



Annual Assurance Statement

October 2023

As part of this year's assurance process Ardenglen have undertaken an externally led comprehensive review of both its governance arrangements and its approach to tenant and resident health and safety.

At our Board meeting on 29 August 2023, I can confirm that the Board received robust assurance on compliance with:

- The Regulatory requirements as set out in Chapter 3 of the Scottish Housing Regulator's Framework.
- All the Standards and outcomes of the Scottish Social Housing Charter for tenants, people who are homeless and others who use our services.
- All relevant statutory, legal, and legislative requirements.
- The Scottish Housing Regulator's Standards of Governance and Financial Management for Registered Social Landlords.

Board members have gained assurance through oversight of the Associations business over the course of 2022-2023 combined with consideration of a robust evidence bank including:

- Independent advisor's report on the effectiveness of governance arrangements following a comprehensive review which confirmed compliance with Regulatory Standards and the Standards of Governance and Financial Management.
- Independent advisor's report of the Associations duties in relation to all relevant tenant and resident safety matters which confirmed compliance
- Internal approach to self-assurance backed by a comprehensive evidence bank
- Internal Audit programme
- External Audit Report

We recognise that we are currently operating in a challenging environment with the current cost of living crisis creating pressure on the community we serve. In light of this the Association held a facilitated Strategic Away day with Board and colleague teams to review the strategic direction of the Association and update the Business Plan accordingly. This incorporated feedback from our recent Tenant Satisfaction Survey (completed Dec 2022) which provided our tenants top priorities. The Business Plan was subsequently updated along with comprehensive independent review of our financials to include a review of key assumptions which we will continue to monitor.

We have taken a partnership approach with neighbouring Castlemilk Housing Associations for the advancement of a consistent Human Rights approach to our work facilitated by an independent Human Rights Expert. The Association continues to collect equalities information via a number of

channels to assist with review of our policies, procedures and service offering to reflect the needs of a diverse community.

We are continuing with a program of stock condition surveys carried out by independent RICS qualified surveyors to inform a strategic approach to investment, financial planning and energy efficiency to ensure our stock conforms with legislative standards. At present over 60% of the Association's stock has been surveyed with another 20% scheduled for 2023/24.

Having taken into account the evidence based outlined in this assurance statement Board members unanimously agree that Ardenglen Housing Association remains fully compliant with Regulatory Standards and the Standards of Governance and Financial Management with no areas of material non-compliance requiring disclosure.

We recognise that we are required to notify the SHR of any changes in our compliance during the course of the year and have effective arrangements in place to enable us to do so.

As Chair, I was authorised by the Association's Board of Management at a meeting held 26 September 2023, to sign and submit this Annual Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

Elizabeth McKenzie

Chairperson Ardenglen Housing Association