

Title: Asset Compliance Plan Progress

Lead Officer: Steve Partner, Head of Neighbourhood & Assets

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Paul Wightman, Cabinet Member for Housing
 Wards of the District directly affected: all

Approvals required	Date	Name
Portfolio Holder	07.05.24	Paul Wightman
Finance	07.05.24	Andrew Rollins
Legal Services		N/A
Chief Executive	07.05.24	Chris Elliott
Director of Climate Change		N.A
Deputy CEO	07.05.24	Darren Knight
Section 151 Officer	07.05.24	Andrew Rollins
Monitoring Officer	07.05.24	Graham Leach
Leadership Co-ordination Group		N/A
Final decision by this Committee or rec to another Cttee / Council?	No	
Contrary to Policy / Budget framework?	No	
Does this report contain exempt info/Confidential? If so, which paragraph(s)?	No	
Does this report relate to a key decision (referred to in the Cabinet Forward Plan)?	No	
Accessibility Checked?	Yes	

Summary

Following the independent asset review, the governance framework and action plan is underway in response to the recommendations. This report gives the asset compliance committee an update on the current position and progress on the action plan.

Recommendation(s)

- (1) That the Committee notes the progress made.

 - (2) That the Committee agree to reduce the number of their meetings so they meet every other month as set out below, with the other scheduled dates being cancelled;
23 July 2024
18 September 2024
26 November 2024
27 January 2025
25 March 2025
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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Following the independent asset compliance review, a self-referral to the Regulator for Social Housing was made on the 9 November 2023.
- 1.2 As reported previously, the Regulator had determined not to record a Breach of the Standard at this stage but to require regular reporting on progress in meeting the Action Plan.
- 1.3 Meetings are being held to update the regulator on a bimonthly basis, the most recent being on 3 May 2024.
- 1.4 The two specialist leads, Fire Safety and Building Safety continue to provide specialist assistance based on the specific competencies required around these areas, and liaison continues with Pennington.
- 1.5 Consultancy with Pennington around data validation is now complete, and draft policies have been produced by Pennington and are under review following which the project will move on to agree procedures and process charts across Assets and Housing.
- 1.6 A further meeting of the Compliance Board is due to be held on 8 May 2024 and any matters arising will be reported verbally at this meeting.

2 Highlight Report & Action Plan

- 2.1 Appendix 1 is the updated highlight report with columns to provide further context for this Committee.
- 2.2 With the self-referral to the regulator completed and the outcome now known, additional regulatory information provided and specialist resources in place, the Compliance Action Team has:
 - Reviewed and updated the target dates in the action plan, all to complete within the original project time scale.

- Set out estimated start dates for the recommendations that have not commenced.
- Further broken-down recommendations into more detailed tasks and milestones (this was an area also highlighted by overview & scrutiny)

2.3 These revised targets dates were as in in the last report and one further amendment has been made as below:

Recommendation number	Target Date	Revised Target Date	Reason for change
Recommendation 5	30.03.24	30.04.24	Target date has been re-assessed to consider the work that still needs to be completed and may need to be assessed again.

This revision of dates will continue throughout the project. Currently, there is no change to the overall completion date. If this needs to change, Compliance Board and Asset Compliance Committee will be advised as soon as possible.

2.4 The Chair of the Committee, asked the Compliance Board to consider the need for the Committee to meet each month, at this time, due to the considerable progress that has been made to date with the delivery of the Action Plan. This was considered by the Compliance Board and agreed that the Committee could meet every other month based on progress made. The Compliance Board will continue to meet each month, at this time and any significant issues that arise between Committee meetings these would be brought to the attention of the Committee via email and discussion held with the Chair as to if an additional meeting is required.

3 Regulatory Information

3.1 **Appendix 2** is a copy of the data compliance dashboard.

4 Financial Services

4.1 As reported at previous meetings, from the Housing Revenue Account, £270,000 of resources will be used for specialist consultancy support and additional technical resources covering asset compliance, fire safety and building safety. This ensures that we have the right skills, experience and competence immediately in the organisation to help drive forward critical and high priority actions.

4.2 During this year we will be considering what resources will be needed to sustain the improvements that are being made to ensure compliance is maintained. This is to ensure that 'kneejerk' structure changes are not made, and proposals recommended will be thoroughly considered and sustainable.

5 Risk Assessment

5.1 **Appendix 3** is the updated risk assessment, including additional risks 11 and 18 as previously notified. This will be reviewed by the Compliance Board when

it meets on 10 April and any comments will be notified at this meeting.

- 5.2 Since the last meeting the risks have been reviewed and none have changed in scoring.

Background papers: None.