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Your ref: RCH AAS22  
Our ref: AAS22  
Date: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022

The Scottish Housing Regulator  
Buchanan House  
58 Port Dundas Road  
Glasgow  
G4 0HF

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Annual Assurance Statement - River Clyde Homes (RCH)**

This letter sets out RCH Board's assessment of Business Assurance. The Board is satisfied that, to the best of its knowledge, RCH is compliant with:

- All relevant regulatory requirements as set out in Section Three of the Regulatory Framework
- The Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management
- The relevant standards and outcomes of the Scottish Social Housing Charter
- Our statutory obligations in respect of tenant and resident safety, housing and homelessness and equalities and human rights.

The evidence bank combines reports, policies, advice and information which the Board monitors and oversees on an ongoing basis throughout the year to provide continuous assurance that RCH is compliant. Additionally, the evidence bank incorporates relevant documents and information that contribute to our assurance and which form the structure of RCH's business and governance activities.

In assessing the evidence, we have adopted an improvement focus which has resulted in the creation of an Action Plan which we have begun to implement and will continue to progress during the course of the year. We have reviewed the identified actions in the improvement action plan and are satisfied that all are intended to deliver effective improvement and that none are material to our current compliance with the Framework.

To supplement the ongoing governance of Business Assurance undertaken by the Audit & Risk Committee, the Board also have access to an online portal which holds a repository of evidence supporting Business Assurance compliance. This enables the Board to analyse and review on a real time basis. RCH also implemented a Business Assurance Focus Plan to allow Board members to undertake an in-depth review of the Annual Assurance Compliance Checklist in preparation for our 2022 Annual Assurance Statement submission.

We are assured that River Clyde Homes has the necessary arrangements in place to identify any risks to compliance in the course of the conduct of our business and governance arrangements. RCH has also stress tested the Corporate Plan for a variety of identified risks and we have assurance that it is robust.

We currently have 148 (2.5%) of our properties, which do not have a valid Electrical Installation Condition Report (EICR). This is primarily due to the lack of access during the Covid pandemic. A number of our tenants will have had understandable concerns about potential

transmission of Covid during an inspection process that would have required access to the property. Our action plan is aiming to reach full EICR compliance by no later than 31 January 2023.

The Board has recently approved an Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and action plan for the RCH Group. We are assured that we are working towards having appropriate systems in place for the collection of equalities data and that we are working towards using this data to take account of equality and human rights issues in our decisions, policy-making and day-to-day service delivery.

As Chair, I was authorised by the Board to sign and submit this Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator.

I confirm that this Assurance Statement is being published on our website on the same date that it is submitted to the SHR.

Jillian Moffat  
**Chair, RCH Group Board**

**Date:** 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022