

No date yet to fix city school

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THERE'S still no resolution on which government department will shoulder the responsibility for the repairs to the dilapidated school building at Russell High School.

The Witness reported on July 17 that the building, which is classified as a historic monument protected by Amafa Heritage KZN, posed "grave danger" to the pupils and teachers as parts of the roof is on the verge of collapsing.

Jaco van der Merwe, an attorney representing the school, said he sent a letter to Amafa on July 20 calling for confirmation that a formal dispute has been declared in terms of the Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act. He has not received a formal response.

"I have, however, spoken to an official at Amafa who has confirmed that the dispute documents have been prepared and [were supposed to be] signed off [on Monday afternoon].

"A dispute will be declared with both the Department of Public Works and the Department of Education," he said.

The dispute document is set to be delivered to both departments within the next few days.

Van der Merwe said the formal dispute would determine who was ultimately responsible to repair the heritage building.

If the matter is still not resolved they would have to go to court.

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