



Annual Assurance Statement

The Governing Board of Barrhead Housing confirms that we have seen and considered sufficient evidence to give us assurance that the association complies with the regulatory requirements set out in Chapter 3 of the Scottish Housing Regulator's Regulatory Framework, including;

- All relevant standards and outcomes in the Scottish Social Housing Charter for tenants, people who are homeless and others who use our services;
- Complying with our legal obligations relating to housing and homelessness, equality and human rights, and tenant and resident safety; and
- The Standards of Governance and Financial Management for RSLs.

The Governing Board discussed and approved the process which was implemented to support this Statement, including active involvement of Board members in reviewing and scrutinising a comprehensive bank of evidence.

In undertaking the self-assessment process, we have adopted a continuous improvement focus. A number of continuous improvement actions were identified and the Board will maintain oversight of progress against the action plan during the coming year. We are satisfied that none of the improvement actions 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. We can confirm the following:

Tenant health and safety: Due to significant challenges in gaining access to tenants' homes to complete Electrical Installation Condition Reports, three properties do not yet have valid EICR certificates. Two certificates are scheduled for completion by 1 November 2022. We are carrying out extensive repairs to the remaining property following a fire and the EICR will take place following completion of these works. During the year the annual gas safety check was not completed within the 12 month time period at one property due to a procedural failure. The gas safety check was completed one working day after the due date and the procedural failure has been rectified. As part of our organisational redesign, the Board approved creation of a new Asset Compliance Officer post which has strengthened our organisational focus on continuing compliance and good practice in tenant health and safety.

Equality, diversity and human rights: We published a new Equality, Diversity and Inclusion vision in March 2022 and have set up an organisation-wide Equality Diversity and Inclusion group which oversees implementation of our action plan, reviews information relating to board members, employees and customers of Barrhead Housing, and is considering how we can embed a human rights approach into our work. Joint training with FLAIR association partners is planned for later in 2022/23.

Tenant Scrutiny: A key priority for the year ahead is to redesign and relaunch our tenant scrutiny arrangements with tenants, following loss of members from our Tenant Scrutiny Panel during the pandemic and in the context of a new Customer Engagement Framework being considered by the Governing Board in October 2022 and the establishment of a new Community Investment Team earlier this year.

Governance Excellence: The Board is committed to maintaining and delivering our Governance Excellence Plan as part of our culture of continuous improvement.

We approved this Assurance Statement at the meeting of our Board on 27 October 2022.

John Hamilton
Chair

