

Annual Assurance Statement

by the Management Committee of Cernach Housing Association – September 2019



Introduction

As a registered social landlord (RSL), Cernach Housing Association is required to submit its first Annual Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR) before the end of October 2019. This document represents the Statement that Committee considered and agreed at its meeting on 12 September 2019.

Format of Annual Assurance Statement

The SHR has not been prescriptive about how the Statement should look, and we have therefore been able to develop something that we think will work for us and our customers, whilst also meeting the Regulator's expectations. It takes account of sector guidance, with the Committee evaluating the Association's performance in each of the following sections:

- Assurance and notification
- Scottish Social Housing Charter (SSHC) performance
- Tenant and service user redress
- Whistleblowing
- Equality and human rights
- Statutory guidance
- Organisational details and constitution
- Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management (RSGFM)

Each section:

- Notes whether we, as a Management Committee, are sufficiently assured that we comply and, following on, that we are sufficiently confident that we can pass that assurance on to stakeholders
- Indicates where further action may be required because of material non-compliance

The Association can report that there are **no areas of material non-compliance**.

Supporting evidence and additional information

The Association has completed the *toolkit* issued by the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations. This was populated with supporting evidence that we have been gathering over a number of years; most recently (in 2018/19) we commissioned an independent review of our compliance with the SSHC and RSGFM. The results were positive and we are in the process of implementing the small number of follow-on actions. These supplement other assurance-related activities, such as internal & external audit, independent surveys, in-house assessments and other internal organisational controls and checks.

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Please contact a member of staff if you, or anyone you know, would benefit from this**

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This Statement is publicly available. Any interested party may ask for further information on the supporting evidence as it relates to any of the assertions made in this document. We will be happy to discuss this with you in more detail.

Assurance

Our assurance is as described below:

Ref	Section	Compliance	Comments
AN	Assurance and notification	Yes	
CH	Scottish Social Housing Charter (SSHC) performance	Yes	
TS	Tenant and service user redress	Yes	
WB	Whistleblowing	Yes	
EH	Equality and human rights	Yes	
SG	Statutory guidance	Yes	
OC	Organisational details and constitution	Yes	
RS	Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management (RSGFM)	Yes	

This assurance is given by the Management Committee following review and assessment of a wide range of documentation. Stakeholders can be assured that the Committee takes steps to ensure that the information it is being provided with is robust and accurate and this, in turn, allows us to issue this Statement.

Next steps

The Association will keep this Statement under review, and will notify the SHR and our customer if we become unable to offer full assurance prior to issuing our second Annual Assurance Statement in October 2020.

Please contact the Association if you would like to be involved or if you wish more information.

John Brannan

Chairperson

12 September 2019

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