

Annual Assurance Statement 2022

Introduction

The Board of Management confirms that we have reviewed and assessed a comprehensive bank of evidence to support this statement. Craigdale Housing Association's Board are therefore confident that the Association is compliant with: -

- All relevant regulatory requirements as set out in Section 3 of the Regulatory Framework.
- The Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management.
- The relevant standards and outcomes of the Scottish Social Housing Charter.
- Our statutory obligations in respect of tenant and resident safety, housing and homelessness and equalities and human rights.

Assurance

Our Assurance Statement takes account of sector guidance, with the Board evaluating the Association's compliance with our Regulatory requirements, the Standards of Governance & Financial Management and our legislative duties (now referred to as the Regulatory requirements), which are contained within the SHR's Framework, Chapter 3 Regulatory Requirements.

The table below summarises our compliance with the Regulatory requirements:

Regulatory Requirements	Compliant?
Assurance & Notification	Yes
Scottish Social Housing Charter (SSHC)	Yes
Tenant & Service User Redress	Yes
Whistleblowing	Yes
Equality & Human Rights	Yes
Statutory Guidance	Yes
Organisational Details & Constitution	Yes
Regulatory Standards of Governance & Financial Management (RSGFM)	Yes
Legislative Duties	Yes

In determining our compliance with the Regulatory requirements our evaluation process considered:

- ❖ Whether we, as a Board, are sufficiently assured through self-assessment, ongoing oversight and scrutiny that we comply with the Regulatory requirements and are sufficiently confident that we can pass that assurance on to our stakeholders.

The Association can report that to the best of our knowledge we **have no areas of material non-compliance** with the Regulatory requirements.

Supporting evidence and additional information

We used the updated toolkit issued by the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations in June 2022 as the basis for our self-assessment against the Regulatory requirements. We can evidence our compliance with supporting documentation, including independent reviews that we commissioned. Our other self-assurance activities include for example, internal audit, independent surveys, in-house assessments and other internal organisational controls and checks. The outcome of our self-assessment, ongoing oversight and scrutiny demonstrates our compliance with the Regulatory requirements.

Stakeholders can be assured that the Board challenges information that it is provided with from Staff and consultants to ensure that the information received is robust and accurate.

Equalities

We can also confirm that we have implemented an Equalities Strategy in 2022. This strategy demonstrates our approach to meeting Outcome 1: Equalities in the Scottish Housing Charter: This strategy also has an assessment of our current approach to equality and diversity across different parts of our operation:

- ❖ Knowing our customers
- ❖ Leadership, partnership and organisational commitment
- ❖ Involving our customers
- ❖ Responsive services, access and customer care
- ❖ A skilled and committed workforce

It uses this assessment to identify key objectives and sets out an action plan for 2022/24 for the first steps in achieving these objectives. We have also developed a plan and methodology for collecting equalities data across the nine protected characteristics with regard to our tenants, applicants for housing, governing body members and staff.

Human Rights

In January 2022 the Chartered Institute of Housing published their guidance on housing as a human right. This document sets out the seven dimensions of adequate housing and forms the basis of housing as a human right. Craigdale Housing Association have policies, strategies and

processes in place to ensure we meet the requirement for housing as a basic human right but will continuously monitor these to ensure they are compliant and help to meet the ethos of housing as a human right in line with guidance. To ensure this housing as a human right forms part of our Equalities Strategy

Tenant Safety

We take the safety of our tenants very seriously and to this end we have achieved 100% compliance with the regulatory standards on gas safety, legionella testing, asbestos testing, smoke alarm installations, roof anchor safety tests and close fire safety inspections. During the year we have been working hard to meet the regulatory standard for electrical safety in all our properties, at the time of writing we have inspected 98% of our properties for electrical safety and the expectation is for 100% of properties to have been tested by mid-November 2022.

Next Steps

We will keep our Assurance Statement under review and will notify the SHR and our customers if we become materially non-compliant with the Regulatory requirements prior to issuing our next annual Assurance Statement in October 2023.

Our Assurance Statement is publicly available on our Website and is displayed in our office. Finally, I can confirm as Chair of Craighdale Housing Association, I was authorised by the Board at a meeting held on 24th October 2022 to sign and submit this Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

Des Phee
Chairperson