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Your ref: RCH AAS 2024
Our ref: RCH AAS 2024
Date: 31st October 2024

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

Dear Sir/Madam

Annual Assurance Statement - River Clyde Homes (RCH)

This letter sets out RCH Board's assessment of Business Assurance. The Board is satisfied that, to the best of its knowledge, RCH is compliant with:

- All relevant regulatory requirements as set out in Section Three of the Regulatory Framework
- The Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management
- The relevant standards and outcomes of the Scottish Social Housing Charter
- Our statutory obligations in respect of tenant and resident safety, housing and homelessness and equalities and human rights.

Tenant and Resident Safety continues to be a focus for the Board. We have gained the necessary evidence-based assurance of our compliance in respect of duties relating to gas, electrical, fire, water and lift safety together with our obligations relating to asbestos, damp and mould.

River Clyde Homes has concluded a thorough independent professional review to determine whether RAAC exists in any of its properties. A small number of occupied properties have been identified as containing RAAC and we are liaising with affected tenants and owners. We have a robust action plan in place and we are following professional guidance.

The evidence bank combines reports, policies, advice and information which the Board monitors and oversees on an ongoing basis throughout the year to provide continuous assurance that RCH is compliant. Additionally, the evidence bank incorporates relevant documents and information that contribute to our assurance and which form the structure of RCH's business and governance activities. The evidence bank includes assurance from the delivery of the Internal Audit Plan which is undertaken by an external organisation.

In assessing the evidence, we have adopted an improvement focus which has resulted in the creation of an Action Plan which we have begun to implement and will continue to progress during the course of the year. We have reviewed the identified actions in the improvement action plan and are satisfied that all are intended to deliver effective improvement and that none are material to our current compliance with the Framework.

To supplement the ongoing governance of Business Assurance undertaken by the Audit & Risk Committee, the Board also has access to an online portal which holds a repository of evidence supporting Business Assurance compliance. This enables the Board to analyse and review the evidence on a real time basis. RCH also implemented a Business Assurance

Focus Plan to allow Board members to undertake an in-depth review of the Annual Assurance Compliance Checklist in preparation for our 2024 Annual Assurance Statement submission.

We are assured that River Clyde Homes has the necessary arrangements in place to identify compliance risks in the course of 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 using this data to take account of equality and human rights issues in our decisions, policies and service delivery.

As Chair, I was authorised by the Board at a meeting held on 24th September 2024 to sign and submit this Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

I confirm that this Assurance Statement is being published on our website on the same date that it is submitted to the SHR.

_____ (signature)

John Quinn

Chair, RCH Group Board

Date: 31st October 2024