

## Assurance Statement of Homes for Life Housing Partnership Limited

The Board is satisfied that Homes for Life is compliant with:

- All relevant Regulatory Requirements set out in Chapter Three of the Regulatory Framework;
- All relevant standards and outcomes in the Scottish Social Housing Charter;
- Our statutory obligations on Tenant & Resident Safety, Housing & Homelessness, and Equalities & Human rights.
- The Regulatory Standards of Governance & Financial Management;

The Board has gained assurance on this from development and review of a comprehensive bank of evidence using the September 2020 updated Self- Assurance Toolkit and Supplemental Covid-19 Guidance prepared by the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations, as well as from ongoing oversight and scrutiny of Homes for Life's affairs. Our assurance evidence bank includes:

- External and Internal Audit reports covering a comprehensive range of areas in each audit cycle;
- Independent Specialist Audit Reports on both Employer and Landlord Health & Safety through our membership of Employers in Voluntary Housing;
- Planning documents including our Business Plan, as reviewed by the Scottish Housing Regulator in June 2020;
- Reports to the Board about performance in key areas including finance, service delivery, asset management, and risk- taking account of Covid 19 impact and mitigation.
- Other reports, advice and information from senior staff, agents and consultants;
- Information on Notifiable Event notifications;
- Minutes & Papers for Board, Audit & Risk Committee, and Health & Safety Committee meetings;
- Information on Tenant Satisfaction, Tenant Consultation, and Complaints;
- Newsletters, Annual Customer Performance Reports and other publications;
- Benchmarking of our performance through our membership of the Scottish Housing Network as well as against published data on ARC and Financial performance.

In reviewing evidence and assessing compliance, we have taken account of good practice advice. We have also adopted an improvement focus and have identified a number of improvement actions. We have reviewed these and are satisfied that none are material to current compliance. We will progress these during the year, through implementation of our Assurance Improvement Action Plan, which will be regularly monitored by the Board to ensure effective implementation.

We recognise that we are required to notify the Scottish Housing Regulator of any material changes in our compliance during the year and have effective arrangements in place to do so. We are currently awaiting completion of an independent investigation into recent Whistleblowing, which if upheld could be material to our compliance. We will consider the findings of that report and notify the Scottish Housing Regulator accordingly.

As Chair, I was authorised by the Board at a meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020 to sign and submit this Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator. I confirm that this Assurance Statement is also being published on our website.

Signed:

Alan Brown, Chair of Homes for Life Housing Partnership Ltd., 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020.



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