



RUTHERGLEN & CAMBUSLANG HOUSING ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL ASSURANCE STATEMENT 2023

While the Management Committee confirms that it is assured that the Association complies with the regulatory requirements set out in Chapter 3 of the Scottish Housing Regulator's Framework and the relevant standards of governance and financial management, it maintains a focus on improving and solidifying the level and quality of evidence.

It has therefore identified a number of areas for further action that will consolidate and strengthen the level of assurance. These areas are;

Equalities Data Collection – the Association continues to work with its external Data Protection Officer and other suitable specialists to strengthen its compliance with regards to equalities data collection and to ensure;

- Appropriate IT systems are in place for the collection and storage of equalities data
- It has effective processes for using the data is taken account of in the decision-making process

To support this and take positive, demonstrable action towards improving opportunity of access to services, the Association has recently reviewed its Equalities & Human Rights Policy and has developed an updated action plan to give Committee members further assurance that the principles of equality and human rights are being embedded throughout the organisation and in all of its activities.

Tenant & Resident Safety – a full review of the Association's compliance with its duties and responsibilities in relation to gas, electrical, water, fire and lift safety and its obligations relating to asbestos, damp and mould is carried being carried out. This is complimentary to a wider forward-looking review of the Association's Asset Management activities. Both reviews are being led by specialist external advisers. The review work includes;

- Developing an updated suite of policies and procedures
- Developing effective IT systems to support robust monitoring and reporting
- Reconciliation of all required certificates

The Associations stock profile suggests that properties constructed between 1950's to 1990's require further investigation to ascertain if Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC). To establish any presence of RAAC and to give members, the highest level of assurance that the Association is meeting its obligations in this regard, a review and visual inspections are due to be carried out to identify, if any, the number of properties affected.

Tenant Engagement – it is acknowledged that the Association still has work to do to meet the level of assurance it wants with regards;

- Involving tenants in the preparation and scrutiny of performance information
- Agreeing on an approach with tenants on providing performance information

Gaining Assurance

As part of its processes for reviewing the Association's self-assessment of compliance with the Regulatory Standards, the Management Committee took into account;

- The findings of an independent review of its supporting evidence bank
- Internal and external audits
- Tenant and service user satisfaction results
- Advice from external, specialist advisers
- Ongoing oversight and scrutiny of the Association's business throughout the year

Assurance Improvement Action Plan

The Management Committee and the senior staff team are developing a robust action plan to enhance and consolidate the evidence it can provide to demonstrate its compliance and give further assurance to members. This action plan has already started to be implemented and will continue to be delivered throughout the year.

Monitoring

The Association has a programme for the ongoing review of both the assurance improvement action plan and the Association's continued compliance with the regulatory, statutory and legal standards and requirements.

Members of the Management Committee are assured that the Association has the necessary arrangements in place to identify any risks to its ongoing compliance and are aware of the requirement to notify the SHR of any identified material changes in its compliance.

Statement of Compliance

The Management Committee of Rutherglen and Cambuslang Housing Association is satisfied that there are no material failures in its level of compliance and, with the above noted caveats and actions plans, that the Association is compliant with the requirements of the Chapter Three of the Regulatory Framework and the Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management.

This Assurance Statement was approved by the members at the meeting on 24th October 2023 and, as Chair, I have been authorised to sign and submit it on behalf of the Management Committee. I can confirm that the statement will be made published on the Association's website.