



## **Economic Digest 25**

**28<sup>th</sup> October, 2021**

### **Local Government Elections 2021**

We are asked to participate in our democracy by casting our vote in the local government elections on 1 November. Many will be wondering what the fuss is all about, who to vote for, and who the candidates are in our wards. Hopefully the articles below can shed some light.

#### **Local government elections: What will you really be voting for?**

“In the local sphere, municipal politicians and officials in equal measure have a massive obligation to correct local government. They need to ensure that voters do not waste their votes on municipalities that are expensive, corrupt and, in effect, inept municipal toy telephones.”

<https://tinyurl.com/w689x7sc>

#### **How your vote counts**

“Why are Mayoral candidates campaigning, when you don’t get to elect a Mayor? Why do some ward councillor candidates stand for election in several wards? And what do you mean my vote counts more than once?” How exactly are the votes calculated?

<https://tinyurl.com/nnaruxeh>

#### **Too much service delivery is killing SA’s democracy**

“Citizens want a meaningful say in how they are governed, not local government that foists on them what it has decided the people need”.

<https://tinyurl.com/npp6u8pa>

#### **Who are the candidates in your ward?**

A new online tool has been released to help voters familiarise themselves with the candidates vying for their votes, whether as party members or independently.

<https://mycandidate.opencitieslab.org/>

## **Democratic degeneration**

“As we head towards the local government elections on 1 November, the collapse of the emancipatory visions of the past is painfully evident. There was a time when, adopting some of the rhetoric of grassroots democracy that marked the United Democratic Front at its best, it was widely thought that local government would be where a socially committed democracy gained real traction.”

<https://www.newframe.com/democratic-degeneration/>

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**Kenny Pasensie**  
**Project Co-ordinator**  
[kenny@cplo.org.za](mailto:kenny@cplo.org.za)

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