Bield Housing and Care
Annual Assurance Statement 2026

The Board of Bield Housing and Care confirms that it has reviewed and assessed a comprehensive body and is satisfied that Bield complies with:

- All relevant requirements of 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; and
- Statutory obligations in respect of tenant and resident safety, housing and homelessness and human rights.

To undertake the self-assessment exercise the Board established a governance working group made up of Board Members, including a tenant Member, and senior staff to develop and assess evidence and compliance. The wider Board has also had oversight and input into the process

The evidence which supports this Statement includes:

- Reports about performance in key areas, finance, service delivery, asset management, development and risk
- Internal and External Audit Reports and audit findings / judgements
- Advice from external and specialist advisers including Bield's independent governance review
- Reports, advice, information and other assurances from senior staff.

In reviewing and assessing its compliance Bield has adopted a robust approach to improvement and scrutiny. Improvements have been identified which will be progressed during the forthcoming year and monitored by the Board at agreed intervals to ensure successful implementation. The Board is assured that these actions are intended to enhance Bield's governance and financial management and are not material to compliance or any other regulatory assurances.

In reviewing compliance with the Regulatory Framework, Board is assured that Bield uses data to take account of equality and human rights issues in decision-making, policy development and service delivery.

In reviewing compliance with the Regulatory Framework, the Board is assured that Bield uses data to take account of equality and human rights issues in decision-making, policy development and service delivery.

The Board has obtained appropriate assurance and confirms compliance across all key tenant and resident safety areas including

• Gas safety
• Water safety
• Fire safety
• Electrical safety
• Asbestos
• Damp and Mould
• Lift safety

Bield is fully compliant with the electrical safety requirements of the Scottish Housing Quality Standard, with all properties holding a valid Electrical Installation Condition Report (EICR). This follows the successful completion of the Action Plan agreed with the Scottish Housing Regulator in January 2025 and the completion of the electrical inspection programme across all properties.

The Board is assured that Bield has comprehensive, good quality and up to date information on the construction, components and condition of their homes.

The Board notes that Bield does not own or manage any Gypsy / Traveller sites therefore are not required to provide assurance on compliance with the Scottish Government's minimum site standards.

The Board's approach to reviewing and assessing Bield's compliance has been informed by relevant good practice advice including external support to provide us with additional assurance that the approach is effective and robust. This includes compliance with tenant and resident safety requirements. The Board confirms that this Assurance Statement is being published on our website on the same date that it is submitted to the SHR.

Finally, the Board fully recognises the need to keep these matters under constant review and to notify the SHR of any changes to Bield's compliance position prior to the submission of next year's Assurance Statement.

As Chair, I was authorised by the Board at a meeting held on 23 September 2026 to sign and submit this Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator which confirms that the Board is satisfied that Bield Housing and Care is compliant with the requirements of the Regulatory Framework.

_____ (Chair) 23 September 2026