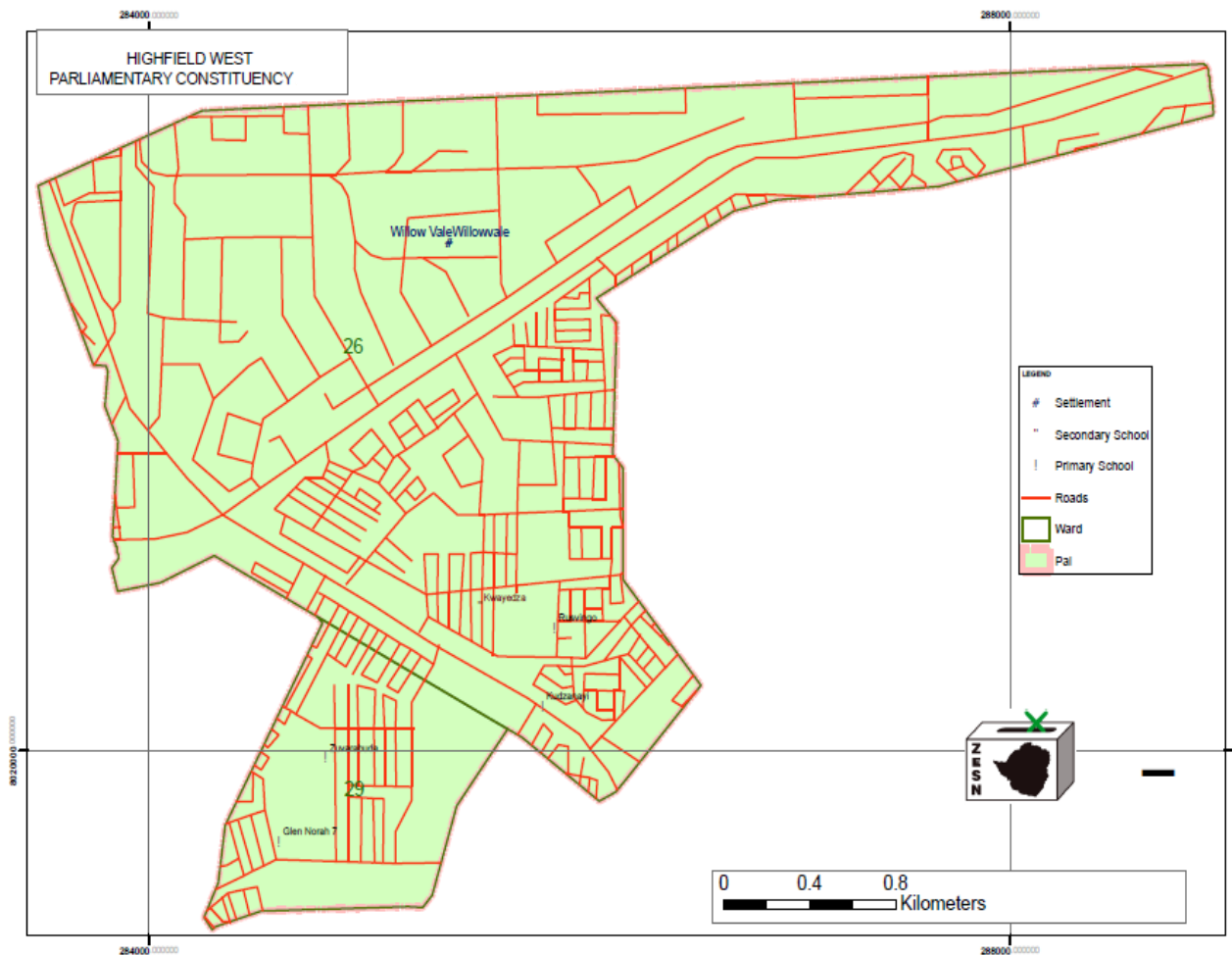


Zimbabwe Election Support Network



CONSTITUENCY PROFILE

Highfield West Constituency



1. Introduction

Comprising of two Wards 26 and 29. The constituency covers Willowvale, High Glen, and Glen Eagles Road up to Harare Drive northwards. It was created in 2005 from the bigger Highfields. Historically, it is known for its activism and prominent people include among others President Mugabe, the late Abel Muzorewa and many other nationalist fighters. The infrastructure in the constituency is old and the road network infested with potholes, social service delivery just like the majority of constituencies in Zimbabwe is in a deplorable state.

2. Population and demographics

Highfield in general has remained a poor suburb despite the regeneration in other areas after 1980. Most of its successful residents choose to move out of the area (in a similar pattern to other high-density areas) rather than invest and set up in the area. It also remains a primary destination (like most high-density areas in Zimbabwe) for rural to urban migrants, who find it easier to pay for accommodation here and commute to work. They are also attracted by the easier opportunities to start up home businesses/industries at Machipisa and Gazaland Home Industry areas. It thus remains heavily populated, with high unemployment and is socially deprived. Petty crime is high as well as more serious crimes like burglaries.

3. Previous Election Results

Hon Moses Manyengavana was the representative in the House of Assembly on an MDC ticket. The MDC since the formation of the party and delimitation won the constituency from 2000 thus it has been represented by the Movement for Democratic Change. The constituency voted for MDC since 2000, 2005, 2008 retained this constituency in the Harmonized elections of 2013.

Year	Candidate	Political Party	Votes
2013	Dhliwayo Glen	Independent	67
	Juta Emmanuel	ZANU-PF	2,639

	Manyengawana Moses	MDC-T	6,825
	Putire Sekayi	ZANU Ndonga	31
	Zengeni Miriam	MDC	813
2008	Chiyangwa Charles	ZPPD	74
	Hove Rusvuke Simon	MDC T	7,5329
	Kuchekwa Kizito	ZANU-PF	1,328
	Priscilla Misiharambwi	MDC	907
	Mushonga		

4. Background and legal framework

The Highfield West by-election will be held on the 10th of June 2015. The seat fell vacant following the dismissal of the Hon Moses Manyengavana from Member of Parliament by MDC-T, after joining the splinter group MDC Renewal and there after joining the formation of the UMDC and was subsequently recalled from Parliament. The Constitution of Zimbabwe, Section 129 (1) (k) the seat of a Member of Parliament becomes vacant if the member ceases to belong to the political party of which he or she was a member when elected to Parliament. In accordance with the Electoral Act, Section 39 (2) the President proclaimed the date of the 16th of April 2015 as the date for nomination court and election on the 10th June 2015.

5. Registered voters

As of 2008, the constituency had a total of 26278¹ registered voters and in 2013, RAU maintained that the “constituency voter’s numbers is more or less than constitutional limits for delimitation at 23182”². Currently ZEC is registering voters at the six (6) centres around the Constituency. The process started on the 22nd of April and ended on the 28th of April.

6. Primary Elections

¹ 2008 ZEC Delimitation Report and ZESN: A Profile of Constituencies; Understanding elections in Zimbabwe

² <http://www.politicsweb.co.za/news-and-analysis/zimbabwes-voters-roll-an-analysis--rau>

Zanu-PF has conducted primary elections on Saturday the 11th of April in eight constituencies in Harare, Midlands and Manicaland and has announced candidates who will represent the party in the by-elections set for June 10. In Highfield West, Psychology Maziwisa won the ticket after polling 840 votes.

Candidate	
Psychology Maziwisa	840
Emmanuel Juta	270
Alexandra Matafi	200
Nobert Chikumbo	34
Regis Muguva	23

7. Nomination Process

In view of the By-elections to be held on the 10th of June 2015, the Nomination court set on the 16th of April 2015 at 10am in Harare to consider submissions for Highfield West and other constituencies in Harare Metropolitan Province at Rotten Row Magistrate Courts. Highfield West is among the constituencies that President Mugabe declared 14 house of assembly seats vacant and proclaimed the by-elections to be held on the 10th June 2015, the President made the proclamation in terms of Section 129 (1)(K) of the Constitution of Zimbabwe.

Successful Candidates

Constituency	Party Name	Candidate
HIGHFIELD WEST	ZANU PF	Psychology Maziwisa
	MKD	Weston Saruwaka
	TZ	Kudakwashe Makuwe
	PIMZ	Onita Jena
	PDZ	Godfrey Jena
	FFP	Shadreck Nyanganya

	DARE Independent Independent	Brian Shamhu Emmanuel T Dzumbunu Tashinga T P Chadamoyo
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8. Voter Registration and Voter Education

ZEC is currently engaged in Voter registration which is an essential and indisputable exercise. It is the essential to any election in a democratic society and the ability to exercise the democratic right to vote is premised on the existence of a comprehensive, credible, complete, current, accurate, inclusive and dependable voters' roll, irrespective of the electoral system applied. ZEC intends to conduct voter education voter education as from the 21st to the 28th of April 2015. The programme was extended to the 29th of April. Voter education and voter registration will run concurrently although voter education has been carried differently from what transpired in Chirumanzu-Zibagwe and Mt Darwin owing to funding constraints. Voter education should run in phases- pre nomination, post nomination, and polling voter education and in some cases post polling.

9. Conclusion

ZESN continues to promote democratic elections and therefore urges candidates and parties to respect the right to vote and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Constitution of Zimbabwe.