

Approved by ELHA Board 28/05/26

East Lothian Housing Association Assurance Statement

28 May 2026

We have now completed our annual assessment of compliance with the Regulatory Framework and the Regulatory Standards of Governance and Financial Management.

In preparing our 2026 Statement, our Governance Committee met twice (in April and May 2026), and reported directly to the ELHA Board. The Governance Committee also prepares reports for the ELHA Board to consider whether any changes or updates are required to the Statement during the course of the year, and will hold a mid-year review meeting in October 2026.

In gaining assurance, our Governance Committee has overseen the review and updating of our Evidence Bank, using the March 2026 version of the Toolkit produced by the SFHA to assist the process. The Evidence Bank combines reports, policies, advice and information which the ELHA Board monitors and oversees on an ongoing basis throughout the year to provide continuous assurance that we remain compliant. Additionally, the Evidence Bank incorporates relevant documents and information that contribute to our assurance, and which form the structure of our business and governance activities.

Using our cloud-based IT infrastructure, we have given secure access to the Evidence Bank, including access to linked documents within it, to all the members of our Governance Committee. We have also provided training to Governance Committee members about how to use the Evidence Bank. This means that all members of the Governance Committee can access our Evidence Bank at any time of day, and from any location.

We are confident that we continue to meet our responsibilities to our tenants, service users, regulators and funders. We have communicated our service delivery arrangements to our tenants clearly.

We confirm that we have comprehensive, robust, up to date information about the construction, components and condition of our homes. We use this information to ensure the safety of our tenants' and residents' homes and to inform our asset management and financial planning.

In reviewing our compliance with the Regulatory Framework, we are assured that we have established appropriate systems for the collection of equalities data, and we have used this data to take account of equality and human rights issues in our decisions, policy-making and day-to-day service delivery.

To ensure effective governance, the ELHA Board continues to prioritise Succession Planning.

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

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Linda reported to the ELHA Board as follows:

The process adopted by ELHA for the review of the Evidence Bank, periodic reporting to the Governance Committee and onward reporting to the ELHA Board demonstrates the implementation of practices designed to provide continuous assurance. The process described is consistent with the advice and guidance contained in the current SFHA Self Assurance Toolkit.

The ELHA Board confirms that we have reviewed and assessed a comprehensive bank of evidence to support this Statement that ELHA 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

We recognise 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 ELHA Board at a meeting held on 28 May 2026 to sign and submit this Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator. I confirm that this Assurance Statement is being published on elha.com, on the same date that it is submitted to the SHR.

ELHA Board Chair