

City of Windhoek

Customer Service Charter





Customer Service

CHARTER

















VISION

"To be a Sustainable and Caring City by 2027."

















MISSION

"To enhance the quality of life for all our people by rendering efficient and effective municipal services."





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CITY OF WINDHOEK CUSTOMER SERVICE CHARTER

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OVERVIEW

A Customer Service Charter is a set of written promises outlining the standards that will be upheld in dealing with customers. It is to inform the customers who the City of Windhoek is, what are the service offerings and how the CoW and its staff are showing commitment to providing a quality service to the residents and businesses in the CoW Municipality.

It is important that all CoW staff understand and align themselves to living the Charter and ensuring that they provide the required levels of service.

CUSTOMER SERVICE CHARTER

Success lies in delivering excellent service to you, our Customer. Our Customer Service Charter sets out our commitment to provide you, our customer with the service you expect.















Our Vision is to be Sustainable and Caring City by 2027.

Our Mission is to enhance the quality of life for all our people by rendering efficient and effective municipal services.

Our Values – to achieve Customer Service Excellence, it is necessary that our front-line staff have a common set of values that will guide their interaction with Customers.

Our principle and that of all our employees is our commitment to "Customer First".

Who we are and what we do?

We are a Municipality that has the needs of business and individuals at the forefront of everything we do. We provide quality, consistent information, support, advice and assistance to help you in your day to day lives.

Who are our Customers?

Residents of the Windhoek Municipal area, businesses, Private and Public Sectors, State Owned Enterprises, Non-Governmental Organisations, Investors and potential investors and Internal City of Windhoek Departments who want quality service and support from the City of Windhoek Municipality.













OUR SERVICES

This is our commitment to providing excellent customer service.

The are the standards that will guide the level of service our customers can expect from us and equally what you can do to assist us to achieve this.

We are committed to customer services that is:

- Guided by our values of honesty, professionalism, respect and accountability
- Innovative and accessible
- Efficient and responsive
- Delivered by skilled, motivated and courteous staff

We also commit to:

- Treating you individually and in a timely manner
- Providing you with accurate, concise and relevant information
- Respecting and protecting your personal information
- Continuous improvement in service delivery













We provide services to our customers in a manner that is sustainable and of consistent high quality. As a municipality, we believe in fostering good customer relationships by delivering services in line with their expectations.

Our services include:

- Housing, basic services such as water and sanitation, electricity, refuse disposal by which we strive to render a high quality of service delivery
- Road maintenance to provide a safe and secure environment
- Provisioning of bulk infrastructure and civil engineering services which include municipal roads, sewerage, water supply and distribution
- Refuse collection and sites for the disposal of waste.
- Electrical services supply safe and efficient distribution of electricity to clients within the municipal service area, in compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act and the Electricity Regulation Act and the management of the electricity infrastructure
- Town planning activities (building control and housing) within the municipality and compliance with zoning and other aspects of land use management













OUR CUSTOMER SERVICE PRINCIPLES

Responsiveness

- Every time you contact us you will be able to do so conveniently and will be treated courteously, promptly and fairly
- We aim to respond to telephone enquiries and emails within one working day and mail correspondence within 10 working days
- We will provide accurate and up to date information when you need it
- Our service targets outline our process and payment timelines

Quality service

- Our highly experienced team understands your issues and what service delivery is
- We aim to tailor our responses to your needs
- We aim to provide linkages and referral to other government information relevant to your needs
- We promise to provide excellent service delivery standards through our third party service providers at all times















Confidentiality

We respect your confidentiality and ensure that we protect and keep your personal information safe and secure

Transparency

- We are open and transparent about our processes and procedures
- All our information is published and regularly updated on our website and notice boards
- We aim to provide consistent and clear information across our communication channels
- We will give you access to your personal information upon request

Professionalism

- Our business dealings with you will be conducted with integrity and honesty
- Our people will focus on helping you find solutions to your business needs
- Every customer is treated equally with courtesy and respect
- Our people will be accountable in their dealings with you















If you use our web services, you can expect:

- To contact us when and where it is convenient for you with social media and click to chat support for your added convenience
- The website to be easy to use, with intuitive navigations and customised content so you can quickly find what you need
- That you can access our information using any device, any time
- That if you sign up to receive our information, you will always have the option to unsubscribe.

If you call our Contact Centre on 061 290 3777 you can expect:

- To be able to contact us between 06:00 to 22:00 Monday to Friday and 08:00 to 13:00 on Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays, Limited services will be available after hours.
- To have your call answered promptly and professionally by greeting and introducing ourselves
- To have your voice mail messages responded to within one business day
- Our staff to be friendly, experienced and knowledgeable
- A high level of first contact resolution if not possible and the call needs to be transferred, the receiving person will be informed of the reason for your call before you are transferred













If you email or write to our Contact Centre, you can expect:

- To receive an immediate email confirmation with a reference number
- To have your email responded to within 48 hours of receipt with standard information
- To receive a written communication relating to City Business within 7 days of receipt of the email
- Written communication to be clear and concise
- Where possible, an expected completion date and details of the employee responsible for the response, should in-depth research or follow up be required that will take longer than 7 days

If you deal with us face-to-face through a walk in, you can expect:

- A welcoming and customer friendly environment you will be greeted within 2 minutes of arrival
- You will be guided to the correct counter for your particular need
- Punctual, well-organised and well-prepared staff however reasons for any delay will be explained
- To be escorted to your appointment
- To be attended to as soon as circumstances permit if you do not have an appointment













- To be referred to the relevant person if we are unable to assist at first contact

 in which case the person will be contacted to see if the customer can be
 accommodated immediately. If not possible, you will be given the opportunity to
 wait or make an appointment
- To be escorted to the relevant office or room



To allow us to help you, we expect you will:

- Give us information that is timely, accurate and complete
- Provide your name and current contact details and advise us if they change
- Be courteous, polite and respectful of the CoW employees
- Be open and honest and provide accurate and complete details when required
- Provide us with constructive feedback on our service so we can provide a better service
- Contact us if you believe we have made an error or acted inappropriately, and wish to make a complaint
- Provide us with the officer's name or reference number on correspondence sent to you

Feedback – compliments, complaints, suggestions

- We value your feedback
- Feedback includes compliments, complaints, suggestions or any information about our program delivery, services or performance
- You can provide feedback by telephone, email, SMS or walk in
- Should you have a complaint, we appreciate you providing us with the first opportunity to resolve it













- All people have the right to raise concerns and make legitimate complaints and expect that the issues raised will be handled in a fair, confidential and responsive manner, free from repercussion or prejudice
- Clearly explaining the issue and what you think should be done to fix it will assist us. Please include copies of any relevant documents. At the conclusion of a formal complaint, you will receive our response in writing
- If you are still not satisfied, you may ask for a review of our handling of the matter. The review process will determine if we acted according to our policies and auidelines

OUR SERVICE STANDARDS

In Person

We aim to resolve face-to-face enquiries immediately and when this is not possible, we will call or write to you with a response. We will also:

- Provide professional, polite and respectful service at all times
- Clearly identify ourselves verbally or using a name badge
- Be well presented















On the Telephone

We will answer calls promptly and try to resolve enquiries immediately. When your enquiry needs specialist attention, we will endeavour not to transfer your call more than once. We will also:

- Introduce ourselves using our name and the area in which we work
- Take personal ownership of your enquiry
- Closely monitor the amount of time you are on hold and advise you of any delays
- In the unlikely event we cannot respond to your call promptly, we undertake to respond to your enquiry within one working day

In Writing

 We will endeavour to resolve your enquiry within 10 working days, unless statutory provisions apply, and we will also:

Acknowledge your enquiry in writing within one working day

Our Promise to You

We the City of Windhoek Municipality promise to enforce and uphold our Customer Service Charter to the highest standard when assisting our customers and to keep to our principle, and that of all our employees, of "Customer First".













Customer Service Incident and Turnaround time

Prepared for: City of Windhoek Prepared by: Hasley Maswahu

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Overview

The Customer Service Incident and Turnaround Time Document for the City of Windhoek is a comprehensive reference guide designed to streamline customer service operations and enhance the satisfaction of residents and businesses within the municipality. This document outlines various incidents and service requests that are commonly reported or requested, along with the expected resolution times across different municipal departments and divisions. It serves as an essential resource for both municipal staff and citizens, ensuring the efficient management of service requests and incidents.













INCIDENT LIST AND TURNAROUND TIME

Department of Urban and Transport Planning		
Public Transport Division		
Category Incident Subcategory Incident		Turnaround time
	Delayed/no show buses	Immediate
	Route Queries	24 hours
	Bus tickets	Immediate
	Pension/Disability cards	Immediate
Bus Operations	Bus Fares	Immediate
	Bad driving habits	12 hours (The Division is currently installing tracking units in all bus fleet and vehicles
	Bus hire enquiries	24 hours











Planning & Control	Bus/ Taxi Network information	24 hours
Transport Planning, Design & Traffic Flow Division		
Transport Planning	Transport Planning Related Enquiries	7 days
Transport Planning	Non-Motorized Transport Related Enquiries	7 days
Flood Management	Flood Line Related Enquiries	7 days













	Road Safety Related Enquiries	24hours
	Traffic Calming Applications	7 days
	Congestion related Enquiries	48hours
	Application for yield / stop signs	7 days
	Traffic Lights related Enquiries	24hours
Traffic Flow:	Parking related Enquiries	7 days
Indine Flow.	Metered Parking Areas related Enquiries	7 days
	Erf access related Enquiries	7 days
	Road Closure related Enquiries	3 days
	Information Sign related Enquiries	7 days













Sustainable Development Division		
Township Establishment	Application for Subdivision and need and desirability enquiry	2 days
E- Planner System	Missing of Density and Zoning on erven within the newly proclaimed Township	5 days
E-Planner System	Street naming / renaming enquiry	2 days
E- Planner System	Wrong street name on erven within a newly proclaimed Township enquiry	2 days
Extended Boundary	Boundary extension related enquiry.	2 days
E-Planner System	Update of street names on E- Planner system	5 days











Urban Policy Division		
General town	Process, procedures, requirements for applications	48hours
planning inquiries	Town planning scheme, policies	48hours
	Application has been received	
Town Planning Application	Application is complete and will continue	Immediate/online
Progress	Application incomplete please contact CoW for details	













	Evaluation complete – application will serve on next TPC	
	Evaluation complete – application will serve on next Council	
	Application Resolution Notice sent to consultant	
	Application for rezoning scheduled for next Amendment Scheme – please pay betterment fee indicated in Council Resolution Notice	Immediate/online Immediate/ online
	Amendment Scheme completed and submitted to MURD	
	Amendment Scheme approved	
	Application for subdivision/consolidation can now be submitted to MURD	
Resident Occupation/ Shebeens Inquiries	process, procedures, requirements for applications	48hours













	Policy matter	48hours
Resident Occupation incl	Application has been received	Immediate -
	Application is complete and will continue	online
shebeens Application Progress	Application incomplete please contact CoW for details	













Department of Economic Development and Community Services		
Parks Division		
	Grave Reservations	Immediate
	Grave Location	Immediate
	Cemeteries Operating Hours	Immediate
	Erection of Tombstones	Immediate
Burials & Cremations	Cremation Enquiries	Immediate
	Wall of Remembrance	Immediate
	Childrens' Memorial Wall	Immediate
	Burial Bookings & Enquiries	Immediate
	Chapel Bookings & Enquiries	Immediate













	Public Open Space: ERF Applications	3 working days
	New facility development: Parks, Recreation & Cemeteries Enquiries	Immediate
Facility Development	Nursery Enquiries	Immediate
	Swimming Pool & Lapa: Enquiries & Bookings	Immediate
Recreation Section	Recreation Parks Enquiries	Immediate
	Playparks Enquiries	Immediate
	Public Open Spaces Bookings (Once off event)	Immediate
	City Parks Event Bookings & Enquiries	Immediate













Sport Section	Sports facilities: Enquiries & Bookings	Immediate
	Sports Events Enquiries	Immediate
Facility Maintenance West	Horticultural & Terrain Maintenance/Playpark Equipment Enquiries	Immediate
Facility Maintenance East	Horticultural & Terrain Maintenance/Playpark Equipment Enquiries	Immediate
	Bush Control on public open spaces	48 hours
Logistic Section	Street Trees	24 hours
	Irrigation of Municipal facilities	24 hours











Weed Control Physical	Cutting of grass on traffic islands and street corners to ensure proper vision to motorist.	7 days
	Cutting of problematic trees on public open space/street	7 days
	Spraying of problematic / invader trees	7 days
Weed Control Chemical	Spraying of grasses on paved areas on traffic island	7 days
Administration Support	General Enquiries Parks Division	Immediate













Economic Development Division		
	Availability of stalls-Markets	When stalls become vacant it takes about 3-4 weeks to complete the entire process leading to the advertising of vacant stalls in the newspaper.
	Food Carts	Three weeks at most
Markets	Braai Permits	Daily
	Availability of stalls-Industrial Stalls	When stalls become vacant it takes about 3-4 weeks to complete the entire process leading to the advertising of vacant stalls in the newspaper.
Industrial Stalls	Availability of stalls-Bokamoso Entrepreneurial Centre	When stalls become vacant it takes about 3-4 weeks to complete the entire process leading to the advertising of vacant stalls in the newspaper.
	Training Programs	Monthly











Outdoor Advertising	Outdoor Advertising Signage / Billboard application enquiries	2 working days
	Outdoor Advertising Bookings (A-frame Trailers, Posters, Banner across Independence Avenue)	2 working days
	Outdoor Advertising Signage Estate Agents' Boards	2 working days
	Illegal Outdoor Advertising Signage	2 working days
	Outdoor Advertising Tariffs/ Fees/Costs/Prices	2 working days













Investment Promotion and Facilitation	Investment Promotion Inquiries	7 working days
	Available Investment Opportunities in Windhoek	7 working days
	Joint Ventures	3 working days
	Commercial/Business Trading space (Not stalls)	3 working days
Research and Information Management	Economic data/statistics/ demographics	10 working days
	Special Projects	7 working days















BUILDING CONTROL DIVISION:		
Building Permits - Tracking	Building plan received,	
	Building plan assigned to scrutinizer,	Immediate - Online
	Building plan circulated for comments,	
	Post card issued	
	Building plan collected for correction,	
	Building plan resubmitted after correction,	
	Building permit issued,	
	Building permit collected.	
Building Inspections	Request for inspection	Immediate - Online
	Inspection report	Tittittealale - Otillhe













Compliance Certificates	Request for compliance inspection	Immediate - Online
	Inspection Report,	
	Copies of building plans	
	Application for copies received	24 hours
Duplicate Documents	Copies done and ready for collection.	
	Building related enquiries.	24hours
	Report illegal building activities	Immediately/On detection













Disaster Risk Management		
	Operations	
	Building Fire	7-13 mins
	House Fire	7-13 mins
	Informal Dwelling Fire	7-13 mins
	Vehicle Fire	7-13 mins
Fire	Truck Fire	7-13 mins
	Aircraft Fire	7-13 mins
	Electrical Fire	7-13 mins
	Thatch Roof Fire	7-13 mins
	Tyre Fire	7-13 mins
	Gas Bottle Fire	7-13 mins
	Rubbish/Dumpsite Fire	7-13 mins
	Grass Fire	7-13 mins
THE RESERVE OF THE RE	Tree Fire	7-13 mins
	Fire Investigation	7-13 mins













	LMVR (Light Motor Vehicle Rescue)	7-13 mins
	HMVR(Heavy Motor Vehicle Rescue) Trucks	7-13 mins
	Confined Space Rescue	7-13 mins
	Structural Collapse	7-13 mins
Rescue	Trench Rescue	7-13 mins
kescue	High Angle Rescue (Ropework)	7-13 mins
	Swift Water Rescue	7-13 mins
	Industrial & Agricultural Rescue	7-13 mins
	Train Rescue	7-13 mins
	Aircraft Rescue	7-13 mins











	Forcible Entry	7-13 mins
0	Flags	7-13 mins
Special Service	Animal Rescue	7-13 mins
	Pressure Test	7-13 mins
Hazardous Materials	Hazmat Rescue (Patient Removal)	7-13 mins
(Hazmat)	Scene Mitigation (Evacuation & Containment)	7-13 mins













	Gunshot	7-13 mins
	Unconscious Patient	7-13 mins
	Asthma	7-13 mins
	Diabetic	7-13 mins
	Assault	7-13 mins
Ambulance	Cardiac Failure (Heart Attack)	7-13 mins
	Epilepsy	7-13 mins
	Pedestrian Accident	7-13 mins
	Stroke (CVA)	7-13 mins
	Overdose	7-13 mins











Training			
	Fire Extinguisher Course	Booking availability	
Fire & Rescue	Motor Vehicle Rescue & Extrication	Booking availability	
	Emergency Care Practitioner - Basic	Booking availability	
	First Aid	Booking availability	
Logistics			
Account Query	Ambulance	24 Hours	
Account Query	Fire	24 Hours	
	Fire Prevention		
	School Visits	Booking availability	
Public Education	Compliance Inspections	Booking availability	
	Completion Fire Safety Inspections	Booking availability	













Department of Finance & Customer Service		
	Wrong disconnection of water/ electricity	24 hours
	Transfer credit balance on final accounts	24 hours
	Pre-paid electricity meter blocked	24 hours
Debt and Risk Management	Payment negotiation/ arrangement	Face to face/ immediate
	Refund on credit balances on final accounts	Once monthly
	Query disconnection fee	24 hours
	Query reconnection	48 hours convent
	Water/ Electricity reconnection	48 hours
	Water/electricity not yet reconnected after payment	48 hours
	Loan Balance	24 hours
	Query on repayment period of loan	24 hours











	Interest on vacant land/purchase	24 Hours
	Ambulance accounts	24 Hours
	Recoupable services	24 hours
Revenue Management	Transfer of wrong payments	1 to 5 working days
	Allocation of payments	1 to 5 working days
	Refund on credit balances on active accounts	31 working days













	Application for MCB changes	21 days
	Application for testing	21 days
	Correction of accounts/journals	Two (2) Weeks
	Incorrect tariff charged	Two (2) Weeks
Client accounts	Clearance on departmental accounts	24 hours
	Percentage of annual tariffs	24 hours
	Back charges	24 hours
	Water/electricity consumption & basic	24 hours
	Confirm Readings	24 hours
	Wrong Readings	One (1) week
Meter Management	Leakage Rebate	3-6 Months
	Stuck Meter charge calculations	Two (2) Weeks











SMS registrations	Immediate
SMS readings	Immediate
Interim charges	Immediate
Connection	48 hours
Disconnections	24 hours
Report unauthorized reconnections	24 hours
Crossed/ swapped meters	24 hours













	Statement Not received	24-48 hours
	High consumption	24-48 hours
	Balance on statements	24-48 hours
	Mailing Address changes	24-48 hours
	Clarification on calculations and charges	24-48 hours
	Duplicate statement request	24-48 hours
Contact Centre	Clarification of charges	24-48 hours
	Back charges	24-48 hours
	Calculation methods	24-48 hours
	Duplicate statements charges	24-48 hours
	Final accounts	24-48 hours
	Interest charges	24-48 hours













Department of Infrastructure, Water & Technical Services			
Bulk Water & Wastewater Division			
	Water pipe burst	Immediate	
	Supply Interruption	Immediate	
	Pressure hydrant leak	24 Hours	
	Valve leak	24 Hours	
	Pipe burst	Immediate	
Water	Tap malfunction	Immediate	
Waler	Water quality (discoloration, odor, taste complaints)	24 Hours	
	New water connection	24 Hours	
	Water line relocation	24 Hours	
	Water line vandalism	Immediate	
13000	Large & multiple water meter installation	24 Hours	
	Trenches & backfilling	24 Hours	













	Overflow	24 Hours
	Blocked	24 Hours
	Faull smell	24 Hours
	Combined sewer blockage (when there is a line linking 3/4 houses and a manhole is in only one yard)	24 Hours
Sewer	Sewer line/manhole relocation	1-2 Weeks
	Sewer line/manhole vandalism	1-2 Weeks
	Septic tank (conservancy tanks) emptying	Immediate
	Mobile toilet request	24 Hours
	New/existing sewer connection	













	Meter Leak	24 Hours
Conventional & Prepaid Meters	Stop Tap/Lock Valve	24 Hours
	Stuck Meter	1-2 Weeks
	Meter leakage	24 Hours
	Ballcock Malfunctioning	24 Hours
	Damaged Meter	Immediate
	New Installation of residential meters	1-2 Weeks
	Water running	3 Hours
	Meter not dispensing water (Yard meter) Mete Blocked	er Immediate
	Meter not dispensing water (Communal)	Immediate











	Meter leak	24 Hours
Prepaid Meters	Not dispensing water	Immediate
	Tap damaged	Immediate
	Hardware errors	Immediate
	Software errors	Immediate
Roads and Stormwater Division		
Pipe burst	Reinstatement of Interlocks and Road surface	1 Week
Potholes	Repair Potholes	3 Days
River Bed	Clean River bed	A Week
Stormwater Systems	Clean Stormwater Systems	1 Week
Gravel Roads	Grading of gravel Roads	3 Days
Stormwater Systems	Replacement of Catchpit Covers	3 Days
MVA	Clean Accident Sites	Immediately











Solid Waste Division		
Disposal drums	Lost/broken drums	2 Days
Waste Removal Illegal Dumping Removal of building rubble/Garden Refuse Cleaning of road surfaces (sweeping tared roads)	Household Refuse Removal	1 Day
	Business Refuse Removal	1 Day
	Emptying of orange skip containers	1 Week
	Reporting of illegal dumping activities	1 Week
	Cleaning of illegal dumping areas	1 Week
	Requesting for No Dumping Signs	1 Week
	Removal building rubble/Garden refuse	4 Days
	Street Sweeping	3 Days
	Litter Picking	1 Day
	Catch Pits Cleaning	2 Days











	Registration as Medical waste generator	2 Days
	Registration as Transporter	2 Days
	Account Query	1 Day
	Destruction Certificate Inquiry	1 Day
	General Enquiries	1 Day
	Visit to Facility (Schools, Public)	1 Day
Health Care Risk Waste	Treatment Inquiry	1 Day
	Waste Segregation	1 Day
	Request for Tyres	2 Days
Garden Refuse & Building Rubble Sites	Request for Wood Chippings	2 Days
(Satellite Sites)	Request for recyclables	2 Days
	Disposal Inquiry	1 Day
Kupferberg Landfill	Disposal Charges/Billing query	
Site		1 Day













Department of Electricity		
Network Operations and Maintenance		
	Area Power Failure	180 min
Power Off	Broken Overhead line	180 min
	Individual Power off	120 min
	Bumped streetlight	24 hours
Streetlight	Bulb-Off/Flickering	5 days
	Bulb on during day	24 hours
Robots	Bumped	24 hours
RODOIS	Off/Flickering/faulty	24 hours
Ripple	Faulty ripple	180 min
Rippie	Send reset signal	30 min
Meter faults	Faulty prepaid Meter	180 min
Meler Iddiis	Conventional Meter	180 min
Reconnection	Nonpayment cut off	48 hours
Vending	Electricity Vending off	3 hours











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