

Annual Assurance Statement 2020

Compliance Statement

The Management Committee, in its capacity as the governing body of Abertay Housing Association, is satisfied that Abertay Housing Association is compliant with the requirements of Chapter Three of the Regulatory Framework and the Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management, save for certain aspects appertaining to governance. The Management Committee is of the opinion that none of these aspects are material to governance, however prior to conveying full compliance the Management Committee would prefer to complete the Governance Training Plan, something the implications of the coronavirus pandemic has prevented the Association doing thus far. The aspects of the Governance Training Plan relate to governance, risk management, financial management, regulation and annual appraisals.

Gaining assurance

The Management Committee has gained this satisfaction from being involved in the formulation and evaluation of a comprehensive compliance framework of evidence and an action plan which will ensure the Association not only achieves compliance, but also enhances compliance. The Annual Assurance Statement Evidence and Action Plan Framework is an encyclopaedia of evidence incorporating: governing body reports, minutes of governing body meetings, strategic documents, external and internal audit reports, external consultant reports, performance reports, policies, advice and good practice guidance.

The Coronavirus Pandemic COVID-19

With regard to compliance, the Management Committee has monitored and taken account of the serious and devastating health and financial implications associated with the coronavirus pandemic. The Association has adapted our business plan, adjusted our strategic and operational activities and we have adjusted our annual budget and financial assumptions to take account of the serious health and financial implications. The Association has also adhered to the Scottish Government's advice as well as the advice and guidance of the Scottish Housing Regulator and all other regulatory bodies, in addition to the good practice issued by the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations.

Ongoing monitoring

The Annual Assurance Statement Evidence and Action Plan Framework will be constantly updated by management and monitored by the Management Committee on a quarterly basis so as to ensure suitable and sufficient oversight and scrutiny and provide continuous assurance that the Association achieves compliance on the governance aspects of Chapter Three of the Regulatory Framework and Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management.

The Management Committee is mindful of its obligation to notify the Scottish Housing Regulator, via the Notifiable Events procedure, should an event, act or omission to act, be material to the Association's compliance with Chapter Three of the Regulatory Framework and the Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management. It is with this obligation in mind that the Scottish Housing Regulator has been kept informed by way of the submission of Notifiable Events throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

Improvement focus

When formulating the Annual Assurance Statement Evidence and Action Plan Framework in 2019, the Association adopted an 'actions to achieve and enhance compliance' approach which it has implemented throughout the previous year and will continue do so throughout the remainder of this financial year with a view to achieving full compliance by 31 March 2021.

Authority to sign and submit

In my capacity as Interim Chairperson of Abertay Housing Association I was authorised by the Management Committee at the Management Committee Meeting on Wednesday 25 November 2020 to sign the Association's Annual Assurance Statement. I can also confirm that the Annual Assurance Statement will be published on the Association's website on the day after it is submitted to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

Interim Chairperson's Name Gordon Edwards

Interim Chairperson's Signature

Date 26 November 2020