

The Management Committee of Forth Housing Association has over the course of the year, carried out a comprehensive review of compliance with the Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management and the requirements of Section Three of the Regulatory Framework.

In addition to the reviews by the Management Committee and Sub Committees, a review was carried out by our internal auditor, Quinn Internal Audit Services, in September 2024 which incorporated a comprehensive governance review of our compliance with the Regulatory Standards and the associated evidence.

The outcome of this audit showed Forth to have an organised and effective governing body assurance reporting framework with no material recommendations for further improvements.

In addition to the internal audit and our own internal validation processes, an external data verification of ARC indicators was carried out by Scotland's Housing Network (SHN) giving additional assurance on the accuracy of our data reporting.

The evidence bank combines committee reports, financial plans and projections, policies, advice and information which the Management Committee monitors and oversees on an ongoing basis to provide continuous assurance.

It is our assessment that we meet all of the Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management and the requirements of Chapter Three of the Regulatory Framework.

Legislative Duties associated with housing and homelessness services, equality and human rights, and tenant and resident safety:

- We comply with the standards and outcomes in the Scottish Social Housing Charter for tenants, people who are homeless and others who use our services.
- We have also introduced an effective approach to the collection of equalities and human rights information from tenants, staff, committee members and applicants through a variety of methods and are assured that we are already taking account of equality issues in our decisions, policies and recognise that we have further work to do on the analysis of our tenant demographic data to further shape our service delivery.
- We have assurance and evidence that we are meeting all of our legal obligations associated with housing and tenant and resident safety and can confirm that we have no properties with Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) following a desk top review.

- We have the necessary evidence-based assurance of our compliance in respect of duties relating to electrical, fire, water, lift safety (no lifts) and our obligations relating to asbestos, and damp and mould.

In the reporting year to the end of March 2024, we met all of our of our duties in relation to tenant and resident safety for gas servicing compliance however we did record one gas service failure in 2024/25 which was a Notifiable Event and was reported to the Scottish Housing Regulator. We immediately implemented additional actions to remedy this and following an internal review we are now assured that the actions taken are robust and will prevent any further occurrences.

We acknowledge that we are required to notify the SHR of any changes in our compliance during the course of the year and are assured that we have effective arrangements in place to enable us to do so.

As Chair, I was authorised by the Management Committee at a meeting held on the 29th October 2024 to sign and submit this Annual Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

Name: Andrea Finkel-Gates

Position: Chair

Signed:

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the Chair.

Date: 30th October 2024