

12th October 2021

West Dunbartonshire Council Annual Assurance Statement

We confirm that we comply with the regulatory requirements set out in Chapter 3 of the Scottish Housing Regulator's Regulatory Framework.

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:

Outcome 13 states that social landlords manage all aspects of their business so that:

Tenants, owners and other customers receive services that provide continually improving value for the rent and other charges that they pay.

We highlighted in our previous Annual Assurance Statement that we intended to carry out a full assessment of our compliance with the HRA Guidance published by the Scottish Government in 2014. We have carried out this assessment and implemented a number of actions and have no areas of material non-compliance.

- comply with all but the following legal obligations relating to housing and homelessness, equality and human rights, and tenant and resident safety:

Covid-19 has impacted on our ability to carry out all gas safety checks within the 12 month anniversary date. During 2020/21 there were 215 instances when a gas safety check was not renewed by the anniversary date. All of these were due to Covid-19 whereby tenants refused access due to shielding or had a positive Covid-19 test result. All of these have subsequently been completed.

This risk has been communicated to our Lead Regulator via regular contact during the pandemic and the non-compliance has been specified as being due to Covid-19. We deem this to be material and are therefore highlighting in our AAS.

We have seen and considered sufficient evidence to give us the assurance outlined in this statement.

We will approve our Annual Assurance Statement at the meeting of our Housing and Communities Committee on 3rd November 2021.

I sign this statement on behalf of the Committee.

Diane Docherty,
Convener, Housing and Communities Committee