



# Orkney Housing Association Ltd

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Our Ref: Chair/HCG/SHR

07 October 2020

Scottish Housing Regulator  
Buchanan House  
58 Port Dundas Road  
Glasgow  
G4 0HF

## Annual Assurance Statement

We have fully considered the regulatory requirements set out in Chapter 3 of the Scottish Housing Regulator's Framework. We have no material non-compliance with any requirement, and consequently confirm 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 & Financial Management for RSLs.

In considering our compliance with our legal and regulatory requirements in 2020, we have taken account of the considerable impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and consequent business, economic and social disruption. We continue to comply fully with the temporary changes to legislation and continue to follow national and local policy and requirements eg in respect of health and safety, physical distancing, travel, office opening and use of PPE.

We are confident that the measures that we have put in place and the contingency planning that we have implemented have ensured that we are able to continue to meet our responsibilities to our tenants, service users, regulators and funders. Where we have adopted revised standards of service delivery, we have communicated changes clearly to our tenants and are maintaining the necessary records to ensure a smooth resumption of normal service levels when possible.

We continue to monitor our Business Plan, budget and financial assumptions in the context of the ongoing emergency situation and associated business interruption. Our Business Plan reflects the regulatory guidance that was current at the time of its preparation and we will take account of updated regulatory advice as we monitor and review our Business Plan in the context of the changed situation.

To ensure compliance with the 2019 Regulatory Framework we had hoped to present the 2020 Model Rules to a Special General Meeting to be held prior to our AGM in 2020, for adoption. However, we made the decision solely due to the current pandemic, to delay the process until 2021. The specially adapted Corporate Insolvency & Governance Act 2020 permitted the Association to hold a virtual AGM as this is not currently provided for in our Rules. We plan to undertake the process of seeking adoption of the new Rules in 2021.

We confirm that we have seen and considered sufficient evidence to give us this assurance and acknowledge the requirement to notify the Scottish Housing Regulator of any changes to this Annual Assurance Statement throughout the year.

We approved our Annual Assurance Statement at the meeting of our Management Committee on 07 October 2020.

I sign this statement on behalf of the Management Committee.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Fiona Lettice, Chair

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