

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL ASSURANCE STATEMENT 2021

Based on our self-assessment of compliance and associated evidence, we comply with all but one of the regulatory requirements set out in the Regulatory Framework, i.e.:

- Landlords must collect data relating to each of the protected characteristics for their existing tenants, new tenants, people on waiting lists, governing body members and staff. Local authorities must also collect data on protected characteristics for people who apply to them as homeless. Landlords who provide Gypsy / Traveller sites must collect data on protected characteristics for these service users

East Ayrshire Council currently only collects data in relation to disability and ethnic origins of tenants. The Council is progressing work to ensure that data related to all of the protected characteristics is collected and will incorporate the SHR's guidance on Collecting Equality Information to ensure compliance with equalities and human rights requirements moving forward. We have established new data fields within our Housing Management System (Orchard) to allow us to record this information. The Scottish Government is also reviewing the information to be captured in HL1 (statutory homelessness data) and it is anticipated this will include equalities information when it publishes its recommendations in the coming months which will contribute towards compliance with this Regulatory Requirement.

Initial discussions have taken place in relation to adopting a human rights approach in our work across our service and we await the publication of the SHR's guidance on equalities and human rights in social housing to support this and evidence future compliance with this regulatory requirement.