

# North Ayrshire Council Annual Assurance Statement 2021/22



North Ayrshire Council  
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

North Ayrshire Council complies with the requirements set out in Chapter 3 of the Regulatory Framework. North Ayrshire Council is assured that we:

- ✓ Adhere to relevant guidance and the requirements of other regulators;
- ✓ Meet our statutory duties to prevent and alleviate homelessness;
- ✓ Adhere to statutory guidance from the Scottish Housing Regulator;
- ✓ Take account of regulatory advice from the Scottish Housing Regulator and from other regulators; and
- ✓ Comply with all regulatory requirements, encompassing:
  - Assurance and notification
  - Tenant and service user redress
  - Whistleblowing
  - Equalities and human rights
  - Scottish Social Housing Charter Performance.

We did not meet our legal obligations around tenant and resident safety as we did not comply with gas safety legislation for 360 properties during 2021/22. Due to new legislation introduced during 2021/22 regarding electrical testing and smoke detection equipment, 6,090 properties were non-compliant with regards to having an EICR and 735 for not having the new smoke detection equipment installed. There is an ongoing reluctance by some tenants to grant access to their property due to their concerns about risk of COVID-19 transmission. Labour shortages within the electrical industry affected the testing programme alongside access issues. All efforts were made to ensure compliance at the earliest opportunity and appropriate records were kept.

As a landlord, we collect data relating to protected characteristics for existing tenants, new tenants, people on waiting lists, governing body members, staff, people who apply to us as homeless and service users on our Gypsy/Traveller site. We are currently undergoing a system review alongside our partner landlords within the North Ayrshire Housing Register and have incorporated equalities data into the brief to further develop our approach. We have also begun to consider how we can adopt a human rights approach in our work. Guidance issued by the Scottish Housing Regulator in 2021 will further inform this strategy.

North Ayrshire Council's Audit and Scrutiny Committee has considered sufficient evidence to give this assurance. The Annual Assurance Statement was approved by Audit and Scrutiny Committee on 27 September 2022.

Authorised by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of the Committee

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_