



The dilapidated buildings on the property.

Plans for problem property

THE malignant property at 230 Currie Road has been adopted by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) from the Department of Public Works with the intention of developing a Durban district office.

Ward councillor Chris Pappas notes, "the crumbling buildings and poorly maintained property are an eyesore, a potential hiding spot for

criminals and more recently a target for land invasion. Restoring the property to a usable and maintained state will only benefit the local community. I am excited that the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development has started its work on taking over the property. Signage around the property has already preempted their arrival."

Sharon Diedericks, Director

of Asset Management, said the intention was to use the property as the DARD eThekweni District Office, which may also include the operation of a much-needed State Veterinarian office. Adding that, "the entire property requires extensive renovations. The renovations of the property were approved on the departmental infrastructure plan and was handed

over to the Department of Public Works to implement. This will be a multi-year project."

In the meantime, two short term interim projects are planned for the property while awaiting the major renovations. Durban Botanic Gardens will provide consultation as the property will be cleared of alien invasive plants while the area is tidied.