve and transmit the recorded knowledge. Libraries and librarians are inseparable from the society in which they serve and the society in which they live. Thus, a library in a pandemic is indispensable.

	NO OF E-BOOKS
SECTION	1st Lockdown (March2020)
Adult	380
Junior	320
Comics	94
Reference	130
Newspapers	48
	972



FINANCE

DEPARTMENT

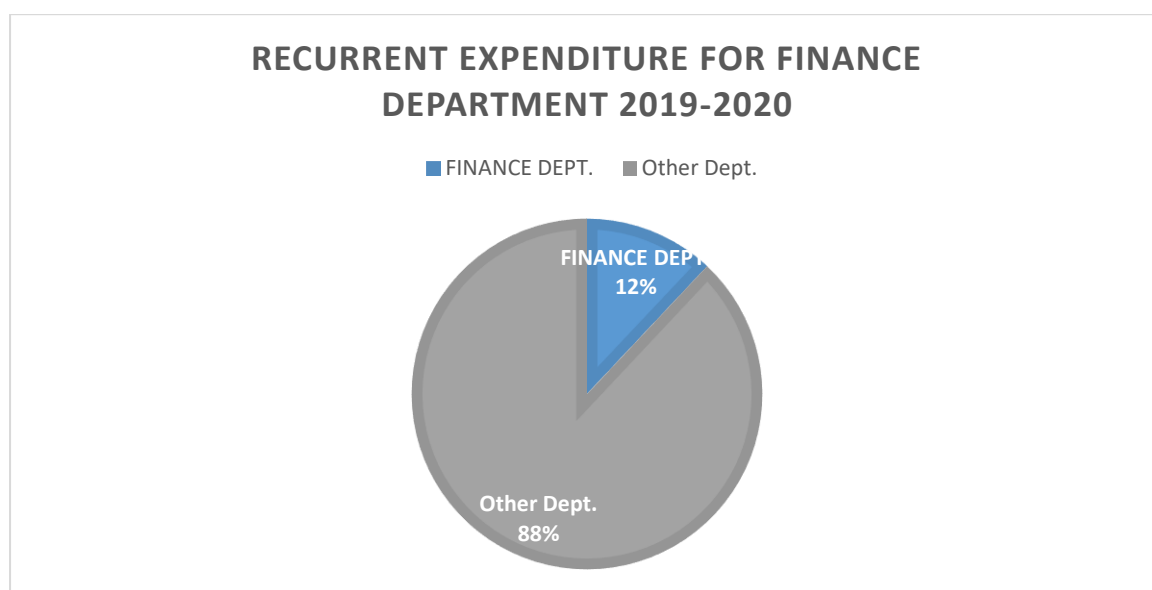
The Finance Department is responsible amongst others for:

- the collection of all revenues accruing to the Council
- effecting all payments including salaries to its employees and pensioners
- effecting all purchases by the Council
- preparing the yearly Estimates and yearly Financial Statements for submission to the Ministry and the National Audit Office respectively
- the overall financial administration of the Council, providing financial advice, financial information and control on all financial transactions

The department consists of the following sections:

- Establishment - Payroll
- Income
- Expenditure
- Purchasing and Stores

The total recurrent expenditure for the Finance Department amounts to Rs 52,429,565/- which represents 12 % of the total recurrent expenditure of the Council for the year 2019-2020.

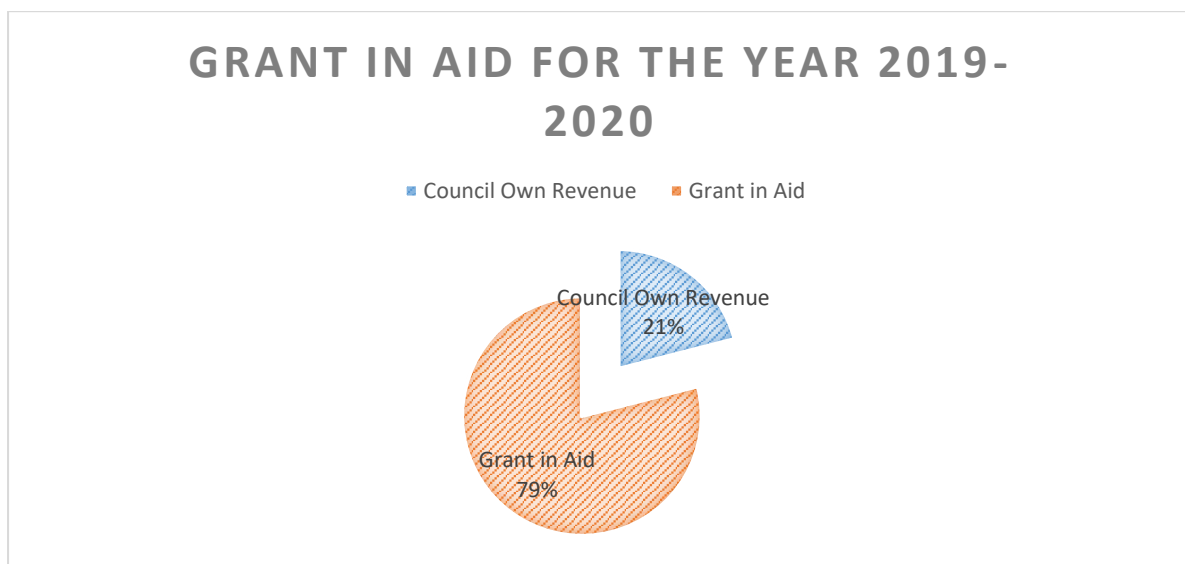


The Municipal Council derives necessary funds to finance its activities from:

- Grant in Aid
- Own source of revenue

Grant in Aid

An amount of Rs 356,631,579/- was received as grant in aid from the Central Government for the year 2019-2020 to meet part of the recurrent expenditure of the Council which represents 79% of the total revenue.



Own Source of Revenue

The main sources of revenue of the Council are Local Rate and Trade Fees.

Local Rate

The Council levies a Local Rate on the owner of any immovable property included in the valuation list, the net annual value of which exceeds 1,750 rupees.

The different rates presently payable is as follows:

NET ANNUAL VALUE OF IMMOVEABLE PROPERTIES (RS)	RATE PER CENT PER ANNUM (%)
0 - 1750	0
1751 - 2450	9
2451 - 7500	11
7501 - 10625	13
10626 - 12750	14
12751 - 16500	15.5
16501 - 22500	17
22501 - 30000	18
30001 - 35000	19
35001 - 44000	20
44001 - 60000	21
60001 - 75000	22
75001 - 150000	23
150001 - 250000	23.5
250001 - 400000	24
400001 - 600000	25
600001 - upwards	26

The Local Rate levied under Sections 97, 99 and 100 of Local Government Act 2011 shall in respect of every financial year, be due on 01 July and shall subject to subsection (2), be payable in 2 equal instalments, the first one on or before 31st July in that year and the second one on or before 31st January next year ensuing.

Where any Local Rate is not paid by the owner within the periods specified above a surcharge representing 10 per cent is leviable on the amount of the rate due and payable. Where any sum due for Local Rate is not paid in the financial year in which it becomes due and payable, it shall carry interest at the rate of 15% p.a. or such other rate as may be prescribed until such time as it is paid.

Classified Trades

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

The payment of fees, dues and charges in respect of classified trades shall be due by the 01 July of that year and shall be payable by the economic operator

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

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

Collection of Trade Fees by CBRD Corporate and Business Registration Department

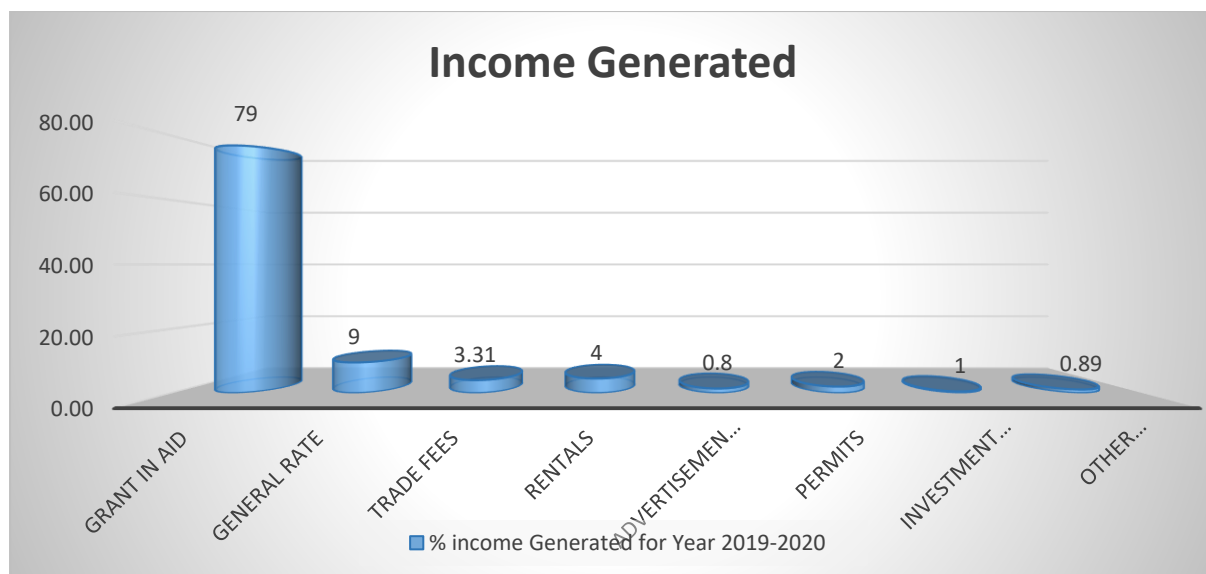
The Local Government Act 2011 has been amended through the Business Facilitation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2019, in particular Sections 122, 123, 124, 162 and 163.

As from January 2020, the payment of Trade Fee as well as the issue of Trade Licence is done at the level of Corporate and Business Registration Department (CBRD)

Other income

Items of other Income for the year 2019-2020 are as follows:

- ❖ Rentals
- ❖ Financial Income
- ❖ Permits fee
- ❖ Advertisement and Publicity fees
- ❖ Other Miscellaneous Income such as Bus Toll, Burial fees, Library Subscription fees, etc



PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

DEPARTMENT

The overall administration, management and discipline of employees of the department rest on the Head Public Infrastructure Department.

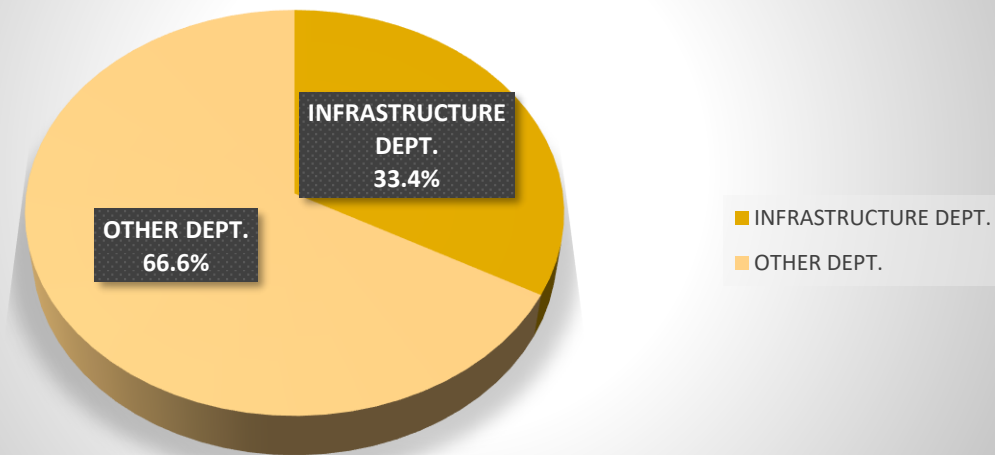
The Public Infrastructure Department is mainly responsible amongst others for the following services:

- ✚ Construction and Repairs of Non-Classified Roads
- ✚ Construction and Repairs of Drains along Non-Classified Roads, road side drains, open/covered drains within private properties.
- ✚ Fixing and Maintenance of Street Lighting within the Township and maintenance of lighting on various play pitches, football grounds and Municipal Buildings.
- ✚ Cleaning and Up keeping of Green Spaces, green verge along roads, Gardens and Children's Playgrounds
- ✚ Maintenance of Municipal Buildings, Markets, Cemeteries, Traffic Centres and Play pitches.
- ✚ Design, Supervision and Management of Building and Civil Engineering Projects undertaken by either in-house labour or through Contracted services.
- ✚ Fixing of Decorations for social, Cultural and religious activities
- ✚ Maintenance of Municipal Vehicles, plants and equipment.

The Head of Public Infrastructure is assisted by a Civil Engineer and the Chief Works Inspector. He also advises the Council on engineering matters and the implementation and application of the relevant legislations including the Roads Act, the Building Act and the Local Government Act.

The total recurrent expenditure for the Public Infrastructure Department amounts to Rs **142,547,927/-** which represents 33.4% of the total recurrent expenditure of the Council for the year 2019-2020.

Recurrent Expenditure for Infrastructure Department Year 2019-2020



The Public Infrastructure Department consists of the following Sections:

- Road Maintenance Section
- Drain and Masonry Section
- Street Lighting Section
- Parks and Garden Section
- Garage and Workshop Section
- Building Maintenance Section
- Painters and Welding Section

Construction and Maintenance of Non-Classified Roads

In its endeavor to constantly improve the condition of roads within the township, an approximate total surface area of 10,000 m² of roads were constructed within the township during the financial year 2019-2020. Moreover, about 28,000 sq. m of roads has been resurfaced within the Township of Vacoas Phoenix.

The abovementioned projects have been financed by the Local Development Fund, Council's own funds and the National Development Unit.

Construction and Maintenance of Drains along Non-Classified Roads

One of the main priorities of the Council has been the construction of drains within the Town more particularly in flood prone areas to ensure proper evacuation of surface runoff during heavy rainfalls. Regular maintenance of existing drains and cleaning is effected by in-house labour or through contracted services and financed from Council's own funds. About 8,000 m of drains has been cleaned and about 1,200 m has been constructed within the township.

The construction of the drains has been financed mostly by the National Development Unit and the Local Development Fund.



Fixing and Maintenance of Street Lighting



There are actually about 11,900 street lanterns throughout the township and the Council consistently endeavours to extend the street lighting network more particularly in inhabited regions. During financial year 2019-2020, around 350 new street lighting lanterns have been fixed within the township and about 3000 lanterns were repaired/replaced.

Traffic Signs and Road Markings

Fixing of traffic signs and road markings are carried out for the first time by the Traffic Management and Road Safety Unit. Thereafter the Public Infrastructure Department is responsible for the care and maintenance of traffic signs and road markings on non-classified roads.

Cleaning and Up keeping of Green Spaces, Gardens and Playgrounds

The following green spaces amongst others are regularly maintained by the Parks and Garden Section of the Public Infrastructure Department and the works include mowing of grasses, planting of decorative plants, cleaning and regular irrigation of plants:

- a. Leisure Parks at La Caverne and Highlands
- b. Green Spaces at Hermitage (Plaines de Hermitage), Pinewood Garden, Sivananda Avenue, Promenade Pere Laval, Morc Peerun, La Vanille, Mare aux Vacoas and Petit Camp

- c. River Reserves at Henrietta, Bernica, Camp Fouquereaux opposite Temple, Belle Terre and La Marie, Castel, Camp Roches, etc.
- d. Roundabouts near Jumbo, Phoenix Breweries, Pont Fer/ and Hermitage
- e. Children Playgrounds

Maintenance of Municipal Buildings, Markets, Cemeteries and Traffic Centres

The Building Maintenance Section is responsible for the regular maintenance of all Municipal Buildings which include electrical, plumbing, joinery, metal, masonry and painting works.

The following municipal infrastructures are regularly maintained by in-house labour:

1. Town Hall Building
2. Reception Hall Building
3. Market and Fair
4. Traffic Centres at Vacoas, Hermitage and Henrietta
5. Multipurpose Complexes which include Gymnasias, Social Halls, Kindergartens and Sub Libraries at Carreau Laliane, Solferino, Paillotte, Quinze Cantons, Holyrood, Reunion, Grannum, Highlands, Hermitage, Camp Fouquereaux, Belle Terre, Palmerston, St Paul, Clairfond, Belle Terre, La Caverne, Petit Camp, Glen Park, Parisot, Cinq Arpents, Edgar Quirin, Ganachaud and Henrietta.
6. Paillotte and Palmerston Sports Complexes
7. Children Playgrounds
8. Football Grounds including Cloakroom at St Paul, 15 Cantons, Solferino, Medco, La Marie, St Paul, Camp Fouquereaux, Hermitage, Closel, Reunion, Belle Terre, La Caverne, Holyrood, Henrietta, La Marie, Promenade Père Laval.
9. Bus Shelters found within the townships
10. Phoenix, Henrietta and Trois Mamelles Cemeteries and Cremation Grounds
11. Taxi Stands found at Vacoas, Independence Avenue, La Caverne, Camp Fouquereaux and Phoenix.
12. New Municipal Building at Independence Avenue

Maintenance of Municipal Vehicles, Plants and Equipment

The Garage Section carries out servicing and repairs of all Municipal vehicles, plants and equipment. Minor repairs are effected within one day whereas other major repairs are effected within a few days by in-house labour or through contracted services so as not to disrupt the performance of works and delivery of services.

Design, Supervision and Management of Building and Civil Engineering Projects undertaken by in-house labour or Contractors

Whilst ensuring that satisfactory services are provided to the citizens as required under the law, the Council also undertakes capital projects which are financed out of grants obtained from the central government as well as from its own General Fund. All projects undertaken are geared towards the continuous improvement of the quality of life and social welfare of the citizens.

Main Achievements during financial year 2019-2020

SN	PROJECTS
01	Repair and Commissioning of Street Lighting Network at Morcellement Aurea, Highlands
02	Construction of a Mini Soccer Pitch at Carreau Laliane
03	Construction of Incinerators Building at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Paul • Solferino • Highlands • La Marie
04	Resurfacing of Roads within the Township of Vacoas Phoenix
05	Construction of New Roads within the Township of Vacoas Phoenix
06	Design of Lighting System, Supply and Fixing of Extractor Fans and Provision of a Generator at Paillotte Omnisport Complex
07	Cleaning of 1585 m of Covered Drains within the Township of Vacoas Phoenix
08	Upgrading of Drain Covers within the Township of Vacoas Phoenix
09	Design and Construction of a Bridge with Associated Works at Parisot, Phoenix
10	Construction of a Box Culvert, Retaining Wall and Widening of Existing Bridge at Futloo Bridge
11	Construction of Roads and Drains at Valentina, Phoenix
12	Construction of Drains at Cinq Arpents
13	Levelling, Turfing and Lighting of Hermitage Football Ground
14	Construction of Drains and Resurfacing of Cite 50, Nadess and Phael Lane Highlands
15	Construction of Drain at Balgobin Lane, St Paul
16	Construction of Drain at Tagore Lane, Mesnil
17	Construction of Drain at St Paul, Allée Jacques
18	Supply and Fixing of Aluminium Opening at Grannum Municipal Complex

PUBLIC HEALTH

DEPARTMENT

The Public Health Department has the overall responsibility to maintain a salubrious environment within the township. This is achieved inter alia through an effective and efficient refuse collection service, cleansing of public places, drains, bare lands, canals and rivers, roadside weeding, maintenance of public conveniences and rodent control. The management of cemeteries and markets also forms part of the responsibilities of the Department.

Functions of the Department

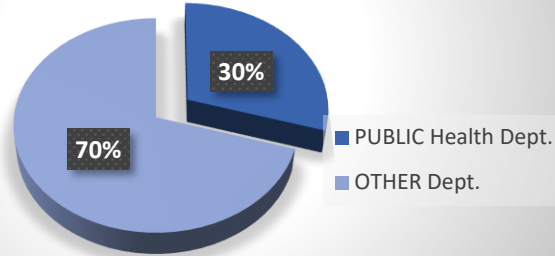
The main functions of the Public Health Department are as follows:

- ❖ Refuse Collection and Town Cleansing;
- ❖ Cleaning of Rivers, Drains and Canals;
- ❖ Cleaning of Wastelands;
- ❖ Management of Market and Fair;
- ❖ Management of Cemeteries and Crematoria;
- ❖ Control of Rodents;
- ❖ Control of Economic Operators including payment of Municipal fee;
- ❖ Traffic Centre, Bus Terminals and Public Convenience;
- ❖ Collection of Bulky Waste.

The Department has to ensure that all activities are carried out in compliance with the provisions of the Local Government Act and the relevant enactments.

The total recurrent expenditure for the Public Health Department for the year 2019-2020 amounts to Rs 127,117,755/- which represents 30% of the total recurrent expenditure of the Council.

Recurrent Expenditure for Public Health Department Year 2019-2020



Refuse Collection and Town Cleansing



Household and Commercial Refuse

The collection and disposal of household and commercial refuse is an essential service provided by the Municipal Council of Vacoas Phoenix to the inhabitants of the town.

The Council spares no effort to provide a satisfactory service to about 38,000 households and around 5600 trade premises as well as maintaining salubrity of an area of about 110 km² and having a population of about 110,000 inhabitants.

The Department provides a twice weekly service in residential areas, a twice daily service in the Vacoas Town Centre and a daily service in sub-commercial centres including sweeping of roads within the township.

For the sake of refuse collection, the town is divided into 25 sections. Each section is serviced by a team comprising a Lorry Driver, a Scavenging Supervisor and eight Refuse Collectors. Each team services about 1800 households/commercial premises and putting in around 30 hours of work weekly.

The service is equally provided on a shift system, the morning shift starting at 5.30 a.m to end up at 11.30 a.m and the afternoon shift at 12.00 a.m to 5.00 p.m. The first shift works for 6 hours on a 5-day basis whereas the second shift works for 5 hours on a 6-day basis.

Roving Team

In addition to the 25 above mentioned teams there is 1 roving team which collects waste from places where wedding and/or other ceremonies and events are held which generate a considerable volume of waste and bins found along main roads are emptied.

Week end Refuse Collection Service

Refuse collection is also provided in the Town Centre, other commercial areas as well as upon requests during weekends from 6am to 11.00 a.m.

Paid Refuse Collection Service

The Council also provides a waste collection service where trailers and lorries (without Refuse Collectors) are put at the disposal of inhabitants of the town against payment of a nominal fee of Rs 600/- per trip for the removal of green waste.

During the period 1st July 2019 to 30th June 2020, 625 such requests were attended to.

Clean-up & Embellishment Campaign

During Clean up and Embellishment Campaign the following works were carried out:

- Removal of illegal and outdated posters and banners.
- Cleaning of barelands.
- Collection of bulky waste.
- Cleaning of rivers, drains and canals.
- Collection of used tyres.
- Serving of notices upon known owners.

- Provision of trailer/lorry services to inhabitants as and when required.
- Spraying of herbicides along road sides and on barelands cleared by the Council.
- Provision of lorries and equipment to private sectors, force vives, youth clubs and NGOs which participated in the campaign.

Bulky Waste Campaign

During Bulky Waste Campaign 255 lorry loads of bulky waste were collected and disposed of at La Brasserie Transfer Station.

Flyers are distributed to all households of the Town where they are informed on the day, date and time collection of bulky waste would be carried out.

Special bins for recycling purposes

Special bins are placed by recyclers at Winners (Reunion & St Paul) Supermarket and Phoenix Shopping Mall for collection of pet bottles and paper for recycling purposes and in the parking space of the New Municipal Building as well as at Petrin for the collection of PET bottles only.

Provision of Bins

For proper storage and easy collection of waste the Council provides a refuse bin (70 litres) free of charge to every new household within the Township. However, residents are also allowed to renew the bin in case of damage or loss of existing bin at a subsidised price of Rs200/-.

During the period 1st July 2019 to 30th June 2020, 1,668 units of plastic bins have been issued.

Manpower Resources

Grade	Number
Scavenging Supervisor	20
Drivers	21
Refuse Collectors	232

The Scavenging Service is monitored on a daily basis by the Health Inspectorate Cadre comprising of 13 Officers.

Vehicle Fleet

The Scavenging Service has a fleet of 13 Tipper Lorries and 2 'Roll on Roll off' Lorries and 4 compactor Lorries. The vehicles are regularly maintained by in-house labour at the Municipal garage.

Cleaning of Rivers, Rivulets, Drains, and Canals

All rivers, rivulets, drains and canals found within the Town are cleaned by a team of 38 Handy Workers on a daily basis under the supervision of three Overseers and one Ag Overseer. Cleaning is done on a regular basis of six to eight weeks intervals. Following regular surveys carried out, cleaning of covered drains is undertaken once yearly giving priority to flood prone areas.

Cleaning of Wastelands





It is Council's policy to carry out frequent surveys of all barelands found within the limits of the Town and to take appropriate action. It is to be noted that most of the barelands are found within approved morcellements at La Marie (Morc Pousson), Wooton (Morc Pinewood), Highlands (Morc Blueprint and Morc Highlands Phase 1,2,3,4 & 5) and Hermitage (Morc Plaines de L'hermitage), Belle Terre (Morc VRS and Highland Rose). Others are scattered within residential areas within the township.

Notices are served at regular intervals upon known owners.

1236 Environmental Notices/Eyesore Abatement Notices and 15 fix penalty notices were served upon known owners requiring them to clean their barelands during the period 1st July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

For period 1st July 2019 to 30th June 2020, 650 plots were cleaned by inhouse labour and 113 plots by Contracted Services

With the available human resource, the barelands of untraceable owners are cleared at least twice yearly. Priority is given to the cleaning of barelands found within a radius of 200 m from the nearby residences.

Market and Fair

Vacoas Market

The Vacoas Market besides catering for the sale of fresh meat, fish and poultry also has a food court which was recently renovated.

Vacoas Fair



The Vacoas Fair place consists of 1077 stalls for the sale of vegetables and fruits, 129 stalls for the sale of haberdashery products, 38 stalls for the sale of seasonal fruits and 12 spaces for auction sale. There are also 16 kiosks for the sale of cakes and soft drinks and 11 enclosed stalls for the sale of foodstuffs and haberdashery.

The fair is held twice weekly on Tuesdays and Fridays from 6.00 a.m to 6.00 p.m. Small and Medium Entrepreneurs are also given the opportunity to market their products at the fair on the first Saturday of every month from 6.00 a.m to 6.00 p.m.

The washing of fair is carried out from rain water harvested and stored in tanks of total capacity of 27,000 litres.

Cemeteries and Crematoria



There are three Cemeteries under the care and responsibility of the Council: found at Phoenix, Henrietta and Trois Mamelles, Hollyrood. The area of Phoenix Cemetery is about 22 acres and those of Henrietta Cemetery and Trois Mamelles Cemetery are 10 acres and 20 acres respectively.



The 6 Cremation Grounds within the Town are found at Solferino No.5, Camp Fouquereaux, Allée Brillant, La Marie, Phoenix and Trois Mamelles.

There are also two gas powered incinerators found at Phoenix Cemetery and Trois Mamelles Cemetery which are manned by Incinerator Operators. Moreover, the Council will have 4 additional gas cremations in operations shortly at Highlands, Allée Brillant, La Marie and Solferino.

The Cemeteries are regularly cleaned and maintained by Gardeners and Burial Ground Attendants and security services are provided thereat during the night.

Control of Weeds and Rodents



Herbicide Spraying

Herbicide is sprayed along all the public roads within the Town throughout the year. A team of six Chemical Sprayermen is engaged under the supervision of one Overseer to carry out the work.

Rodent Control

Rodenticide is placed along the roadsides, wastelands bordering main roads and in drains as well as along river banks once every 2 months for the control of rodents within the township.

Rodent Control at the Vacoas Market, Fair, Traffic Centres and Vacoas New Municipal Building is done on a weekly basis.

Baits are placed once every month in all Municipal buildings.

Classified Trades

There are about 6406 economic operators and 8316 classified trades in operation within the Town of Vacoas-Phoenix. Regular inspections are carried out by the municipal inspectorate to ensure that all economic operators are complying with the legislation in force and have paid the appropriate trade fees to carry out their trade as well as to trace out illegal activities within the Town and take appropriate action.

Traffic Centres, Bus Terminals and Public Convenience



The three Traffic Centres within the township found at Vacoas Town Centre, Hermitage and Henrietta are regularly swept and washed to provide a clean environment to the public.

There are 119 buses operating from the Vacoas Traffic Centre, 22 from Hermitage Traffic Centre and 42 from Henrietta Traffic Centre.

Public Lavatories

Public lavatories found at the three Traffic Centres and at Vacoas Taxi Stand, Phoenix Taxi Stand and Vacoas Fair which are opened from 6.00a.m to 6.00p.m on a daily basis are cleaned by contracted services. Regular visits are carried out by the Health Inspectorate to ensure that they are clean at all times.

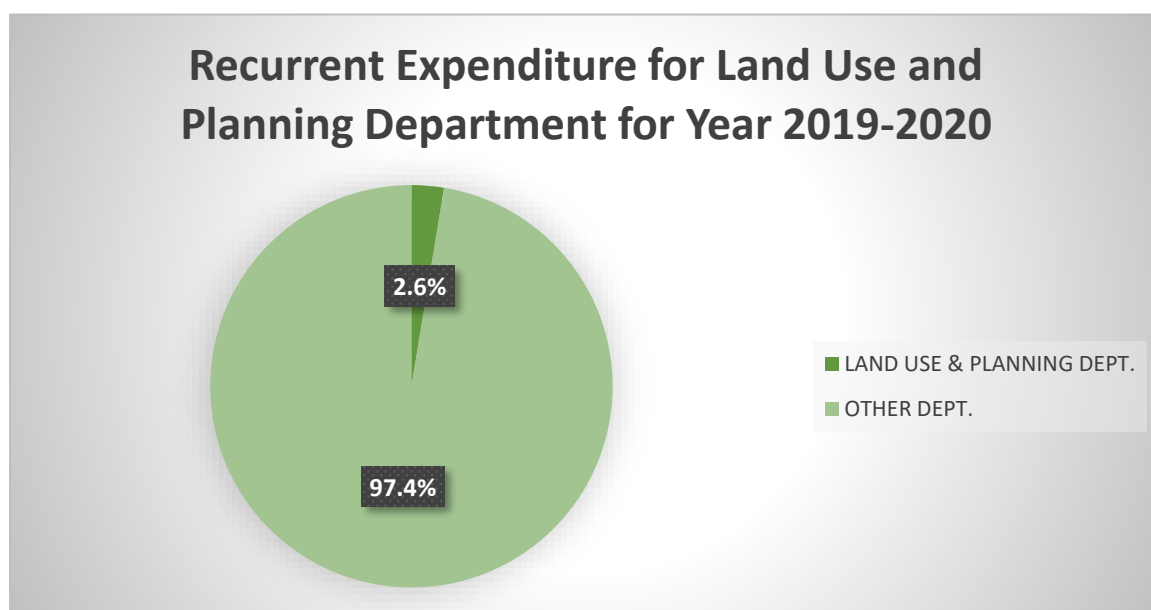
LAND USE AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT

The Land Use and Planning department is responsible for all matters pertaining to harmonious development of land within the township in line with provisions of the Planning Policy Guidance, Outline Planning Scheme and different legislations including the Local Government Act 2011, the Town and Planning Act, the Planning Development Act 2004 and the Building Control Act 2012.

The Land Use and Planning Department is responsible for:

1. The receipt, processing, assessment of applications for Building and Land Use Permit
2. Attending to complaints in respect of unlawful development and initiating legal action where required
3. Making recommendations to the competent bodies on applications for Morcellement Permit, Land Conversion Permits and EIA Licence and PER.

The total recurrent expenditure for the Land Use and Planning Department amounts to Rs 11,259,584/- which represents 2.6 % of the total recurrent expenditure of the Council for the year 2019-2020.



Efficient administration of the Land Use and Planning Department of the Council of Vacoas Phoenix

The Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management is leading the nation in cutting development red tape and unnecessarily lengthy approval times for the processing and determination of Building and Land Use Permit Applications. This is being achieved in part through providing critical assistance to the Council to reduce processing times for minor, small scale as well as major projects within the township.

The Council is further providing additional assistance to the applicants by effectively advising and guiding them through the process of submitting an application for a Building and Land Use Permit. All applications received at the Council are thoroughly screened before registration to further minimize the processing and determining time frame for permit applications. The Council has consistently determined permit applications within the prescribed delay of 14 working days as per Section 117 of the Local Government Act 2011.

Building and Land Use Application Received

This section of the report presents information concerning the number of Building and Land Use applications received and the outcome of the applications after having been processed from 01st July 2019 to 30th June 2020. All applications were processed and determined within the parameters of the law, that is, within 14 working days.

Type of Development	No. of applications Received	No. of applications Approved	No. of applications Rejected	No. of applications Cancelled	No. of applications under process
Residential } BLP1 Enclosure Wall	1493	766	620	0	107
Commercial	215	93	97	0	25
Excision/Subdivision –BLP2	301	165	121	0	15
Industrial	65	29	28	0	8
Outline Planning Permission	11	6	3	0	2
Small and Medium Enterprise	3	2	1	0	0
Services	23	10	11	0	2
Sui Generis	50	16	32	0	2
Total	2161	1087	913	0	

Table 1: Development Management Statistics from 01July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

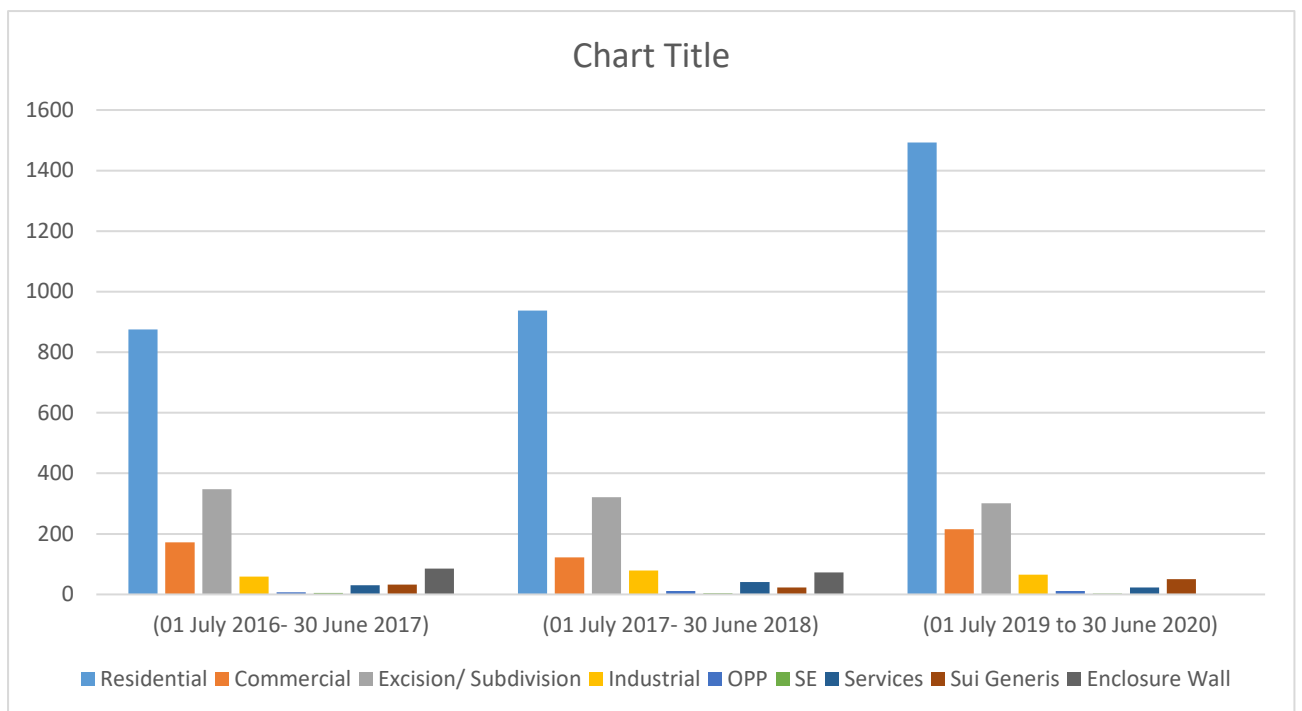


Figure 1. Comparison of the number of applications registered by type for previous financial year.

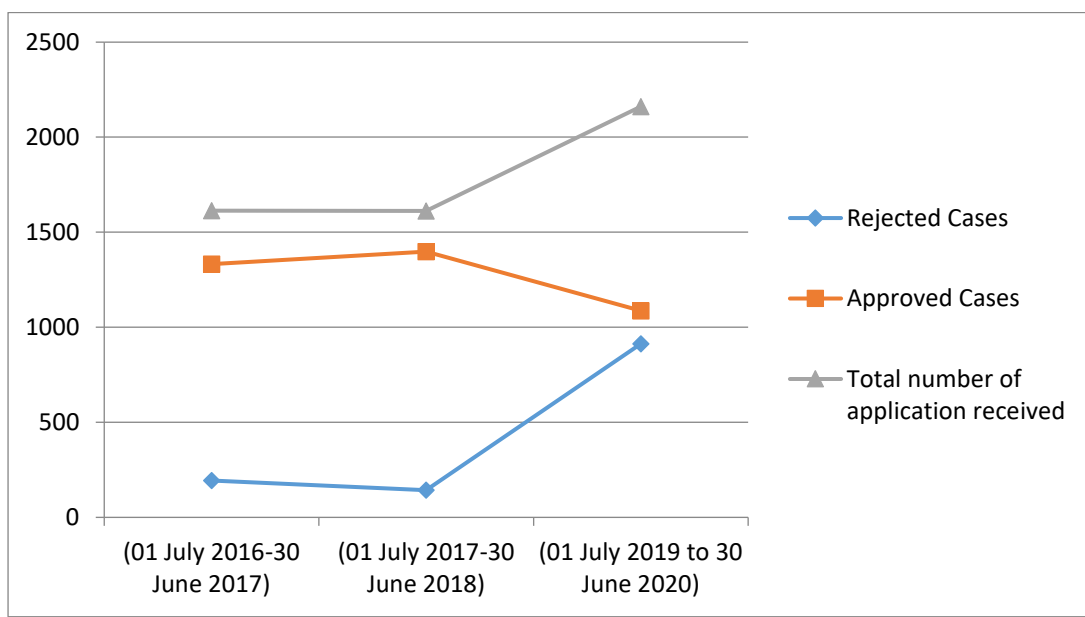


Figure 2 presents the number of applications received yearly and the total number of applications being granted permit or refusal letter for previous year.

From the above charts, it is observed that the number of applications received has remained the same during the financial year. An increase in residential developments have been noted due to the

fact that vast agricultural land had been released in the area of Highlands and Cote D'Or for residential purposes. An increase in the number of applications being turned down is consequent to the new platform introduced namely, NELS, for processing of BLUP applications.

Development Control

The total number of households surveyed within the township of Vacoas Phoenix during the period 01st July 2019 to 30th June 2020 is 86 household units.

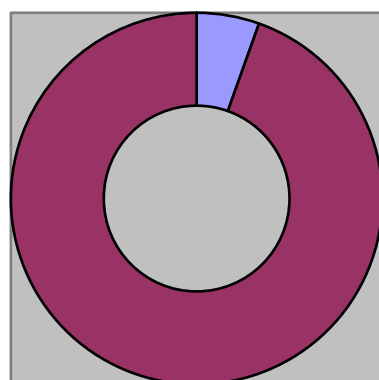
A decrease in the number of households surveyed was noted as compared to previous years due to the fact that there was a decrease in the number of personnel in the Land Use and Planning Department.

Site visits have not been effected due to an extended period of lockdown resulting from Covid 19.

Unlawful Development

	Complaints recorded as from 01 July 2019-30 June 2020.
No. of complaints received	130
No. of complaints attended	125
Legal action taken	15

Unlawful Development



■ Court Cases lodged

■ Request Notice still under process

No of Notices Issued: 260

No of court cases: 15

WELFARE

DEPARTMENT

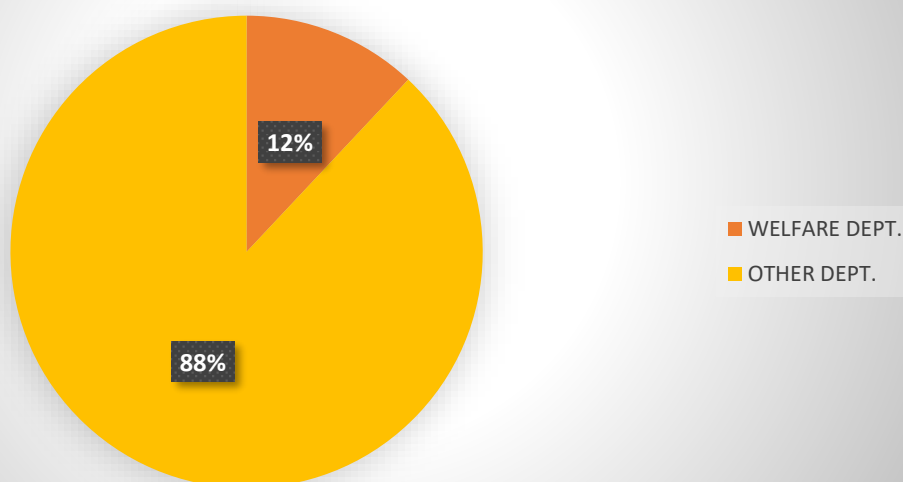
The Welfare Department is responsible for all matters pertaining to the organisation of welfare, social, recreational, educational, sports and cultural activities as decided by the Council for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Town of Vacoas Phoenix. It also controls and manages all Municipal Kindergartens, Children Playgrounds, Social Halls, Reception Hall, Maison Des Loisirs, Gymnasias, Omni Sports Complexes, Football Grounds, Mini Soccer pitches and other sports infrastructures falling under the jurisdiction of the Council.

Function and Objectives

- To provide opportunities to inhabitants to practise recreational and sports activities regardless of gender, age, disability/ability, socio economic and cultural backgrounds;
- To organise social activities with a view to promoting well-being of the population, and preventing youngsters from being indulged in illicit activities or falling in other social ills;
- To organise sports activities in order to promote health and fitness of the population;
- To provide accessible, safe and healthy environment for the whole population;
- Decentralization and creation of social and sports amenities in remote areas.
- To provide assistance to affiliated Sports Club, Women Associations, Senior Citizen Associations and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) within the Township.

The total recurrent expenditure for the Welfare Department amounts to Rs 49,971,068/- which represents 12% of the total recurrent expenditure of the Council for the year 2019-2020.

Recurrent Expenditure for Welfare Department Year 2019-2020



List of Municipal Infrastructures under the Welfare Department

WARD 1		
	Municipal Infrastructures	Facilities Available
1	Henrietta Football Ground (Morc Pousson)	Football Ground with lighting & cloakroom and Jogging track
2	Henrietta Football Ground (Camp Mapou)	Football Ground and Club House
3	La Marie Football Ground	Football Ground with lighting facilities & cloakroom
4	Henrietta Municipal Complex	Kindergarten, Gymnasium, Children Playground and Petanque Court
5	Pont Vantard Municipal Socil Hall, Henrietta	Social Hall, Family corner & Green space
6	Glen Park (NHDC) Children Playground	Children Playground
7	Glen Park Municipal Complex	Kindergarten, Gymnasium, Social Hall, Sub Library, Children Playground and Petanque Court

Table 1: Municipal Infrastructures available in Ward 1

WARD 2		
	Municipal Infrastructures	Facilities Available
1	Reunion Municipal Complex	Kindergarten, Gymnasium, Children Playground and Football Ground with lighting facilities & Cloakroom
2	Quinze Cantons Municipal Complex	Kindergarten, Social Hall, Sub Library, Gymnasium, Children Playground, Petanque Court and Football Ground with lighting facilities & Cloakroom, Mini Soccer Pitch
3	Holyrood Municipal Complex	Football Ground with lighting facilities, Sub Library, Gymnasium and Children Playground
4	Town Hall	Petanque Court, Children Playground, Maison Des Loisirs and Reception Hall

Table 2: Municipal Infrastructures available in Ward 2

WARD 3		
	Municipal Infrastructures	Facilities Available
1	La Caverne Municipal Complex	Sub Library, Kindergarten, Gymnasium, Children Playground, Petanque Court and Football Ground with lighting facilities & cloakroom, Mini Soccer pitch, Leisure park, Petanque court
2	Solferino Municipal Complex	Sub Library, Social Hall, Children Playground, Petanque Court, Kindergarten, Gymnasium and Football Ground with lighting facilities & cloakroom

Table 3: Municipal Infrastructures available in Ward 3

WARD 4		
	Municipal Infrastructures	Facilities Available
1	Paillotte Municipal Complex and Omnisports Complex	Gymnasium, Social Hall, Kindergarten, Children Playground and Sub Library. Omnisports Complex (Badminton, Futsal, Volleyball, Basketball, Handball and Squash)
2	Carreau Laliane Municipal Complex	Gymnasium, Social Hall, Kindergarten, Children Playground and 1 outdoor Multi-function Court with synthetic flooring

3	Clairfonds Municipal Complex	Gymnasium, Social Hall, Kindergarten, Children Playground and Football Ground with lighting facilities
4	Clozel Phoenix	Multi Usage Game Area
5	Grannum Municipal Complex	Gymnasium, Kindergarten, Social Hall and Outdoor Volleyball, Handball, 1 outdoor Multi-function Court with synthetic flooring

Table 4: Municipal Infrastructures available in Ward 4

WARD 5		
	Municipal Infrastructures	Facilities Available
1	St Paul Municipal Complex	Gymnasium, kindergarten, Social Hall, Petanque Court, Children Playground and Football Ground with lighting facilities & cloakroom
2	Palmerston Municipal Complex	Omnisports Complex (Badminton, Basketball, Volleyball, Squash and Gymnasium), Social Hall, Kindergarten, Sub Library and Children Playground – Outdoor Mini Soccer Pitch
3	Edgar Quirin Social Hall	Social Hall and Petanque Pitch
4	Petit Camp Municipal Complex	Kindergarten, Social Hall and Gymnasium
5	Petit Camp	Football ground, Petanque pitch, children playground, jogging track, family corner
6	Promenade Pere Laval	Mini Soccer pitch, Children Playground, Outdoor Gym

Table 5: Municipal Infrastructures available in Ward 5

WARD 6		
	Municipal Infrastructures	Facilities Available
1	Parisot Municipal Complex	Sub-Library, Social Hall and Gymnasium, Mini Soccer Pitch
2	Camp Fouquereaux Municipal Complex	Kindergarten, Gymnasium and Football ground, Mini Soccer Pitch
3	Saidine Social Hall	Social Hall and Petanque Court

4	Hermitage Municipal Complex	Gymnasium, Kindergarten, Children Playground and Football Ground
5	Cinq Arpents Municipal Complex	Gymnasium, Petanque pitch
6	Belle Terre Municipal Complex	Social Hall, Gymnasium and Football Ground with lighting facilities & Cloakroom
7	Highlands Municipal Complex	Kindergarten, Gymnasium and Football Ground with lighting facilities & Cloakroom, Children Playground
8	Highlands (NHDC) Children Playground	Children Playground
9	Highlands	Leisure park and Family Corner
10	Cité 50 Children Playground	Children Playground
11	Ganachaud Social Hall	Social Hall

Table 6: Municipal Infrastructures available in Ward 6

Social Halls

- The Municipal Council of Vacoas Phoenix owns 17 Social Halls.
- The halls are made available to inhabitants of the town free of charge for physical, aerobic, yoga classes, indoor games, organization of talks and different activities and above all as meeting places more particularly for Senior Citizen Associations.
- Out of the 17 Social Halls, 7 of them namely Glen Park, Carreau Laliane, Grannum, 15 Cantons, Paillotte, Palmerston and Belle Terre are put at the disposal of the public for holding of functions including weddings, birthday parties, engagement ceremonies etc.
- The revenue generated from the Social Halls amounts to the tune of Rs 100,000/- for the financial year 2019-2020.

Municipal Reception Hall

- The Municipal Reception Hall is used by the public for weddings, engagement ceremonies, birthday parties, end of year parties, seminars, other ceremonies and functions.

- ✚ The Reception Hall was rented twice per week in 2019-2020.
- ✚ The Reception Hall was also put at the disposal of Ministries, Associations etc free of charge for specific and justified requests made to the Council and approved at the Council Meeting.

The revenue generated from the Reception Hall amounted to Rs 355,000/- for the financial year 2019-2020.

Municipal Kindergartens

The Municipal Council has set up several kindergartens in different parts of the Town where admission is free of charge for children aged 3-5 years old. The Municipal Kindergartens are found at Camp Fouquereaux, Carreau Laliane, Cité La Caverne, Grannum, Henrietta, Hermitage, Highlands, Paillotte, Palmerston Phoenix, Petit Camp, Quinze Cantons, Reunion, Solferino and Glen Park.

A total number of 213 pupils were admitted in 2019-2020.

Sports Facilities

Municipal Gymnasias, Football Grounds, Petanque Pitches, Mini Soccer Pitches and Volleyball Pitches

- ✚ The Municipal Council of Vacoas Phoenix owns 13 Football Playgrounds and also maintains 3 Football Playgrounds vested by the Ministry of Education and Human Resources at Phoenix SSS, Medco Clairfonds and Holyrood SSS and rents the Glen Park Football with the Mauritius Sports Council.
- ✚ 13 football grounds are equipped with lighting facilities and 9 with cloakrooms.
- ✚ A roster for football clubs registered with the Council is established for the use of the different football playgrounds from 16.00hrs to 20.00hrs. The football grounds are also made available to associations affiliated with the Council free of charge for tournaments. There are around 13 clubs using each football ground.
- ✚ These Football Grounds are regularly maintained by council's in-house labour and are closed during the winter season for maintenance like upgrading, levelling...

- ✚ The Municipal Council also owns 13 Petanque Pitches which are found at Henrietta, Glen Park, Quinze Cantons, La Caverne, Solferino, Carreau Laliane, Municipal Yard, St Paul, Cite 50, Sahidine, Edgar Quirin, Petit Camp, Highlands and Camp Fouquereaux.
- ✚ The Municipal Council owns 4 Volleyball pitches at Grannum, Reunion, Solferino and Palmerston and also maintains the Hermitage Volleyball Pitch owned by the National Development Unit.

Municipal Gymnasia

- ✚ The Council also owns 20 gymnasia.
- ✚ Gymnasia are accessible to residents of Vacoas Phoenix of 15 years old and above. Students and Senior Citizens are exempted from the membership fee of Rs 200 for 3 months renewable every quarterly.
- ✚ All Municipal Gymnasia are equipped with high standard gymnasium equipment and are maintained regularly. There are 7 part-time Gymnasium Instructors employed by the Council who work on a roster basis in all the 20 gymnasia.
- ✚ The revenue generated from Sports facilities offered amounted to Rs 1,500 000/- for the financial year 2019-2020.

Badminton, Basketball, Futsal, Squash, Handball and Volleyball Facilities

Badminton, Basketball, Futsal, Squash, Handball and Volleyball facilities are also available at the Paillotte and Palmerston Omnisports Complexes against payment of a reasonable fee.

As regards Badminton there are 4 courts available at Palmerston and 7 courts at Paillotte Omnisports Complexes.

Synthetic Mini-Soccer Pitch

There are 7 Mini-Soccer pitches, at Camp Fouquereaux, Palmerston, Glen Park and Promenade Pere Laval, Parisot, 15 Cantons, La Caverne which are put at the disposal of clubs/inhabitants of the town against payment of relevant fee.

Sports & Cultural Activities organised during the year 2019-2020

Parcours de la Flamme JIOI 2019



JIOI Award Nite 2019



Wrestling Competiton 2019



Divali Nite 2019



Spring Festival 2020



Job Fair 2020



AUDIT

REPORT

The Director of Audit is responsible for reporting on whether the financial statements are fairly presented and give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Municipal Council of Vacoas Phoenix at the close of the financial year. The Auditor reports on whether adequate accounting records are kept and an effective system of internal control has been maintained, whether applicable accounting standards have been adhered to and whether the Council has complied with the Local Government Act 2011 and Public Procurement Act.

The Financial Statement for the year ending 30 June 2020 is herewith attached.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
