

1 Harare

Power cuts increase... as ZESA warns of prolonged power blackouts

The ZESA load shedding program has plunged most of Harare's suburbs into darkness. Areas like Budiriro ,Glen Norah, Glenview,Mabvuku ,Avondale, Houghton Park and Highfields were getting electricity for less than 6 hours for the past week. Residents have been using firewood and this has promoted illegal cutting down of trees. Water supply has improved in Harare however in New Mabvuku some areas continue to experience perennial dry spells. These include the New Stands area opposite Circle Cement and near Don Brooke Road. The information below gives a brief description of the condition of service delivery in some of Harare's suburbs .

Mabvuku –Tafara

Electricity black outs have increased in areas like Chizhanje ,Old and New Mabvuku .The power cuts are occurring on a daily basis from 5am to 9pm at night .Refuse collection has commenced in Tafara however some dumpsites are yet to be cleared for example the dumpsite at Kamunhu shopping centre .

There were water cuts on Tuesday from 10am to 5pm in New Mabvuku. The Typhoid outbreak is now under control as many organisations like UNICEF and OXFAM have come to the rescue.

*Join the anti-typhoid campaign.
Practice hygiene. Wash your hands
after visiting the toilet, buy food from
approved retail outlets, boil your water
or use aqua tabs before drinking, share
this information with your neighbours.*

Waterfalls

During the past week the Derbyshire area experienced water cuts on Tuesday and Wednesday from 6pm to 10am. When the water was finally available for the first 30 minutes it contained some rusty particles. Power cuts have been occurring on a daily basis for not more than 5 hours in areas like Uptown and Zindoga. Refuse is being collected after every 2 weeks.

City centre

Clean water was gushing out from a burst pipe at Corner 3rd Street and Fife Avenue.

Mudzi

Residents of Mudzi especially those residing at the Kotwa Growth Point are experiencing water challenges. The area had a dry spell for the whole of the past week. The single borehole in the area was not enough to cater for the high demand for water. The Kotwa Rural District Council was conducting water disconnections for outstanding bills but the MP for the constituency, Honourable Kachepa , intervened and the Council stopped the exercise. Water bills are ranging between \$30 and \$50.

Electricity is also a challenge in the area. The power cuts are systematic whereby on Monday there is no electricity from 4am to around 2 pm in the afternoon ,on Tuesdays there is electricity the whole day and on Wednesdays there is no electricity from 5am to 8pm. Politics is affecting Council business and every decision tumbles down to ones political affiliation There are 18 Councillors in the area .

There are also allegations to the effect that MDC Councillors were not getting sitting allowances and only the ZANU PF Councillors were getting sitting allowances .

2 The reason for such a setup was that the money was coming from the ZANU PF party. The Councillors are also involved in corrupt activities whereby they are allocating Stands on a political affiliation basis.

Marondera

Water cuts occur on a daily basis in areas like Nyameni and Yellow City for 6 to 8 hours. The water bills are ranging from \$20 to \$50 in high density areas and in low density areas the bills are ranging from \$30 to \$100. The Council is disconnecting water for non payment in Ruvimbo. The Council has justified its actions by pointing out that its workers have gone for 7 months without a salary. Residents have argued that they can not pay for a service that is sub standard and at times non existent.

Power cuts are also occurring in areas like Cherutombo and Cherima on a daily basis from 5am in the morning to 5PM. The bills are ranging from \$40 to \$60

Chinhoyi

The Town is experiencing serious problems in as far as service delivery is concerned. Water cuts occur on a daily basis except on Saturdays. Effected suburbs include Hunyani, Cold Stream and Chikonohono. The water cuts occur from 10 am to 6pm. Residents have raised concerns over the quality of the water as it contains visible black particles. Residents sometimes have to spend several hours in long queues to get water from the few boreholes in the town. There is only 1 borehole in each of the following suburbs; Chikonohono, Wide City and Ruvimbo. At times residents go to fetch water from septic tanks in Hunyani.

Places like Chikonohono, Muzari 1 and Extension have been experiencing electricity black outs for the past week. On Monday there was no electricity the whole day and on Tuesday there was no electricity from 6am to 2pm and from 5pm to 10pm. In the Town Centre there was no electricity on Friday for the whole day and on Saturday there was no electricity from 9am to 12pm.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*The marvel of all history is the patience with which men and women submit themselves to burdens unnecessarily laid upon them by their governments
(William H. Borah)*

CHRA is the Secretariat of the National Residents Associations Consultative Forum (NRACF). The Association is committed to advocating for good and transparent local governance as well lobbying for quality and affordable municipal services on a non partisan basis.