

Floor collapse drama

Public works orders probe

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The public works department in Durban has ordered an investigation into what caused the floor of one of its buildings to cave in yesterday.

The incident happened before a human settlements department tender briefing for a large group

of contractors.

Department spokesperson Kiru Naidoo said a small section of the wooden floor gave way in a pre-fab building within the public works complex in Mayville that was used “infrequently”. He said no injuries were reported.

“The head of department has ordered that the building be shut down and that an investigation be conducted by an internal team comprising engineers and architects,” Naidoo added.

A Durban man, who asked not to be identified, said he received a frantic call from his wife, who was at the briefing.

“My wife called me to say the briefing hadn’t started and that there were about several hundred people who were just about to enter the room when the floor collapsed.

“I am not sure about the extent of her injuries, but I am on my way there and I will take her to the hospital to make sure she is OK,” he said.