



INDEPENDENT RATEPAYER ASSOCIATION OF S A (IRASA) and GARDEN ROUTE First (GR First) 2026 Local Election Alliance



The guardians of effective, efficient, transparent, and accountable local government.



Putting People First through transparent, inclusive, independent governance.

OUR SHARED VISION

We envision a Garden Route that is **Revitalised, Reimagined, and Regenerated**. We reject the dominance of traditional party-political structures that place "party bosses" above the people. Our alliance combines **IRASA's** national track record as the "watchdog of municipal finance" with **GR FIRST's** regional expertise in sustainable community stewardship.

Our Promise: A vote for this alliance is a vote for yourself. We are not politicians; we are ratepayers and residents like you.

THE FIVE PILLARS OF OUR MANDATE

I. Financial Integrity & Value for Money

We act as the "Guardians of the MFMA" (Municipal Finance Management Act).

- **Abolish Waste:** We will spearhead the fight against corruption, wasteful, and fruitless expenditure.
- **Fair Tariffs:** We demand value for money, fair rates, affordable electricity, and safe drinking water.

Audit Accountability: We will ensure municipal finances are managed in a transparent and accountable manner, moving beyond "clean audits" to "clean service delivery".

II. Infrastructure & Service Excellence

Service delivery has collapsed under political rhetoric; we bring technical action.

- **Refurbishment First:** We prioritise the maintenance and renewal of existing infrastructure (roads, water, and sanitation) before approving new capital expansion.
- **Water Security:** We treat water as a fundamental right, ensuring quality safe drinking water through infrastructure readiness and environmental resilience.

V. Safety & Social Well-Being

- **Co-Governance:** We will institutionalise ward-based forums and participatory budgeting so you decide how your money is spent.
- **Safe Communities:** We will establish formal safety partnerships with SAPS, law enforcement, and neighbourhood watches to protect the vulnerable.

III. Independent, Non-Partisan Governance

We are de-politicising local government.

- **Community Loyalty:** Our councillors are loyal to the residents, not a political party line.
- **Merit-Based Appointments:** We demand that municipal appointments be based on qualifications and competence, ending the era of "cadre deployment".

Local Autonomy: Decisions affecting the Garden Route will be made in the Garden Route, not in national party head offices.

IV. Sustainable Growth & Stewardship

We ensure that development does not compromise the rights of future generations.

- **Carrying Capacity:** We will not approve land use expansion that exceeds the limits of water supply or infrastructure readiness.
- **Environmental Care:** We commit to protecting biodiversity, ecological corridors, and green spaces as a binding governance ethic.

HOW TO VOTE ON 4 NOVEMBER

To ensure this independent oversight, you must vote for **IRASA** (the alliance) on **all ballots**:

- **Ward Ballot:** For **IRASA** your vetted local GR FIRST candidate.
- **Proportional Representative Ballot (Yellow):** For **IRASA** to secure the "Watchdog" presence in the Council.
- **District Ballot (Green):** For **IRASA** to ensure regional coordination across the Garden Route.

VOTE



Have a **GR First**
Councillor
represent you