

Lochaber Housing Association – HAL151

Assurance Statement 2023

In considering our compliance with our legal and regulatory requirements in 2023 we continued with an approach which has recently been approved by our internal auditor.

The evidence bank which combines reports, policies, advice, and information allows the Board to monitor and oversee on an ongoing basis that Lochaber Housing Association is compliant against the standards. Additionally, the evidence bank incorporates relevant documents and information that contribute to our assurance, and which form the structure of Lochaber Housing Association's business and governance activities.

We are satisfied that we meet all our duties in relation to tenant and resident safety. We have gained the necessary evidence-based assurance of our compliance in respect of duties relating to gas, electrical, fire, and water safety and our obligations relating to asbestos, damp and mould and where required we have sought specialist advice to monitor our compliance in these areas and to support our assurance.

In reviewing compliance, we have adopted an improvement focus and have also identified several improvement actions which we will progress during the course of the year. To support effective implementation, these actions form an Improvement Action Plan which will be monitored by the Board at agreed intervals to ensure successful achievement.

The Board of Lochaber Housing Association is satisfied that, to the best of our knowledge, Lochaber Housing Association 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 a review of a comprehensive bank of evidence and from our ongoing oversight and scrutiny of Lochaber Housing Association's affairs throughout the year (2022-23).

We are assured that Lochaber Housing Association has the necessary arrangements in place to identify any risks to compliance during the conduct of our business and governance arrangements.

In reviewing our compliance with the Regulatory Framework, we are assured that we have established appropriate systems for the collection of 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.

As Chair, I was authorised by the Board at a meeting held on 19th October 2023 to sign and submit this Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

Andrew Carr (Chair) 19th October 2023