

6<sup>th</sup> November 2020

## **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, with the exception of those areas we set out below.

We:

- achieve all but the following 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.*

The HRA Guidance published by the Scottish Government in 2014 aims to ensure that tenants of local authorities receive the maximum benefit from their rents and the best standards of service. We are working toward assessing our full compliance with this guidance and have an action in our Charter Improvement Plan to carry out a full assessment in partnership with Joint Rent Group on compliance and develop any actions where appropriate. It is intended that this exercise will be carried out in parallel with our Rent Consultation exercise.

- 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 data. In the period April to July 2020, a total of 184 failures were recorded.

As at the end on September 2020, 183 of these have subsequently been carried out and best endeavors are underway to carry out the 1 outstanding.

Following the easing of lockdown restrictions, specifically residents that were shielding, no further failures were recorded in August or September.

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

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

We approved our Annual Assurance Statement at the meeting of our Housing and Communities Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020.