

## Library and Archive Services

Community library and Information Services are rendered in partnership by municipalities. The Directorate Library and Archival Services are responsible for developing and providing the policy and operational framework for Libraries and archival services in the province. The municipalities are responsible for the operation of libraries.

Library Services strengthens community library services by providing funding for information resources, public access to information communication technology, reading awareness programmes, infrastructure development and training programmes. It aims to inculcate a culture of reading, critical thinking and life-long learning in all communities of Gauteng. Community libraries focus on programmes that enhance social cohesion and thereby contribute to the socio-economic development of communities.

All libraries provide strong educational support to learners and students in terms of resources, study space and literacy assistance.

There are 233 community libraries in Gauteng. Library and reading outreach services and programmes are also run from the community libraries to satellite services in old age homes, day care centres, prisons, hospitals and places of safety.

## Archives and Records Management

The overall aim of this service is to provide an archival and records management for the Gauteng Government departments and municipalities. This is accomplished by developing a legal and operational framework, assessing records, assisting in systematic disposal of records, advising on policy and procedure, and approving file plans and manuals for record management.

## Information Resources

Municipalities receive funds for new information from the Department. This includes the purchase of new information resources, subscriptions to periodicals and newspapers, and children's books. Books in indigenous languages are available at all libraries.

## Information and Communication Technology

The Directorate transfers funds to municipal library services to strengthen their information and communication technology infrastructure programmes and thereby enabling them to provide free access to internet services and computers.

This service enables unemployed youth to search and apply for jobs and bursaries online.

## Infrastructure and access

Library Services introduced alternative models of service delivery to increase access to these services. Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality officially launched two mobile library buses that render library services to areas without libraries.

The Department also introduced modular/container libraries to address the challenge of access to library services in certain areas, especially informal settlements.