

# R13m to keep records safe

**By MBULELO SISULU**

EASTERN Cape Public Works MEC Pemmy Majodina officially opened a R13 million registry office in East London on Friday.

Majodina said registry offices are important to manage records. The department has to make sure sensitive documents and files are kept safely and are easily accessible.

“The Records Management Act says documents must be kept for 10-20 years.

“The department found fire could easily spread through buildings in the region and the registry office became a priority.”

A small business was contracted to manage the project, including the specialist work. A quantity surveying graduate and student were appointed.

The work involved reinforcing bases and the creation of concrete columns and beams to support the first floor.

The roof was corrugated iron. Outside walls featured aluminium shopfronts, while the inside walls were plastered and painted. The floors were covered in ceramic tiles and carpets.

The building has a waterborne sewer, water supplies, as well as mechanical and electrical installations. External work included paving and stormwater management.

“We built this building so we don’t find ourselves swallowed by fire, because we don’t have space to archive documents.

“We must access documents without problems,” Majodina said.