

Grampian Housing Association: Annual Assurance Statement - 2022

The Board of Grampian Housing Association (GHA) is satisfied that GHA is 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 scrutiny of comprehensive evidence supplied to us by senior management over the year, and from our ongoing governance and oversight of GHA. Where appropriate, we have obtained external support to provide us with additional assurance that our approach is effective and robust.

The evidence provided combines reports, policies, audit activities, advice and information that the Board and its sub committees monitors and oversees throughout the year to provide continuous assurance that GHA is compliant. The evidence incorporates relevant documents and information that contribute to our assurance and which structure GHA's business and governance activities.

In assessing the evidence, we have again adopted an improvement focus and will see actions once again form part of a Rolling Governance Action Plan and for progress through the next year. We are satisfied that none of these actions are material to our current compliance with the Framework, but rather are intended to improve practice and service delivery.

We currently have 12% of properties which do not have a valid EICR. This is a direct result of the pandemic and understandable tenant concerns about potential transmission of Covid by inspecting contractors, who require access to every room in a property to carry out these inspections. We have appointed a contractor and are working with the tenants concerned to reassure them that all necessary precautions continue to be employed. All outstanding inspections are scheduled to be completed by 31/3/23. In our ARC submission any properties where we have failed to gain access for electrical testing will be categorised as 'in abeyance' for the purposes of SHQS.

The Board is also satisfied that action taken over the last 12 months and which is ongoing ensures that it meets updated requirements in the area of equalities and will have the appropriate systems in place by the 31/3/23 for equalities data. 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.

We are assured that GHA has the necessary arrangements in place to identify any risks to compliance in the course of the conduct of our business and governance arrangements, and we recognise the requirement to notify the Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR) of any changes in our compliance during the course of the year.

We confirm that this Assurance Statement will be being published on the GHA website.

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HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD

As Chair, I was authorised by the Board at a meeting held on 23rd August 2023 to sign and submit this Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

Dr. Abhishek Agarwal BEng MEng MBA PhD CMBE
Board Chair
Grampian Housing Association Ltd.

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