



Professor Robert Van de Noort CBE FSA PFHE
Vice-Chancellor University of Reading
Chair Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee

Professor Robert Van de Noort has been the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Reading since 2019 and has had general responsibility to the University governing body – the Council- for maintaining and promoting the effectiveness, efficiency, and good order of the University. Robert chairs the senate and University Executive Board and is an ex-officio member of all major committees in the University, some of which he chairs.

Professor Van De Noort joined the University of Reading in 2014, and his research expertise is in the archaeology marine, intertidal and terrestrial wetlands. He directed multi-organisational fieldwork projects in the Humber Wetlands and at Sutton Common in South Yorkshire (both funded by English Heritage), and he was the PI of the AHRC-funded experimental reconstruction of a Bronze Age sewn-plank boat at the National Maritime Museum, Cornwall. During the last two decades, he has won Major research grants totalling £2.6 million from external organisations. Outside of the University of Reading, Robert chairs the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC), which helped to provide governance for the Environment Agency Flood and Coastal Erosion risk management functions and covers all flood risks that are not the responsibility of the water companies.

*“The University of Reading’s first Vice Chancellor, W.M.Childs, said:
‘Universities are living things: they feel, think and do. They are centres of intelligence, they are concerned with ideas; they have outposts upon the frontiers of knowledge; they sometimes do beautiful and remarkable things; they dream and imagine’. The successful university leader not only understands this instinctively, but can fully harness its power.”*