

Report to: Management Committee 6th September 2018

Prepared by: Marion Menabney, Chief Executive

Subject: Update on Current Strategic Issues

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide Committee with summary position statements relating to current strategic issues. Unless stated otherwise, these are being progressed through the Senior Management Team.

1. Compliance Assessments – Regulatory Standards

The Association's compliance with Governance and Financial Management Standards is now a regular feature on the agenda for Management Committee meetings. At each meeting, a briefing on one standard will be presented to remind members of the Governing Body's obligations and the strategic or operational implications for compliance. The Senior Management Team will have reviewed the same standard and will be preparing an action plan if required to address any compliance issues with policy or practice.

As previously discussed, the Scottish Housing Regulator will be publishing information later this year on how RSLs will be expected to demonstrate compliance with the Standards. To this end, the Chief Executive and Governance Assistant have been preparing a register across the standards to compile a list of compliance references, both electronic and manual.

2. Housing Management

The Chief Executive is working with the Housing Management Team on the following strategic/operational issues:

- Common Housing Register
- Ongoing Legal cases
- Equalisation of former GHA property rent levels
- First month's rent flexibilities
- GCC's Temporary Furnished Flats
- Complaint Handling Procedures
- Review of Allocations Policy
- Review of Medical Adaptations strategy
- Compliance with 2014 Housing Act
- Development of Tenancy Services Assistant role

Where appropriate, the Compliance Manager will be co-ordinating input from other SMT members.

3. Investment Planning

The Chief Executive has established a small planning group comprising the Director of Property Services, The Property Services Manager and the Finance Manager. The primary purpose of the group is to re-establish an active link between investment works, long term financial forecasts and current resources.

The absence of a current planned investment programme is an area of weakness relating to Standard 3 and should be addressed before the Association reaches a position of non-compliance.

Reports on the group's progress will be presented to both sub-committees as and when appropriate.

4. Staffing and Recruitment

The positions of Temporary Governance Assistant, Factoring Officer and Finance Manager were successfully filled and induction programmes are progressing.

Recruitment of a Property Services Assistant is underway with interviews scheduled for late September.

The next vacancy to be considered will be the Housing Manager position. A review of the role requirement will begin in the coming weeks. Reports and proposals will be presented to the Governance and Finance sub-committee for initial discussion.
