



Calvay Housing Association Annual Assurance Statement - 2022

The Committee of Calvay HA is satisfied that, to the best of our knowledge, Calvay HA is largely compliant with the requirements of Chapter Three of the Regulatory Framework and the Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management. We have gained this assurance from a review of a comprehensive bank of evidence and from our ongoing oversight and scrutiny of Calvay's affairs throughout the year. However, we note there are some areas of non-compliance in particular governance issues highlighted in the Indigo house report. These will be addressed via an agreed action plan which will be discussed and agreed by the Board and the director and his staff team. This will then be shared with the Scottish Housing Regulator so we can obtain their acceptance of our improvement plan

In respect to the areas, we sought assurance that we are in compliance with Regulatory standards, we reviewed the evidence available which supports our assessment and have noted these below:

- Reports about performance in key areas including finance, service delivery, asset management, development and risk
- Internal and External Audit reports
- Advice from external and specialist advisers
- The outcomes from consultation
- Data analysis about our tenants and customers
- Benchmarking
- Reports, advice and information from senior staff

In assessing the evidence, we have sought to continually improve current performance, this has resulted in the identification of areas where improvement can be made and we hope to make further progress over the course of the year. We have reviewed the identified actions which have been integrated in to our Business Plan Action Plan and are satisfied that all are intended to deliver effective improvement and that none are material to our current level of compliance with the Framework.

The Committee were actively involved in the initial development and assessment of the evidence bank when this was originally set up and has been comprehensively updated in 2022. The assessment of compliance and associated evidence bank are available online via Decision time for Committee members to inspect at any time.

In reviewing our compliance with the Regulatory Framework, we are assured that we are working towards having appropriate systems in place for the collection of equalities data. We have issued an Equality monitoring form (SFHA model form – anonymised version) to all tenants and all staff will be attending equalities training during October and November 2022. We are assured that we are working towards using this data to take account of equality and human rights issues in our decisions, policy-making and day-to-day service delivery.

Notwithstanding what has been already noted above, we wish to draw attention to the following areas:

- 1) Our status as “Compliant – Under Review” and
- 2) Electrical Installation Condition Report EICR

Our Engagement plan from 31 March 2022 to 31 March 2023 states we are “Compliant – Under Review”

We have made significant progress to address the issues which resulted in our status as being under review. Specifically, we commissioned an independent report in to Committee Members’ behaviour and used expert external support when carrying out committee appraisals during 2022. The committee appraisal report highlighted areas of non-compliance and we are seeking to engage further with the Regulator to address these areas as a matter of urgency. In the first instance we have Co-opted 2 new members whom the Regulator kindly suggested, both are extremely experienced in the sector and should help support current members in knowledge and enhance the decision-making process. We have further added to the committee compliment by appointing 2 further members onto the Board.

The report in to Committee Members’ behaviour did not find any serious wrongdoing, although did suggest a number of recommendations which the Committee have reviewed and agreed.

In relation to Electrical Installation Condition Reports (EICRs) Calvay has not completed 100% of these due to problems gaining access to properties. As of 20th October 2022, we have not completed 46 of 820 EICRs. Unlike the position with gas servicing, the advice we have received is that we cannot legally force entry to carry out EICRs. We will nevertheless continue to vigorously pursue those tenants who have not yet given us access to carry out EICRs.

As Chair, I was authorised by the Committee by written resolution on 31st October 2022 to sign and submit this Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

Jim Gourlay

Chair of Calvay Housing Association