



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

27/10/2021

Annual Assurance Statement 2021 on behalf of Paisley Housing Association Board and PSPS subsidiary in the PHA Group.

As a result of robust, timely and evidence based reporting to the Board, along with ongoing self-assessment, we can confirm to the best of our knowledge and belief that we have assurance of compliance with:

- All relevant regulatory requirements set out in section 3 of the Regulatory Framework.
- All relevant standards and outcomes in the Scottish Social Housing Charter.
- All relevant legislative duties.
- The SHR Standards of Governance and Financial Management.

There are no areas of material or significant non-compliance that require to be disclosed in this statement.

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 have complied/continue to comply fully with the temporary changes to legislation and continue to follow national and local policy and requirements e.g. in respect of health and safety, physical distancing, travel, office opening, use of PPE, application of Test and Protect requirements and indoor gatherings.

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.

PHA commenced a programme of Independent Internal Audit in February 2021. In 2021 we carried out Internal Audit on Governance, Treasury Management and GDPR. There were no material issues arising from these audits and all actions required will be addressed by March 2022.

Our Business Plan review commenced in September 2021 and will be complete by March 2022.

In relation to equalities data gathering, the SHR is aware that guidance in relation to this matter has only recently been published. Although the Association has well developed equalities policies we intend to consider the guidance over the next few months with the aim of fully implementing it in April 2022.

Whilst not complacent, we are content that the way we deliver services and develop policies would generally be consistent with a human rights approach. We know, though, that this is an emerging agenda and that so far there is little in the way of housing-specific guidance. We are aware that SHR, CIH Scotland the Scottish Human Rights Commission and others are due to produce guidance on some aspects of the human rights approach to housing. We look forward to utilising the relevant guidance that is produced in the future, to inform our work, to review our own approach and consider whether any changes might be needed to our services or policies.

We undertake to notify the SHR should there be any supplementary information or changes to the assurances reported in this statement and will make this statement available to our tenants and stakeholders by publishing it on our website. We approved our Annual Assurance Statement at the meeting of our Board on Wednesday 27th October 2021.

I sign this statement on behalf of the Board.

Ian Johnstone
Chairperson
Date