

Assurance Statement 2023 - Irvine Housing Association

It is after due care and consideration that we can confirm as a Board, that we have reviewed the Regulatory Compliance Assessment undertaken by Senior Staff, along with the accompanying body of evidence, and that we are confident that we have taken all appropriate and reasonable steps to allow us to give assurance that the Association is materially compliant with:

- the regulatory requirements as set out in Chapter 3 of the Regulatory Framework;
- the relevant standards and outcomes in the Scottish Social Housing Charter;
- relevant legislative obligations relating to housing and homelessness, equality and human rights, and tenant and resident safety; and
- the Standards of Governance and Financial Management for RSLs.

In reviewing the evidence, we have looked for, and identified, areas for improvement, ways in which we can increase service quality, and how we can achieve better outcomes for our customers.

We are assured that we have an effective approach in collecting equalities data and continue to monitor that this is being done effectively. We have implemented processes to use this data to inform key decision making and embed a human rights approach at both a strategic level and within our day-to-day service delivery.

We are assured that with the introduction of regular reporting to Board and Audit & Risk Committees, along with action plans for any resulting issues, we meet all duties in relation to tenant and resident safety. In particular, we have obtained appropriate assurance about our compliance with all relevant safety requirements including: gas safety, electrical safety, water safety, fire safety, asbestos and damp & mould.

The performance of domestic electrical testing/EICR's sits at just under 95%. Any properties without a valid EICR have had repeated access attempts by contractors as part of a backlog programme of works and letters issued by Riverside Scotland to encourage them to contact us to arrange access. Following advice from the SFHA, from the 1st September 2023 the Association will now force entry to complete EICRs as it is considered essential health and safety works. It is anticipated that we will be 100% compliant by the end of March 2024.

The Improvement Plan that has been created following the completion of the Regulatory Compliance Assessment, forms a full and clear audit of the steps that the Association has committed to take to continue to work towards the achievement and delivery of our vision to transform lives and revitalise neighbourhoods.

This Assurance Statement was approved by the Board at its meeting on 27th October 2023 to be signed by the Chair and submitted to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

James Strang, Chair

On behalf of the Board of Riverside Scotland