

## APPENDIX A : Police Scotland

### Document 1 : Police Estate RAAC briefing

**From:** Chief Financial Officer <ChiefFinancialOfficer@scotland.police.uk>

**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2023 1:22 PM

**To:** [Redact S38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** Deputy Chief Officer <DeputyChiefOfficer@scotland.police.uk>; [Redact S38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: Police Estate

Hi [Redact S38(1)(b)]

Please find Police Estate RAAC briefing attached. We are still in the early stages of discovery but will keep you up to date

Thanks

[Redact S38(1)(b)]

#### Police Estate RAAC Briefing

By way of background, Aerated Concrete planks are a lightweight concrete. This is different from normal dense concrete (approx. 30-40% lighter in weight) and is more commonly found in buildings constructed from 1956 until 1990's. These planks were generally used in roof work, walls and flooring and can be subject to degenerating over time subject to weathering i.e. water ingress whereby the concrete absorbs the water which creates a crumbling effect over time. The current guidance was recently updated, whereby the recommendation has been given to identify, monitor, risk manage and the replacement of planks where appropriate. The risks are assessed in a red, amber, green traffic light system with red being the highest priority either red high or red critical. Fettes Workshop, for example is assessed as a red high requiring immediate attention with approx. 75% of planks in this category.

Fettes:-

1. During recent roof refurbishment works at the Fleet Workshop, the contractor discovered a number of Aerated Concrete planks. Upon further investigation by the Structural Engineers [Redact S38(1)(b)] it was identified that a high number of these planks were considered risk of potential malfunction.
2. Upon being made aware, the workshop was closed pending further investigations to identify the extent of the issue and the potential remedial works required to rectify the position. This work is ongoing but early indications suggest that costs these works may incur will be substantial and potentially not viable. Estates Transformation are actively engaged with fleet to identify an alternative location should that be required.
3. Late this afternoon, following further site inspections within the Productions area, it has been identified that Aerated Concrete planks are present in the

roof structure with 5 – 10% being classified as high risk. As a result, a joint decision involving CJSD colleagues, Health & Safety and ourselves was taken to close this area. As a precaution the adjoining elevation consisting of an ICT Training area, kitchen and office space for CJSD staff has also been closed off. This will be reviewed upon further inspections by the Structural Engineers on Thursday (20<sup>th</sup>). A Gold group meeting chaired by Chief Superintendent [Redact S38(1)(b)] has been initiated to oversee any implications as a result of these closures. [Redact S38(1)(b)] has briefed [Redact S38(1)(b)] as part of his line management as well as [Redact S38(1)(b)] who is in charge of Edinburgh. All immediate actions including a reactive media statement have been put in place as part of the Gold Group response.

4. With regards to the Production area, we have instructed [Redact S38(1)(b)] to provide a report on the most appropriate remedial works which will enable the facility to be reopened and operational as quickly as possible for example by using temporary propping techniques. It should be noted that items stored in this area are critical to the ongoing operation of the CJ System and ongoing trials. Additionally, if the area remains unavailable it will not only affect CJ partners (including forensic evidence going to the lab) it will impact on local policing retention of productions. The gold group will start to consider and implement business continuity if required but CJ Partners, including the SPA due to Forensics impact and SG, are likely to need briefed if closure is more than one or two days.

#### Estate Wide review for Aerated Concrete planks:

1. [Redact S38(1)(b)] Estates Project and Strategic Planning Lead ( part of my SMT), is leading on this piece of work with support from [Redact S38(1)(b)] and [Redact S38(1)(b)] and we will be co-ordinating a daily Silver call with key stakeholders including Health & Safety colleagues and [Redact S38(1)(b)] to manage this work.
2. We have an agreed approach which is as follows:-

Stage 1 – We have appointed a specialist Building Surveying contractor via [Redact S38(1)(b)] and [Redact S38(1)(b)] to undertake an immediate desktop review of all buildings and identify any potential properties that may have Aerated Concrete planks within the construction material. We are liaising with them to have this exercise completed as a matter of urgency with expected completion early next week.

Stage 2 – Once stage 1 is completed, we will deliver a risk profiling exercise to identify those buildings which represent the highest risk profile, for example we will prioritise flat roof buildings which have known water ingress issues.

Stage 3 – We will appoint a specialist Structural Engineer (via [Redact S38(1)(b)]) to deliver the next stage of visual inspections and provide a report on each building. This work will be a high priority however until we have a definitive list as identified from stages 1 and 2, we are unable to provide a

timescale for this just now but we will provide a further update early next week.

Stage 4 – As stage 3 is completed, our specialist contractors will produce budget costs for remedial works as required to address any high priority risks associated with those buildings where Aerated Concrete planks are identified.

Stage 5 – We will continue to follow the Silver structure of meetings to review findings and associated issues to maintain a close focus on resolving any issues.

Update Monday 24 April 2023 – we have visually inspected 40 sites over the weekend which were built during the period that RAAC was commonly used – 10 sites confirmed positive for RAAC, 18 confirmed to have no RAAC and 12 were inconclusive with further survey work being undertaken. There were 10 sites where we were almost certain that RAAC was present and these went immediately to intrusive site surveys. We have 5 more sites to visually inspect that were built in the period that RAAC was used. Therefore in summary, to date we have a total of 20 locations where RAAC is present. The approach as set out above will be followed.