

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 05 October 2022 08:48  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

Morning [REDACTED],

Thank you for the email.

I hope you enjoyed your time off.

I am afraid I am on annual leave from Friday 7<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>.

I have attached some documentation linked to this project / risk (I am unsure what has been shared to this point).

The SFRS AB is only for internal use within the service.

Happy to catch up on my return to work on the production of a letter to send out. This majority of information will be extracted from the documentation attached.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED] | Station Commander | Prevention and Protection | Deputy Head of Fire Safety Enforcement | Scottish Fire and Rescue Service | [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 04 October 2022 18:28  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of SFRS. Do not click links or open attachments unless you are certain the email is genuine and know the content is safe.

[REDACTED]  
Just to let you know that I am back from annual leave but tied up all this week. What is your availability for a chat next week and I'll set up a teams meeting.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]  
**Head of Fire and Structure**

**Scottish Government - Building Standards Division**  
**Denholm House**  
**Almondvale Business Park**  
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**From:** [REDACTED] **Sent:** 14 September 2022 18:11

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

No problem [REDACTED]. I am on leave from 21 Sept to 3<sup>rd</sup> October and can catch up with [REDACTED] then.

[REDACTED]  
**Head of Fire and Structure**  
**Scottish Government - Building Standards Division**  
**Denholm House**  
**Almondvale Business Park**  
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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 14 September 2022 14:00

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

Classification: **Unclassified**

Hi [REDACTED]

We are in the process of drafting letter and all going well it will be with you by the end of the week.

I have passed over the reins of the group to my colleague, Station Commander [REDACTED] (cc'd in) who would like a catch up with you at some point.

Thanks again for your continued support.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 14 September 2022 12:11

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** FW: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of SFRS. Do not click links or open attachments unless you are certain the email is genuine and know the content is safe.

[REDACTED]

To see email below from [REDACTED]. You were going to check with the SFRS special interest working group to consider drafting a letter with a clear ask for SG colleagues to pass onto the Scottish Funding Council (responsible for funding colleges and universities in Scotland).

If you let me know the decision, I will get back to [REDACTED].

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

**Head of Fire and Structure**

**Scottish Government - Building Standards Division**

**Denholm House**

**Almondvale Business Park**

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[REDACTED]



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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 14 September 2022 08:44

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** FW: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

Good morning [REDACTED],

I am following up on my email below to ask if you are aware if the SRFS would like to take forward any action and possibly for us to share a letter with SFC.

If no further action required I will close off the request meantime and file at our side for our records. We would be very happy to assist going forward, if needed.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED] | Scottish Government | Funding and Sponsorship Team | Colleges, Young Workforce & SFC Sponsorship Division | [REDACTED] | I am currently working from home, using Microsoft teams for telephone contact

*Please copy all your email correspondence with the Scottish Funding Council or SG Sponsor Team to our corporate mailbox: [SFCsponsorship@gov.scot](mailto:SFCsponsorship@gov.scot)*

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 16 August 2022 11:53

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

Thanks [REDACTED], much appreciated.

I think the best way forward would be if the SRFS could draft a letter, scoping out the ask, which we could share with SFC for SFC to then share with estate directors of institutions.

Happy to have a chat if best. I am on leave from Thursday of this week, returning on Monday 5 September. I have copied my colleague [REDACTED] who will be able to assist in my absence.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED] | Scottish Government | Funding and Sponsorship Team | Colleges, Young Workforce & SFC Sponsorship Division | [REDACTED] | I am currently working from home, using Microsoft teams for telephone contact

*Please copy all your email correspondence with the Scottish Funding Council or SG Sponsor Team to our corporate mailbox: [SFCsponsorship@gov.scot](mailto:SFCsponsorship@gov.scot)*

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 11 August 2022 12:33

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

[REDACTED]

Thanks for your email. As you can see from the email chain below the original ask was on behalf of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service who asked if the SG hold a central register of buildings with this form of construction. The SFRS concerns are around identifying the buildings in Scotland so they can inform operational crews of

the risks when tackling fires (in case of unexpected or premature collapse with fire-fighters still in the building).

The simple answer to this question is no but I agreed to ask policy colleagues in Education and Health if records were held on specific buildings with RAAC construction.

I think all we can do at this stage is to provide relevant contact details to the SFRS for Health Facilities Scotland (who are embarking on a national survey of all health facilities to identify buildings with RAAC and assess the risks). With regard to schools, colleges and universities, I realise that this is a challenge since each LA, college and University is responsible for health and safety in their own buildings/campus.

Any thoughts or advice welcome on this so we close this off. Happy to have a short Teams call if you think that would be helpful?

**[REDACTED]**  
**Head of Fire and Structure**  
**Scottish Government - Building Standards Division**  
**Denholm House**  
**Almondvale Business Park**  
**Livingston**  
**EH54 6GA**

**[REDACTED]**



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**From:** **[REDACTED]**

**Sent:** 10 August 2022 10:05

**To:** **[REDACTED]**

**Cc:** **[REDACTED]**

**Subject:** RE: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

Good morning **[REDACTED]**,

I have attached an email from the SFC confirming that they do not hold any information on RAAC products used on the university or college estate.

The SFC has however noted that the estate directors of institutions all have detailed knowledge of their buildings and can provide this information. However, it would be important to carefully scope out the ask first.

Is this something you would like us to follow up on, if so it may be best to have a chat through next steps, in the first instance.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED] | Scottish Government | Funding and Sponsorship Team | Colleges, Young Workforce & SFC Sponsorship Division | [REDACTED] | I am currently working from home, using Microsoft teams for telephone contact

*Please copy all your email correspondence with the Scottish Funding Council or SG Sponsor Team to our corporate mailbox: [SFCsponsorship@gov.scot](mailto:SFCsponsorship@gov.scot)*

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 07 July 2022 16:11

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

Thanks [REDACTED], much appreciated. FYI – the NHS Estate (via Health Facilities Scotland) have commissioned surveys to identify buildings with RAAC construction. I will find out more at a meeting towards the end of this month and share what info I get back from colleagues in health.

[REDACTED]

**Head of Fire and Structure**

**Scottish Government - Building Standards Division**

**Denholm House**

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[REDACTED]



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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 07 July 2022 16:02

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

[REDACTED],

For schools, we'll reach out to the Association of Directors of Education in Scotland and Scottish Heads of Property Services.

Thanks,

[REDACTED] | School Funding, Infrastructure & Organisation Unit | Learning Directorate | Scottish Government | email [REDACTED].

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 07 July 2022 15:34  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

[REDACTED]

That would be helpful, thanks. You will note from the article that reference is made to hospitals, schools and other public buildings from the 1960's to the 1980's.

[REDACTED]  
**Head of Fire and Structure**  
**Scottish Government - Building Standards Division**  
**Denholm House**  
**Almondvale Business Park**  
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[REDACTED]



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 07 July 2022 15:27  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

[REDACTED],

This is not something I am aware of. If required I can reach out to Scottish Funding Council to ask if they are aware?

(copying [REDACTED] for his information)

Many thanks,  
[REDACTED] | Scottish Government | Funding and Sponsorship Team | Colleges, Young Workforce & SFC Sponsorship Division | [REDACTED] | I am currently working from home, using Microsoft teams for telephone contact

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 07 July 2022 15:20  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

[REDACTED] – we're not aware of any info gathered on this in relation to schools.

[REDACTED] – please see the below email chain. Are you aware of any info that covers the FE estate?

Thanks,

[REDACTED] | School Funding, Infrastructure & Organisation Unit | Learning Directorate | Scottish Government | email [REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 07 July 2022 15:11  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

[REDACTED]

To see email chain below from the SFRS due to the risks of structural collapse during fire-fighting operations. Are you aware of any information gathered from the schools and / or further education estate throughout Scotland on the risks associated with the presence of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) construction?

The links below provide more detailed information.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]  
**Head of Fire and Structure**  
**Scottish Government - Building Standards Division**  
**Denholm House**  
**Almondvale Business Park**  
**Livingston**  
**EH54 6GA**

[REDACTED]



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 25 June 2022 10:41



To: [REDACTED]  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

[REDACTED]

I am not aware of any central source of information in Scotland to identify buildings in Scotland with RAAC planks. Local authorities, Scottish Futures Trust and the SG are aware of the issues around RAAC construction. The expectation is that the hazard identification will form part of the normal workplace risk assessment regime under Health and Safety legislation.

I will ask around and see if other organisations have been gathering information.

[REDACTED]  
**Head of Fire and Structure**  
**Scottish Government - Building Standards Division**  
**Denholm House**  
**Almondvale Business Park**  
**Livingston**  
**EH54 6GA**

[REDACTED]



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 18 June 2022 12:57  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

Classification: **Unclassified**

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

Looking to tap into your expertise (again).

With regards to the RAAC article below published in a previous NFCC National Operational Learning Newsletter, would you know if there has been any work done through BSD to identify buildings with RAAC on it in Scotland?

Kind regards,



## **Failure of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) planks**

Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) was used in the construction of hospitals, schools and other public buildings from the 1960s to the 1980s. This material has a lifespan of approximately 30 years and can also be weakened by water ingress. However, in some cases, it has not been replaced after this time.

RAAC has been found in approximately 48 UK hospitals, where it has been used and is still in place. RAAC is mainly used in the construction of flat roofs but has also been found in walls and floors. There are also concerns that it has been used in other buildings. It is difficult to identify unless it has been highlighted in Site-Specific Risk Information.

Organisations have started remedial works to prolong the life of affected structures until they can be replaced. This includes the use of support props and the addition of new wooden or steel beams to support the originals and load bearing structures.

Hazards to consider include:

- Structural collapse affecting hospital services, including oxygen supplies
- Prevalence of asbestos in buildings of this age
- Unknown performance in a fire, although the likelihood of structural collapse increases if RAAC is exposed to heat and water

Our Protection Policy and Reform Unit (PPRU) is working to raise awareness of this issue among fire protection teams and is planning a joint action with National Operational Learning. We are also working with those across sectors to identify these premises where possible, and relay that information to FRS who have these premises in their areas.

The Standing Committee on Structural Safety has published an article highlighting the [Failure of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete \(RAAC\) planks](#)

Further information can also be located at CROSS, who now have a theme page on RAAC at [Structural safety of reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete \(RAAC\) planks | CROSS \(cross-safety.org\)](#).

For more information refer to [Partial or structural collapse: Fires in buildings](#)

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 24 November 2022 16:11  
**To:** Stephen Garvin <[Stephen.Garvin@gov.scot](mailto:Stephen.Garvin@gov.scot)>  
**Subject:** FW: RAAC - Joint Letter with Scottish Government

FYI – see email below and attachments.

[REDACTED]  
**Scottish Government - Building Standards Division**  
**Denholm House**  
**Almondvale Business Park**  
**Livingston**  
**EH54 6GA**

**Tel.** [REDACTED]  
**email**[REDACTED]



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 24 November 2022 16:00  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RAAC - Joint Letter with Scottish Government

Hi [REDACTED]

Can I please ask that this email and the attached draft letter / AB is shared with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] ahead of [REDACTED] meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> December (Building and Fire Safety Ministerial Working Group).

SG representatives will tomorrow attend the 4<sup>th</sup> Structural Safety Working Group (England) during which RAAC panels will be fully discussed and structural engineers WSP will provide a draft plan of action and a methodology for dealing with this issue in England.

SG will then discuss if they are to formulate their own plan of action or work alongside their English colleagues ( a SG tendering process will of course have to take place if a structural engineering lead was to be appointed for such a project).

NHS Scotland have already identified 317 premises within their portfolio ( this information is being requested by [REDACTED] to allow sharing with P&P/OI/Frontline teams) that contain this structural material and have instigated a "RAG" system to categorise risk and to assist in the production of updated Fire RAs and also in the preparation of a remedial building works schedule.

As previously discussed, an AB was produced by our team and Operations (attached) which gave information and guidance to both our Protection officers and our Frontline Ops. teams (increased operational awareness through OI). We have also amended / updated the FSE Audit form and PPED to reflect this information and increased risk.



I held a meeting today with [REDACTED] (Head of Fire and Structure - SG - Building Standards Division) and we felt it prudent to await the outcome of tomorrow's meeting and the meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> before finalising and issuing the attached joint letter to ensure it complimented/supported SG strategy for dealing with this matter.

At this stage I feel the work we have carried out as a function to update and improve awareness for SFRS teams is of a good standard.

Happy to meet to discuss as required.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED] | Station Commander | Prevention and Protection | Deputy Head of Fire Safety Enforcement | Scottish Fire and Rescue Service | [REDACTED]

SFRS Awareness Briefing on RAAC (dated October 2022)	Redacted under regulation
National Fire Chiefs Council Action Note on RAAC (issues February 2022)	 document2022-02-2 3T15_16_36+00_00.p
West Lothian Council report on RAAC (dated June 2021)	 Item 5 - Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated C