

ANNUAL ASSURANCE STATEMENT 2024

The Board of Ayrshire Housing approved an action plan to guide the assurance statement process. A self-assessment checklist, based on the SFHA toolkit, was used to create a comprehensive evidence bank to support the review of compliance with the Regulatory Standards. Evidence includes Board reports, policies and procedures, advice from external and specialist advisers and data analysis about our tenants and customers.

A Board scrutiny panel reviewed the checklist and associated back-up in detail and were assured by the level of evidence in support of compliance with the standards and this was further assured through self-assessment questionnaires returned by Board members. An independent Governance review was also carried out providing third party validation of compliance with the Regulatory Standards.

Based on the above process, and ongoing oversight of Ayrshire Housing's activities throughout the year, the Board is satisfied that we have seen sufficient evidence to assure us that we comply with the SHR's Regulatory Framework, the Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management and legal obligation relating to housing and homelessness, equality and human rights and tenant and resident safety.

We are satisfied we meet our duties in relation to tenant health and safety and have put a particular focus on assurance regarding our compliance with responsibilities relating to water safety, gas safety, fire safety, electrical safety, lifts, asbestos and damp and mould. Assurance has been gained through the review of self-assessment checklists which were reviewed by a third-party Health and Safety advisor. We have completed our assessment into the potential presence of RAAC in our stock and confirm that none has been identified.

In assessing the evidence, and undertaking an independent Governance review we have adopted an improvement focus which has resulted in the creation of an action plan which we have begun to implement and will continue to progress during the course of the year. We have reviewed the identified actions in the improvement action plan and are satisfied that all are intended to deliver effective improvement and that none are material to our current compliance with the Framework.

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

As Chair I was authorised by the Board to sign and submit this assurance statement at the Board meeting on 9th October 2024. The statement will be published on our website.

Signed on behalf of the Board.

Georgina Dawson
Chair