

## Jacky Smith

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**From:** Lizell Kilowan on behalf of Speaker  
**Sent:** Monday, 13 April 2026 09:51  
**To:** TWK Budget; Jacky Smith; Ashwille Riddles  
**Subject:** FW: Formal submission on the Draft Budget 2026/2027 insofar as it concerns Riviersonderend  
**Attachments:** 2026\_TWK \_ Draft Budget\_Draft Budget Item\_2027\_31 March 2026.pdf

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**From:** Diane Bell <[drbell2901@gmail.com](mailto:drbell2901@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, 12 April 2026 09:12  
**To:** Municipal Manager <[mm@twk.gov.za](mailto:mm@twk.gov.za)>; Annette Swart <[AnnetteSw@twk.gov.za](mailto:AnnetteSw@twk.gov.za)>; Speaker <[speaker@twk.gov.za](mailto:speaker@twk.gov.za)>; Executive Mayor - TWK Municipality <[Mayor@twk.gov.za](mailto:Mayor@twk.gov.za)>  
**Cc:** Anton.Bredell@westerncape.gov.za  
**Subject:** Formal submission on the Draft Budget 2026/2027 insofar as it concerns Riviersonderend

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Dear Executive Mayor, Speaker, Municipal Manager and Chief Financial Officer

I write to submit this formal representation on the Theewaterskloof Draft Budget 2026/2027, specifically insofar as it affects Riviersonderend.

Having considered the draft budget, I note that the proposed capital budget for 2026/2027 is materially lower than the adjusted capital budget for 2025/2026. In those circumstances, it is particularly important that the basis for town-level allocations be clearly set out and properly explained so that residents are able to assess the budget in a meaningful and informed manner.

The Capital per Town 2026–2027 table reflects an allocation of R6,214,838 to Riviersonderend, representing 15% of the total capital budget. While the table sets out the allocations across the various towns and categories, the draft budget does not, on its face, sufficiently explain the basis on which the allocation to Riviersonderend has been determined relative to the allocations made elsewhere. Without that explanation, residents are not properly placed to assess whether the allocation adequately reflects local infrastructure requirements, service delivery pressures, compliance-related needs, or other relevant municipal priorities.

I further note that the project schedule reflects “Upgrading RSE WTP” as a significant medium-term project for Riviersonderend. That investment is noted and welcomed. However, the same schedule also refers to “Upgrade of RSE Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) Phase 1”, yet no amount is reflected in the visible budget columns for that item in the draft table. I accordingly request specific clarification as to whether that project is funded elsewhere in the budget, deferred to a later financial year, or not budgeted for in 2026/2027.

In addition, the budget narrative records that Caledon has a licensed waste site, while Genadendal, Greyton and Riviersonderend are recorded as “not permitted yet”. This raises a further concern in relation to Riviersonderend, as the draft budget does not clearly identify what funded remedial, compliance-related, or operational steps are intended to address that position.

My concerns may therefore be summarised as follows:

1. The draft budget does not adequately explain how the capital allocation to Riviersonderend was determined.
2. It is unclear from the visible draft tables what provision, if any, has been made for the Upgrade of RSE Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) Phase 1 project in 2026/2027.
3. The draft budget does not clearly indicate what funded steps are planned to address the waste-site permitting position in Riviersonderend.

In the circumstances, I respectfully request that, before the final budget is adopted by Council, the Municipality provide:

1. A clear written explanation of how the capital allocation to Riviersonderend was determined.
2. Clarification on the budget status of the Upgrade of RSE Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) Phase 1 project.
3. A town-specific explanation of what projects and funding are intended to address Riviersonderend's waste-site permitting position.
4. Any further information necessary to enable the public, and Riviersonderend residents in particular, to assess whether the draft budget fairly and adequately provides for the town's identified needs.

I further record that I have copied Minister Anton Bredell, Western Cape Minister of Local Government, for purposes of provincial oversight.

I request that this submission be formally recorded as part of the public participation process on the Draft Budget 2026/2027 and be placed before Council for consideration prior to the adoption of the final budget.

Yours faithfully

Professor Diane Bell

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