

## ANNUAL ASSURANCE STATEMENT 2022

The Management Committee of Forth Housing Association has carried out a comprehensive review of compliance with the Regulatory Standards of Governance and financial Management and the requirements of Chapter Three of the Regulatory Framework.

The evidence bank combines reports, policies, advice and information which the Management Committee monitors and oversees on an ongoing basis to provide continuous assurance.

From the evidence reviewed we were assured that a significant number of improvements have been carried out over the period and time is needed to allow these improvements to be embedded into our processes. In addition, we have identified weaknesses in the following four areas and working towards compliance.

- Regulatory Standard 1 Guidance 1.6 Each governing body member always acts in the best interests of the RSL and its tenants and service users and does not place any personal or other interest ahead of their primary duty to the RSL.
- Regulatory Standard 4 Guidance 4.2 Holding Senior Officer to account, new process in place however time is required to embed these into our governance process
- Regulatory Standard 5 Guidance 5.4 Access to clear information in relation to managing conflicts of interest
- Regulatory Standard 6 Guidance 6.7 Ensuring Senior Officer has the necessary skills, robust recruitment process however time needed to embed process for appraisal and objective setting into governance processes.

An improvement plan is in place with actions to address these weaknesses, this plan includes include timescales, actions, and evidence of improvement.

We are also assured that whilst we collect and report on equalities data for applicants, and we now have appropriate systems in place for the collection of equalities data for all other activity we still require to extend our training to committee members and staff to ensure we routinely take account of equality and human rights issues in our decisions, policy-making and day-to-day service delivery.

As Chair, I was authorised by the Management Committee at a meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022 to sign and submit this Annual Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

Ann Dickson

Chair Forth Housing Association