

## EQIA Submission – ID Number

### Section A

**EQIA Title**

Schools Reinforced Autoclave Aerated Concrete in Schools

**Responsible Officer**

Lee Round - CY EPA

### Type of Activity

**Service Change**

No

**Service Redesign**

No

**Project/Programme**

No

**Commissioning/Procurement**

Commissioning/Procurement

**Strategy/Policy**

No

**Details of other Service Activity**

No

### Accountability and Responsibility

**Directorate**

Children Young People and Education

**Responsible Service**

Infrastructure

**Responsible Head of Service**

James Sanderson - DCED INF

**Responsible Director**

Rebecca Spore - DCED INF

### Aims and Objectives

**Introduction:**

Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) was used for at least 25 years in buildings across the Country. Locally concerns manifested following the unexpected ceiling collapse at Singlewell School in 2019, leading KCC to raise concerns nationally.

Following this issue, Kent County Council (KCC) commissioned a validation exercise undertaking checks at schools for which KCC had responsibility. If concerns were raised, actions were taken to monitor and address the concerns.

Recently, following change to the Institute of Structural Engineers guidance, four schools with identified RAAC were closed temporarily and arrangements put in place to ensure the continued education of their pupils via a variety of actions. These are only short term measures, to ensure the safety of pupils staff and visitors, while structural works are undertaken to enable the schools to reoccupy affected school buildings.

**Aims:**

Significant funding will be required to complete the structural works thus allowing thus schools to be reoccupied. As such the the request is that the delegated Cabinet Members:

1. Agree capital funding that can be drawn down on to fund the emergency response and strengthening works that are required.

2. Authorise the Director of Infrastructure in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Democratic Services to finalise and enter into the necessary contracts, funding and legal agreements and take other actions as necessary to implement this decision.

## Section B – Evidence

**Do you have data related to the protected groups of the people impacted by this activity?**

Yes

**It is possible to get the data in a timely and cost effective way?**

Yes

**Is there national evidence/data that you can use?**

Yes

**Have you consulted with stakeholders?**

Yes

**Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?**

Consultation with school leaders of the schools where emergency works are required is on going.

Local Members have been informed where a school is within their division.

**Has there been a previous Equality Analysis (EQIA) in the last 3 years?**

No

**Do you have evidence that can help you understand the potential impact of your activity?**

Yes

## Section C – Impact

**Who may be impacted by the activity?**

**Service Users/clients**

Service users/clients

**Staff**

Staff/Volunteers

**Residents/Communities/Citizens**

Residents/communities/citizens

**Are there any positive impacts for all or any of the protected groups as a result of the activity that you are doing?**

Yes

**Details of Positive Impacts**

The emergency works were completed at schools where RAAC was identified and classed as a 'Red Risk.' These schools were closed for 3 days at most, minimising the disruption to the education of all pupils. However, the current temporary arrangements could potentially have negative effects for those with a disability, who have special educational needs or are pregnant.

Releasing funding for the emergency response works and the strengthening works will have a positive impact for all groups as school buildings will be reopened swiftly, minimising the impact of using temporary accommodation.

The continuing review of the school estate will enable KCC to identify where RAAC is present and will ensure that remedial works are prioritised, thus keeping schools open to all stakeholders.

## Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions

<b>19. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for age?</b>
No
<b>Details of negative impacts for Age</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating Actions for Age</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age</b>
Not Applicable
<b>20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Disability?</b>
No
<b>Details of Negative Impacts for Disability</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Disability</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for Disability</b>
Not Applicable
<b>21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Sex</b>
No
<b>Details of negative impacts for Sex</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Sex</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for Sex</b>
Not Applicable
<b>22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>
Not Applicable
<b>23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Race</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Race</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Race</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race</b>
Not Applicable
<b>24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Religion and belief</b>
Not Applicable

<b>Mitigating actions for Religion and belief</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief</b>
Not Applicable
<b>25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
Not Applicable
<b>26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
Not Applicable
<b>27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Not Applicable