

## Assurance Statement 2019

The Management Committee of Shettleston Housing Association confirms that we have reviewed and assessed a comprehensive bank of evidence to support this Statement regarding the Association's compliance with the Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management and the requirements of Chapter Three of the Regulatory Framework (2019).

The evidence which supports this Statement includes:

- Reports about performance in key areas including finance, service delivery, asset management, development and risk
- Key governance documents including Management Committee and Sub-Committee papers and Minutes
- Internal and External Audit Reports
- Advice from external and specialist advisers
- Reports, advice and information from senior staff

The Management Committee has assessed an evidence bank which brings together information that it monitors and oversees on an ongoing basis throughout the year. We are satisfied that Shettleston Housing Association has effective measures in place to provide the Management Committee with the information it needs to be assured of continuous compliance and to enable us to identify any changes to our compliance and make the necessary notifications to the SHR.

In reviewing the evidence and assessing compliance, we have taken account of good practice advice and we have obtained external support to provide us with additional assurance that our approach is effective and robust.

We have adopted an improvement focus in undertaking our assurance assessment which has enabled us to develop an Improvement Action Plan which we will progress during the course of the year. We have reviewed the identified actions in the improvement plan. We are satisfied that for most part these are intended to deliver effective improvements to enhance our current arrangements and are not material to our current compliance with the Regulatory Framework.

However two issues have arisen in recent months which we feel are worthy of note. We are satisfied that the necessary action has been taken to address each of these to ensure ongoing compliance. Both are however still the subject of discussion with stakeholders and on balance we feel that reference should be made to them in this Statement.

*Regulatory Standard 3:* At the end of the 2018/19 financial year there was a non-material breach in the cash-flow covenant that forms part of our loan agreement with the Royal Bank of Scotland. The lender remains supportive of the Association and has drawn up proposals for changes to our loan arrangement which we expect will achieve a mutually acceptable financial solution for the future. These are currently under active consideration.

*Regulatory Standard 4:* We very recently became aware of some weaknesses in respect of our data management and have reviewed and strengthened our systems and processes, including in respect of cyber security. We are confident that we have robust processes in place to protect the data of our tenants, service users and others.

As Chairperson, I was authorised by the Management Committee at a meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 to sign and submit this Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

We confirm that this Assurance Statement is also being circulated to all tenants along with our Performance Report and will be published on our website in due course.

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**(SHA Chairperson) 25th October 2019**