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## **Annual Assurance Statement 2022**

I write on behalf of the Management Committee of West Whitlawburn Housing Co-operative to confirm that we comply with the regulatory requirements set out in Chapter 3 of the Scottish Housing Regulator's Framework.

This includes 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 and Financial Management for RSLs.

We confirm that we have seen and considered sufficient evidence to give us this assurance.

We currently have 14 properties which do not have a valid EICR. This is a direct result of the pandemic and understandable tenant concerns about potential transmission of Covid by inspecting contractors, who require access to every room in a property to carry out these inspections. We have appointed a contractor and are working with the tenants concerned to reassure them that all necessary precautions continue to be employed. All outstanding inspections are scheduled to be completed by December 2022 [As reported in our ARC, these properties are currently categorised as 'in abeyance' for the purposes of the SHQS]

In considering our compliance with our legal and regulatory requirements in 2022, we have taken account of the ongoing impact of the cost of living crisis and consequent business, economic and social disruption. 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.

In reviewing our compliance with the Regulatory Framework, we are assured that we are working towards having appropriate systems in place for the collection of equalities data. We are assured that we are working towards using this data to take account of equality and human rights issues in our decisions, policy-making and day-to-day service delivery.

We take pride in keeping rents affordable and ensuring that they meet the needs of the local community and our tenant / members in particular. The cost of living crisis places more pressure on the levels of rent increase in the future. All of this against a backdrop of the recently announced proposed rent freeze for Registered Social Landlords.

Registered with the Scottish Housing Regulator No. 203 Registered Charity No. SCO38737, VAT Registration No. 180223636 Registered society under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014



This is the number one priority for the Co-operative and the business plan will need to be revisited as soon as there is a clarification on the rent freeze proposal and the inflation rate.

We approved our Annual Assurance Statement at the meeting of our Management Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

Susan Anderson Chairperson

Signed:	(Chairperson
Date:	