

## **Message from Robert Hutton, Director of Estates.**

Hello, I'm Robert Hutton, Director of Estates here at Sussex, and I'm here today to talk to you about Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete or RAAC as most of us now refer to it.

You have probably noticed RAAC receiving a lot of attention in the media recently, with the closure of schools just before the start of term. Here at Sussex, RAAC is a material that we have been addressing for the last 18 months.

We have identified RAAC in five of our University buildings, in Arundel, Bramber House, Chichester I, Chichester II and JMS, and these buildings, all remain open and safe to use, with just some restrictions to access where necessary. We have safety measures in place, which are regularly checked to ensure they remain effective, so please be assured that staff and student safety is our top priority. So what are we doing about RAAC?

At Bramber House, our RAAC replacement works are already underway. We are replacing RAAC panels above each of the five stairwells over the next few months. We will be replacing all of the RAAC we have on campus. We are currently reviewing options to replace RAAC in our other impacted buildings and we will be planning each building's RAAC replacement alongside other planned improvement works, so that we not only remove the RAAC, but we also enhance the working and study spaces on campus.

If you'd like to learn more about RAAC and our approach to it, you can visit our project webpage for more information and our latest updates.