



ANNUAL ASSURANCE STATEMENT

We have now completed our assessment of compliance with the Regulatory Framework and the Regulatory standards of Governance and Financial management.

In undertaking our assessment Garrion Peoples Housing Co-op confirms that we;

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

In gaining assurance we confirm that we have seen and considered appropriate evidence.

Tenant Safety has been a particular focus for the Co-op this year. The Co-op is fully compliant in terms of Electrical Installation Condition Reports (EICR's), interlinked heat & smoke alarms and Annual Gas Safety Checks.

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, whilst also 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.

Our governing body took part in a strategic staff and committee away day in April 2022, delivered by an external housing consultancy firm. At this away day, the Regulatory Framework formed part of the event and was discussed at length with the importance understood by all.

To assist with our self assessment process and assurance statement preparation, external training took place on 06 October 2022, carried out by an external consultant.

As a Cooperative we take pride in keeping rents affordable and ensuring that they meet the needs of the local community and our own tenants in particular. The current financial crisis places more pressure on the levels of rent increase in the future. The introduction of the Scottish Governments emergency legislation to bring a cap on increases in rents at 0% for Registered Social Landlords will have significant implications for us. However this is a key priority within our business and we will reflect this in our business plan as soon as we receive clarification from the Scottish Government on the rent freeze proposal and inflation rates.

As Chair, I was authorised by the management committee at a meeting on 25 October 2022 to sign and submit this annual assurance statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator

David Cooper, Chairperson
Garrion Peoples Housing Co-operative