



2024-0007885SoSPO

The Rt Hon Gillian Keegan MP
Secretary of State for Education

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The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP
By email: michael.gove.mp@parliament.uk

Your ref: MG27961

2 April 2024

Dear Michael,

Thank you so much for your email of 8 March, enclosing correspondence from your constituent, Mr Stephen Corcoran, about Shawfield Primary School and Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC).

I apologise for the department's delay in issuing the letter informing Shawfield Primary School of its RAAC remediation route. It may be helpful if I explain that the long-term solution to remove RAAC at each school or college varies depending on the extent of the issue and nature and design of the buildings. Departmental officials have carefully assessed each case to provide what they believe is the most appropriate funding route to permanently remove RAAC to make buildings safe, while considering any wider condition need.

I have also passed your concerns on to department officials. I appreciate Mr Corcoran's desire to move from the School Rebuilding Programme (SRP) to grant funding. I assure you that we will take account of the points Mr Corcoran has raised, along with correspondence from Surrey County Council. We will consider all options available and will discuss these directly with the relevant stakeholders.

You may be aware that information events about the SRP are being held to provide those selected with further information on what they should expect as part of the programme. I am pleased to hear that representatives from Shawfield signed up to attend the London session on Thursday 28 March. I hope they found this useful, and that they gained a good understanding of the programme to help inform their discussions with department officials.

Please be assured that the department will work closely with the school and its responsible body to provide the most appropriate solution for pupils, parents and teachers.

Thank you for writing to me. I hope that this information is useful for Mr Corcoran.

Yours sincerely,

The Rt Hon Gillian Keegan MP
Secretary of State for Education