

To: Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board

On: 21 August 2018

Report by: Director of Communities, Housing and Planning Services

Heading: Scottish Social Housing Charter - Annual Return 2017/18

1. Summary

1.1 Local Authorities and Registered Social Landlords are required to submit an Annual Return relating to their performance to the Scottish Housing Regulator by the end of May each year.

1.2 This report details the submission by Renfrewshire Council for 2017/18.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Policy Board:
 - (i) notes the Charter performance information for 2017/18 which is contained in sections 1 and 2 of the attached report; and
 - (ii) notes the additional service and performance management information which is contained in section 3 of the attached report.

3. Background

3.1. The attached report provides outturn performance information for Renfrewshire Council for 2017/18.

- Section 1 provides a summary of Renfrewshire Council's performance against the Charter indicators along with comparative information for the last three years.
- Section 2 gives details of some core contextual data which was also submitted as part of the Charter return.
- Section 3 provides additional service and performance management information for 2017/18.
- 3.2 The 2017/18 Charter Return demonstrates strong ongoing improvement by the Council as the Local Housing Authority, with 21 performance indicators improving on last year, 5 remaining the same, and only 9 reporting a slight decrease in performance.
- 3.3 All Local Authorities and Registered Social Landlords were required to submit their return to the Scottish Housing Regulator by 31 May 2018. The Scottish Housing Regulator publishes all social landlords' performance on its website in August each year.
- 3.4 In common with other Social Landlords, the Council is required to report its performance against the Charter to all tenants by the end of October. This information will be made available on the Council's website and in the tenants' newsletter, the People's News.
- 3.5 A further report will be presented to a later meeting of this Policy Board which benchmarks Renfrewshire Council's performance in 2017/18 against other Social Landlords.

Implications of the Report

- 1. **Financial** None
- 2. HR & Organisational Development None
- 3. **Community Planning**

Children and Young People – None Community Care, Health & Well-being – None

Empowering our Communities - Improving and maintaining neighbourhoods and homes

Greener – Protecting, caring and enhancing the built environment **Safer and Stronger** – Increasing resident satisfaction with neighbourhoods and communities

- 4. **Legal** –None.
- 5. **Property/Assets** None

- 6. **Information Technology** None
- 7. **Equality & Human Rights** None
- 8. **Health & Safety** None
- 9. **Procurement** None
- 10. Risks None
- 11. **Privacy Impact** None
- 12. Cosla Policy Position N/A

List of Background Papers

Contact: The contact officer within the service is Lesley Muirhead, Planning and Housing Manager, 0141 618 7835, email: lesley.muirhead@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Attachment: Scottish Social Housing Charter Outturn Report 2017/18

FC/LM 25 July 2018



Scottish Social Housing Charter Outturn Report 2017 -2018

Scottish Social Housing Charter 2017-2018 Outturn report

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Section 1 Outturn Report – Charter Indicators

Section 2 Contextual Indicators

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SECTION 1: OUTTURN REPORT (2017-2018)

Overall Satisfaction

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes |
|-----|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------------|---|
| 1 | Percentage of tenants satisfied with the overall service provided by their landlord. | (a)82.0% | (a)82.0% | (b)82.2% | (b)82.2% | (c) 88.0 % | The most recent data relates to the 2018 Tenant Satisfaction Survey which reported a 6 percentage-point improvement since the last survey (82.2% to 88.0%). |

Source: (a) 2013 Tenant Satisfaction Survey, (b) 2015 Tenant Satisfaction Survey, (c) 2018 Tenant Satisfaction Survey

1. The Customer Landlord Relationship

Equalities

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 |
|-----|---|--|---|--|---|---|
| 2 | Ethnic origins and disability details of service users. | existing Council More than nine provided inform Scottish'. A significant nun indicate that the | tenants, applicant out of ten tenants ation on their eth nber of tenants ar ey consider thems | disability is includents on the housing application origin describent housing application describent application application application application applicant the stock and application a | list and new tena nts and new tena ed themselves as ants who have pr sability (around o | ints. ints who 'White ovided details |

Communication

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes |
|-----|--|-------------------|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------------|---|
| 3 | Percentage of tenants who feel their landlord is good at keeping them informed about their services and decisions. | (a) 79.2 % | (a) 79.2 % | (b)79.5% | (ь)79.5% | (c) 82.2 | The most recent data relates to the 2018 Tenant Satisfaction Survey which reported an increase of almost 3 percentage-points in satisfaction. |

Source: (a) 2013 Tenant Satisfaction Survey, (b) 2015 Tenant Satisfaction Survey, (c) 2018 Tenant Satisfaction Survey

| No | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes |
|----|---|---------|--------|---------|--------|-------|--|
| 4 | Percentage of all 1st stage complaints responded to in full | 99.79% | 98.17% | 100.00% | 91.43% | 100% | There were 622 1st stage complaints lodged in 2017/18. They were all responded to, and 547 were responded to within SPSO timescales (5 |
| | Percentage of all 2nd stage complaints responded to in | 100.00% | 90.24% | 100.00% | 78.57% | 100% | days). There were 12 2 nd stage complaints, all of which were |

| No | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes |
|----|---|--------|---------|--------|---------|-------|--|
| | full | | | | | | responded to within SPSO timescale (20 days). |
| | Percentage all 1st stage complaints responded to in full within SPSO timescales | 94.86% | 100.00% | 93.29% | 100.00% | 87.3% | The most common area for complaint was repairs. Analysis of complaints data will be undertaken to identify |
| 5 | Percentage all 2nd stage complaints responded to in full within SPSO timescales | 94.92% | 100.00% | 46.15% | 100.00% | 100% | any opportunities for service improvement. |

Participation

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes |
|-----|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------------|---|
| 6 | Percentage of tenants satisfied with the opportunities given to them to participate in their landlord's decision making processes. | (a)69.0% | (a)69.0% | (b)84.2% | (b)84.2% | (c) 87.8% | The most recent data relates to the 2018 Tenant Satisfaction Survey. Satisfaction with opportunities for participation has increased by over 3 percentage-points. |

Source: (a) 2013 Tenant Satisfaction Survey, (b) 2015 Tenant Satisfaction Survey, (c) 2018 Tenant Satisfaction Survey

Housing quality and maintenance

Housing Quality

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes |
|-----|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|
| 7 | Percentage of stock meeting the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS). After applying allowable exclusions and abeyances, the Council remains 100% compliant with the SHQS target. | 62.1% | 84.6% | 85.9% | 91.4% | 93.5% | Last year the service brought a further 264 properties up to SHQS. At the end of 2017/18, 11,348 of the Council's stock of 12,163 properties met the SHQS. The Council has 788 properties in abeyance where the current tenant has refused internal works, or the Council has been unable to secure owner participation to allow external works to be carried out to comply with SHQS. |
| 8 | Percentage of properties at or above the appropriate NHER (National Home Energy Rating) or | 85.1% | 97.4% | 98.5% | 98.0% | 100% | All of the Councils properties met the appropriate NHER or SAP rating at the end of March 2018. |

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes |
|-----|--|----------|-------------------|----------|----------|-------------------|---|
| | SAP (Standard Assessment Procedure) ratings specified in element 35 of the SHQS, as at 31 March each year. | | | | | | |
| 9 | Percentage of tenants satisfied with the standard of their home when moving in. | (a)61.4% | (b)80% | (b)92.3% | (b)89.5% | (b) 88.6 % | There was a slight reduction last year in the proportion of new tenants satisfied with the standard of their home – down from 89.5% to 88.6%. (Of the 202 people who took part in the survey of tenants who moved into a new home in the last year, 114 were 'very satisfied' and 65 'satisfied'.) The survey returns do not indicate any particular reasons for the slightly lower level of satisfaction. Tenant feedback will continue to be monitored and officers will seek to maximize tenant participation in the survey. |
| 10 | Percentage of existing tenants satisfied with the quality of their home. | (a)81.6% | (a) 81.6 % | (b)82.2% | (b)82.2% | (c) 83.9% | The 2018 Tenant Satisfaction Survey reported a slight increase in tenants' satisfaction with the quality of their home. |

Repairs, maintenance and improvements

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes |
|-----|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|
| 11 | Average length of time taken to complete emergency repairs. (hours) | 11.5 | 5.8 | 5.5 | 6.9 | 5.1 | The Council arranged for over 50,000 housing repairs in 17/18. Of these, around 18,500 emergency repairs were completed in an average time of 5.1 hours. This is a marked improvement in performance from last year. |
| 12 | Average length of time taken to complete non-emergency repairs. (days) | 8.5 | 8.5 | 8.4 | 7.4 | 7.1 | Over 32,000 non emergency repairs were completed in an average of 7.1 days. This is an improvement from 7.4 days the previous year. |
| 13 | Percentage of reactive repairs carried out in the last year completed | 87.8% | 87.5% | 90.8% | 94.8% | 90.2% | More than 31,500 reactive repairs were completed 'right first time' last year. Although down from the previous year, |

⁹⁾ Source: (a) 2013 Tenant Satisfaction Survey (b) Point of service survey 10) Source: (a) 2013 Tenant Satisfaction Survey, (b) 2015 Tenant Satisfaction Survey, (c) 2018 Tenant Satisfaction Survey

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes |
|-----|---|----------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|--|
| | right first time. | | | | | | it remains the case that 9 out of 10 repairs are completed on the first visit. |
| 14 | Percentage of repairs appointments kept. | 95.0% | 98.9% | 99.1% | 99.0% | 98.9% | The Council operates a repairs appointment system. Over 33,800 reactive repairs appointments were made last year and the appointment was kept in 99% of cases. |
| 15 | Percentage of properties that require a gas safety record which had a gas safety check and record completed by the anniversary date. | 99.99% | 99.99% | 99.5% | 99.97% | 99.97% | 10,782 Council houses required gas safety records last year. Performance is very closely monitored on an ongoing basis with the aim of achieving 100% completion by the anniversary date. For 10,779 properties (99.97%), the gas safety record was renewed by the anniversary date. For three properties, this was not achieved. (In these three cases, there was a delay of 2, 4 and 26 working days between the anniversary date and date of completion. The full details of each case have been reviewed.) |
| 16 | Percentage of tenants who have had repairs or maintenance carried out in last 12 months satisfied with the repairs and maintenance service. | (a)78.0% | (b)94.7% | (b) 96.6 % | (b)91.4% | (b) 98.3% | Just under 4,000 interviews were carried out on repairs satisfaction. Around 3,600 tenants were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the repairs service. Only 18 respondents said they were dissatisfied. It is intended that a higher number of survey returns will be completed for 2018/19 in order to maximize customer feedback. |

(16) Source: (a) 2013 Tenant Satisfaction Survey, (b) Point of service survey

3. Neighbourhood and community

Estate management, anti-social behaviour, neighbour nuisance and tenancy disputes

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes |
|-----|--|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--|
| 17 | Percentage of tenants satisfied with the management of the neighbourhood they live in. | (a)81.2 | (a)81.2% | (b)82.5% | (b)82.5% | (c)83.2% | The most recent data relates to the 2018 Tenant Satisfaction and a slight increase in satisfaction was reported. |

| 18 | Percentage of tenancy offers refused during the year. | 61.3% | 59.6% | 46.1% | 39.6% | 37.7% | Just over 600 offers of tenancy were refused last year from a total of 1,631. Performance in this area continues to improve. |
|----|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|
| 19 | Percentage of anti-social behaviour cases reported in the last year which were resolved within locally agreed targets. | 93.7% | 91.6% | 92.9% | 96.4% | 95.0% | 478 of 503 anti social behaviour cases were resolved within locally agreed targets last year. |

⁽¹⁷⁾ Source: (a) 2013 Tenant Satisfaction Survey, (b) 2015 Tenant Satisfaction Survey, (c) 2018 Tenant Satisfaction Survey

4. Access to housing and support

Tenancy sustainment and tenancy turnover

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes | | | | | | |
|-----|--|----------|-----------|----------|----------|-------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Percentage of nev | w tenanc | ies susta | ined for | more tha | an a | Last year saw an overall improvement in | | | | | | |
| | year, by source of | f let. | | | | | tenancy sustainment levels – with 88.5% of | | | | | | |
| | Existing tenants | 90.8% | 94.2% | 91.0% | 88.4% | 91.2% | all new tenancies sustained for more than a | | | | | | |
| | Homeless applicants | 75.4% | 81.4% | 72.1% | 78.1% | 84.6% | year. As with the previous year, this improvement is most notable amongst | | | | | | |
| | Housing List applicants | 87.9% | 86.9% | 87.4% | 91.9% | 89.3% | homeless applicants, with 236 of 279 new | | | | | | |
| 20 | Other | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 66.7% | than a year. Officers from the George Stree | | | | | | |
| | Overall | 85.0% | 87% | 84.5% | 87.5% | 88.5% | service and the Housing Support team continue to work with and provide support to this client group. Across the range of Housing Services, assistance is provided to new tenants to ensure that income is maximised and other measures are in place to help them sustain tenancies. | | | | | | |
| 21 | Percentage of lettable houses that became vacant in the last year. | 11% | 10.2% | 10.2% | 9.7% | 9.2% | During the year 2017/18, 1,068 properties became vacant. This is 79 fewer than last year. | | | | | | |

Housing options and access to housing

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes |
|-----|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---|
| 22 | Percentage of approved applications for medical adaptations completed during the reporting year. | 98.6% | 87.8% | 96.0% | 97.0% | 100% | 354 medical adaptations were completed during 17/18. The average time to complete |
| 23 | Average time to complete applications (medical adaptations) days | 61 | 64 | 44 | 44 | 33.6 | improved by almost 11 days to 33.6 days. |
| 24 | Percentage of the court | 26.1% | 20.3% | 23.1% | 26.4% | 25.0% | There were 272 court actions |

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes |
|-----|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---|
| | actions initiated which resulted in eviction and the reasons for eviction. | | | | | | initiated last year. This led to the recovery of 67 properties for non payment of rent and 1 property |
| | Non payment of rent | | 19.4% | 22.2% | 25.7% | 24.6 | for anti social behaviour. |
| | Anti social behaviour | | 0.5% | 0.8% | 0.8% | 0.4 | |
| | Other | | 0.5% | 0% | 0 | 0 | |

Homelessness

| No | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes | | | |
|---------|--|----------|-----------|----------|-------|-------|---|--|--|--|
| | Average length of time in | tempora | ary or en | nergency | | - | Over the last year, 784 households | | | |
| | accommodation by type, | days (LA | s only) | | | | occupied temporary | | | |
| | Local authority dwelling | 43.3 | 44.9 | 78.9 | 82 | 84.8 | accommodation in Renfrewshire: | | | |
| | RSL Dwelling | 81 | 89.4 | 39.3 | 101.6 | 112.5 | 537 in Council short-stay housing; 68 | | | |
| | Bed and Breakfast | 10 | 0 | 0 | 2.4 | 1.8 | in housing association properties; | | | |
| | Other | 139.1 | 98.5 | 101.9 | 112 | 148.4 | 133 in 'other' types of | | | |
| 25 | All types of accommodation | 47.2 | 56.9 | 79.3 | 87 | 93.6 | accommodation including support housing; and 43 in bed and breakfast accommodation. (B&B had to be used at certain points in the year as the supply of temporar accommodation was fully occupied. The average length of stay in temporary accommodation has increased to almost 94 days. This increase was expected because of measures being taken to tackle the issue of repeat homelessness in Renfrewshire. | | | |
| 26 | Percentage of households requiring temporary or emergency accommodation to whom an offer was made. (LAs only) | 100% | 99.1% | 99.5% | 100% | 100% | The Council made an offer of temporary accommodation to 802 households during 2017/18. This represents 100% of all households where the Council was required to make an offer of temporary or emergency accommodation. | | | |
| & 27 | Percentage of temporary refused in the last year by | | | | | | The refusal rate for temporary accommodation continues to | | | |
| | L A Dwelling | 1.9% | 2.4% | 2.4% | 2.5% | 1.1% | improve and reflects the quality of | | | |
| | RSL Dwelling | 0% | 1.6% | 0 | 0 | 0 | temporary accommodation and the | | | |
| | Bed and Breakfast | 11.5% | N/A | N/A | 0 | 0 | support arrangements in place. | | | |
| | Other | 0% | 0% | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| | All types of | 2.9% | 1.96% | 2.1% | 1.9% | 0.8% | | | | |
| 28 | accommodation Of those households homeless in the last 12 months the percentage satisfied with the quality of temporary or emergency accommodation. (LAs only). | 87.9% | 92.3% | 74.5% | 83.2% | 89.0% | The level of satisfaction with temporary accommodation increased to 89% in 2017/18. This is based on interviews with 227 homeless applicants. | | | |

(28) Source: annual point of service homeless services tenants survey

5. Getting good value from rents and service charges

Value for money

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes |
|-----|--|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|---|
| 29 | Percentage of tenants who feel that the rent for their property represents good value for money. | (a) 75.0 % | (a) 75 % | (b) 77.2 % | (b) 77.2 % | (c) 75.8% | The 2018 Tenant Satisfaction Survey reported a small reduction in the proportion of tenants stating that their rent represents good value for money. (For those who expressed dissatisfaction, property condition and cost were most often mentioned as reasons.) |

I(29) Source: (a) 2013 Tenant Satisfaction Survey, (b) 2015 Tenant Satisfaction Survey, (c) 2018 Tenant Satisfaction Survey

Rents and service charges

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | Notes |
|-----|---|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|
| 30 | Rent collected as percentage of total rent due in the reporting year. | 99.6% | 100.2% | 100% | 100.1% | 101.2% | The Council collected over £45.6 million last year in rent. |
| 31 | Gross rent arrears (all tenants) as at 31 March each year as a percentage of rent due for the reporting year. | 5.6% | 6.3% | 6.0% | 5.35% | 4.88% | Rent arrears continue to fall due to ongoing early intervention work to provide support and advice at an early stage to ensure that arrears do not build up. |
| 32 | Average annual management fee per factored property. | N/A | £90.00 | £90.00 | £90.00 | £90.00 | The annual management fee has remained the same for four years. |
| 33 | Percentage of factored owners satisfied with the factoring service they receive. | 23.8% | 45.4% | 50.9% | 57.6% | 56.7% | Following improvement in the previous year, satisfaction rates were slightly lower in 2017/18. |
| 34 | Percentage of rent due lost through properties being empty during the last year. | 2.6% | 2.0% | 1.9% | 1.5% | 1.3% | The proportion of rent lost to properties being empty has reduced to 1.3%. In monetary terms this equates to an improvement of over £100,000. |
| 35 | Average length of time taken to re-let properties in the last year. (days) | 56 | 44 | 42 | 38 | 38 | The 'average days to figure has remained stable at 38 days. Performance has been maintained at this level despite the figures for 2017/18 including the re-let of a number of long term void properties. |

(33) Source: Annual owner's services survey

Section 6 Other Customers; Gypsies/ Travellers

| No. | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 |
|-----|--|---------|-----------|------------|----------|---------|
| 36 | Gypsies/travellers – Average weekly rent per pitch. | | | | | |
| 37 | For those who provide sites - percentage of gypsies/travellers satisfied with the landlord's management of the site. | Not app | plicable, | no sites i | n Renfre | ewshire |

SECTION 2B: CORE CONTEXTUAL INDICATORS

The Charter also has 32 contextual indicators that relate to the housing stock and profile of service users. A summary of the core contextual indicators is included in the table below:

| Number | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 |
|--------|---|-------|----------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Number of lets during the | | <u> </u> | | | |
| 7 | reporting year | | | | | |
| ′ | General Needs | 1,385 | 1190 | 1124 | 1144 | 980 |
| | Supported Housing * | 48 | 45 | 51 | 43 | 32 |
| | Number of lets during the | | | | | |
| | reporting year, by source | | | | | |
| ļ | of let | | | 1 | T | 1 |
| 8 | Existing tenants | 278 | 243 | 241 | 239 | 191 |
| ļ | Housing List applicants | 821 | 698 | 618 | 666 | 520 |
| ļ | Other sources | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| | Homeless applicants | 334 | 294 | 315 | 279 | 301 |
| | Types of tenancies granted | | | | | |
| | for the reporting year | _ | _ | 1 - | | 1 - |
| 9 | Occupancy agreements | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Short SST | 28 | 12 | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| | SST | 1405 | 1223 | 1169 | 1184 | 1009 |
| | Housing Lists | | | | | |
| l | New applicants | 2661 | 3315 | 3216 | 3335 | 3189 |
| 10 | Applicants on list at end of year | 6332 | 6239 | 5749 | 5645 | 5532 |
| | Suspensions | 157 | 169 | 122 | 106 | 96 |
| | Cancelled | 4020 | 3607 | 3965 | 3421 | 3281 |
| 11 | Abandoned properties | 196 | 206 | 163 | 141 | 133 |
| | Number of notices of proceedings issued | 1178 | 1474 | 1755 | 1944 | 1942 |
| 12 | The number of orders for recovery of possession granted during the reporting year | 94 | 105 | 133 | 139 | 106 |
| 13 | Average number of reactive repairs completed per occupied property | 5.7 | 5.5 | 5.4 | 4.7 | 4.4 |
| 14 | The Landlords wholly owned stock | 12666 | 12497 | 12393 | 12220 | 12163 |
| | Stock by house type | | | | | |
| | House | 2660 | 2640 | 2627 | 2562 | 2558 |
| | High Rise | 1100 | 1010 | 1005 | 1003 | 1001 |
| 17 | Tenement | 4949 | 4910 | 4864 | 4809 | 4777 |
| | 4 in block | 2865 | 2849 | 2829 | 2784 | 2781 |
| | Other flat/maisonette | 1092 | 1088 | 1068 | 1062 | 1046 |
| | Number of self contained | | | | | |
| 20 | properties void at the year end | 487 | 480 | 431 | 354 | 289 |
| | Void for more than 6 months | 79 | 79 | 78 | 77 | 8 |

| Number | Indicator | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 |
|--------|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 21 | Rent increase | 3.5% | 3.5% | 2.0% | 0% | 1% |
| 22 | Number of households for which landlords are paid housing costs | 8304 | 8442 | 8971 | 8168 | 7947 |
| | Value of direct housing cost payments received during the year | £27,868,900 | £28,905,400 | £28,732,900 | £28,306,500 | £28,048,646 |
| 23 | Percentage of former tenant rent arrears written off at the year end | 21.6% | 44.3% | 54.9% | 37% | 50.45% |

^{*} Sheltered housing only

SECTION 3: MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Allocations and Managing Tenancy Change

In 2017/18, 1,012 properties were let by the Council. Most of these lets (92.6%) were made through the group system. Within the group system, just over half (52%) went to applicants in Group 3 (Housing Need) and 32% of lets went to Group 1 (Homeless) applicants.

Table 1 notes the number of applicants.

| | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
| Number of applicants on housing list - at 31st March 2017 | 5749 | 5645 | 5532 |
| Of which number who have their application on hold | 1269 | 1255 | 1163 |

Table 2 illustrates where the applicants are placed in the group system.

| | 2015/16 | | 2016/ | 17 | 2017/18 | | |
|----------------------|------------|-------|------------|--------|------------|--------|--|
| Group | Applicants | % | Applicants | % | Applicants | % | |
| Group 1 Homeless | 203 | 3.53 | 231 | 4.09% | 260 | 4.7% | |
| Group 2 Mobility | 348 | 6.05 | 303 | 5.37% | 317 | 5.7% | |
| Group 3 Housing Need | 2272 | 39.52 | 2286 | 40.50% | 2261 | 40.87% | |
| Group 4 Exchanges | 1105 | 19.22 | 1087 | 19.26% | 1013 | 18.3% | |
| Group 5 General | 1821 | 31.68 | 1738 | 30.79% | 1681 | 30.38% | |
| Total | 5749 | 100% | 5645 | 100% | 5532 | 100% | |

Table 3 shows lets made through and outwith the group system.

| | 2015/16 | | 2016 | /17 | 2017/18 | |
|---------------------------|---------|-------|--------|--------|---------|-------|
| | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % |
| Lets through group system | 1068 | 90.89 | 1066 | 89.81% | 937 | 92.6% |
| Lets outwith group system | 107 | 9.11 | 121 | 10.19% | 75 | 7.4% |
| Total Lets | 1175 | 100% | 1187 | 100% | 1012 | 100% |

Table 4 shows lets to each group and also the target for lets to each group.

| | 2015/16 | | 2016/17 | | 2017/18 | | 2017/18 Targets |
|----------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|-----------------|
| Group | % | % | Lets | % | Lets | % | % |
| Group 1 Homeless | 316 | 29.59% | 279 | 26.17% | 300 | 32.02% | <u>35%</u> |
| Group 2 Mobility | 105 | 9.83% | 110 | 10.32% | 94 | 10.03% | <u>8%</u> |
| Group 3 Housing Need | 544 | 50.94% | 594 | 55.72% | 491 | 52.40% | <u>47%</u> |
| Group 4 Exchanges | 77 | 7.21% | 56 | 5.25% | 37 | 3.95% | <u>8%</u> |
| Group 5 General | 26 | 2.43% | 27 | 2.53% | 15 | 1.60% | <u>2%</u> |
| Total | 1068 | 100% | 1066 | 100% | 937 | 100% | <u>100%</u> |

Table 5 gives details for lets outwith the group system.

| | 2 | 2015/16 | | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | |
|--------------|------|---------|------|---------|---------|--------|
| Category | Lets | % | Lets | % | Lets | % |
| Sheltered | 51 | 20.56% | 44 | 36.36% | 32 | 42.67% |
| Special Lets | 22 | 31.78% | 28 | 23.14% | 28 | 37.33% |
| Regeneration | 34 | 47.66% | 49 | 40.50% | 15 | 20% |
| Total | 107 | 100% | 121 | 100% | 75 | 100% |

Table 6 shows lets by house type.

| | 2015/ | 16 | 2016/ | 17 | 2017/ | 18 |
|--------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|--------|
| House Type | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % |
| Tenement Flat | 582 | 49.5% | 628 | 52.91 | 512 | 50.59% |
| Own Door Flat | 239 | 20.3% | 207 | 17.44 | 192 | 18.97% |
| Multi-storey Flat | 78 | 6.6% | 75 | 6.32 | 83 | 8.20% |
| House | 73 | 6.2% | 83 | 6.99 | 78 | 7.71% |
| Other Flat | 95 | 8.1% | 85 | 7.16 | 62 | 6.13% |
| Maisonette | 33 | 2.8% | 34 | 2.86 | 28 | 2.77% |
| Bungalow | 23 | 2.0% | 31 | 2.61 | 23 | 2.27% |
| Amenity Flat | 1 | 0.1% | 0 | 0.00 | 1 | 0.10% |
| Prefab | 1 | 0.1% | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Sheltered Bungalow | 8 | 0.7% | 9 | 0.76 | 7 | 0.69% |
| Sheltered Flat | 42 | 3.6% | 35 | 2.95 | 26 | 2.57% |
| Total | 1175 | 100% | 1187 | 100% | 1012 | 100% |

Table 7 shows section 5 and nomination lets for 2017/18

| Table 7 No | Table 7 Nomination & S5 Lets | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Council nomination lets | | % of overall lets to | Section 5 lets | % lets to Section 5 | % overall | | | | | |
| | General stock | Specialist/sheltered/supported | Council nominations | Total stock | | lets to Council | | | | | |
| 2014/15 | 52 | 5 | 6.90% | 114 | 17% | 20.80% | | | | | |
| 2015/16 | 59 | 17 | 8.40% | 107 | 14.50% | 20.30% | | | | | |
| 2016/17 | 64 | 37 | 12.30% | 78 | 12.20% | 21.90% | | | | | |
| 2017/18 | 100 | 7 | 14.25% | 117 | 18.63% | 29.83% | | | | | |

Section 5 = general stock only (excludes specialist)

Repairs

In 2017/18 53,985 repairs were carried out and 95% of these were completed within the target timescale. This is an increase on 2016/17 when 93% of repairs were completed within target.

Table 8 provides data in respect of repairs completed by category of repair:

- an emergency repair is classed as one where there is a threat to health and safety or where we need to take quick action to prevent damage.
- 'right to repair' qualifying repairs are urgent repairs which must be carried out within a specified timescale in terms of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001.
- routine repairs are every day repairs which are required as a result of normal wear and tear of the property.
- programmed repairs are generally non-urgent general maintenance repairs which are carried out on a programmed basis rather than carrying out individual responsive repairs (usually larger scale repairs within common ownership).

| Table 8 – Repairs | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Category of Repair | Total Completed | Total completed in target time | % completed in target time | | | | | | |
| Emergency | 13,162 | 12,940 | 98.3% | | | | | | |
| Right to Repair | 13,795 | 13,662 | 99.0% | | | | | | |
| Urgent | 1,613 | 1,568 | 97.2% | | | | | | |
| Routine | 24,176 | 22,124 | 91.5% | | | | | | |
| Programmed | 1,239 | 1,224 | 98.7% | | | | | | |
| Total Repairs | 53,985 | 51,518 | 95.4% | | | | | | |

Table 9 provides information on Customer Contact Centre performance in relation to housing repairs calls. This shows the volume of calls in 2017/18 and outcomes for calls received. Over 57,181 calls were made to report repairs and 91% of these were answered. This is an increase on performance from 2016/17 (when 83% of calls were answered). The average waiting time for all calls is 1 minute and 36 second. This is a reduction in waiting time from 2016/17 (when the average waiting time was 3 minutes and 40 Seconds). Overall, 60% of calls were answered within the service level target (40 seconds).

The Ren Repairs App saw an increase in usage from 3079 repairs in 2016/17 to 3917 logged in this manner in 2017/18.

| Table 9 - Customer contact centre | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------|------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Indicator | Number | Percentage | | | | | | | |
| Total calls attempted | 57,181 | | | | | | | | |
| Calls answered | 51,830 | 91% | | | | | | | |
| Calls abandoned | 5,271 | 9% | | | | | | | |
| Calls answered within 40 second target time | 31,000 | 60% | | | | | | | |
| % of all attempted calls answered within 40 sec target (service level) | | 54% | | | | | | | |
| Average waiting time | 1.36 | | | | | | | | |
| Maximum waiting time | 40.20 | | | | | | | | |
| 'Ren Repairs' app (email correspondence) | 2,268 | | | | | | | | |
| 'Ren Repairs' registered repairs | 1,649 | | | | | | | | |

Homelessness and Housing Advice

Following a reduction in 2016/17, the number of homeless applications increased in 2017/18 to 860.

| Table 10 Homeless Applications | 2013/14 | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Number of homeless applications requiring assessment | 981 | 839 | 832 | 776 | 860 |
| Total number of service users – those who were homeless, threatened with homelessness, or requiring housing options advice. | 1,978 | 2,154 | 2,098 | 2,103 | 1,962 |

Table 11 provides information on the number of applications that were assessed as being statutorily homeless, or threatened with homelessness. Performance in terms of time taken to complete assessments continues to compare well with other Scottish local authorities.

| Table 11 Decision Making | 2013/14 | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Number of applications assessed as 'homeless or threatened with homelessness' (i.e. the Council had a duty to rehouse) | 736 | 684 | 689 | 618 | 692 |
| Proportion of assessments completed within 28 days | 88% | 84% | 95.5% | 91% | 96% |

From April 2017 – March 2018, 161 service users completed a 'satisfaction card' following their interview with a Housing Options Adviser or member of the Homeless Prevention team. The table below shows that performance has improved for both % pleased with the quality of advice and information they were given and % pleased with the overall quality of the service they received.

| Table 12 Housing Options Satisfaction | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| % pleased with the quality of advice and information they were given | 97.6% | 95.3% | 95.8% | 97.5% |
| % pleased with the overall quality of the service they received. | 97.6% | 96% | 97.4% | 98.4% |

SECTION 3: Rent Arrears

The reported rent arrears position continues to improve, with a reduction of £48,300 from 2016/17, despite the pressures of Welfare Reform and the roll out of Universal Credit. This continuing improvement reflects the focus on rent collection throughout the year, including the maximisation of DHPs for those under occupying.

Table 13 shows that the annual rental income due to be collected is over £45.6m. At the end of March 2018, £1,146,600 was owed in arrears.

| Table 13 - Current Tenant Rent Arrears | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 2013/14 | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | | | | | |
| Annual Rental Income | £43,973,300 | £45,092,800 | £46,110,300 | £46,355,300 | £45,654,500 | | | | | |
| Number of Tenants | 11,914 | 11,835 | 11,657 | 11,479 | 11,371 | | | | | |
| Total Arrears Owed All | £1,355,600 | £1,248,600 | £1,239,900 | £1,194,900 | £1,146,600 | | | | | |

Table 14 shows the recovery action taken and notes that there have been 9 evictions enforced in the last year for rent arrears.

| Table 14 – Recovery Action | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 2013/14 | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | | | | | |
| NPRP issued | 1,176 | 1,469 | 1,756 | 1,944 | 1942 | | | | | |
| All Cases calling at Court | 850 | 773 | 947 | 1057 | 974 | | | | | |
| Decrees Granted | 96 | 103 | 133 | 139 | 106 | | | | | |
| Evictions enforced S/Officer | 8 | 4 | 10 | 10 | 9 | | | | | |
| Average time first calling | 10 weeks | 10 weeks | 10 weeks | 10 weeks | 10 weeks | | | | | |
| Average time recalled at court | 5 weeks | 5 weeks | 5 weeks | 4.5 Weeks | 7 weeks | | | | | |

Table 15 provides a profile of arrears by value and table 16 shows the status of arrears debt.

| Table 15 – Profile of Arrears by Value | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 2013/14 | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | | | | | |
| Under £250 | £124,000 | £113,700 | £88,000 | £99,700 | £101,700 | | | | | |
| Between £250 & £500 | £212,300 | £81,400 | £159,800 | £170,900 | £169,800 | | | | | |
| Between £500 & £1,000 | £382,300 | £345,500 | £350,500 | £386,200 | £323,200 | | | | | |
| Over £1,000 | £637,000 | £608,000 | £641,600 | £538,100 | £551,900 | | | | | |
| TOTALS | £1,355,600 | £1,248,600 | £1,239,900 | £1,194,900 | £1,146,600 | | | | | |

| Table 16 – Status of Rent Debt | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--|--|--|--|
| | 2013/14 | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | | | | |
| Arrears Pre Court | £868,300 | £769,900 | £733,700 | £666,600 | £634,600 | | | | |
| Arrears Post Court | £384,500 | £376,000 | £413,000 | £411,300 | £409,500 | | | | |
| Arrears Rent Direct | £102,800 | £102,700 | £93,200 | £117,000 | £102,500 | | | | |
| TOTALS | £1,355,600 | £1,248,600 | £1,239,900 | £1,194,900 | £1,146,600 | | | | |

Table 17 provides summary information on benefit levels comparing with previous years. Benefit uptake remains high with 70% of our tenants in receipt of some form of benefit.

| Table 17 – Housing Benefit | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--|--|--|--|
| | 2013/14 | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | | | | |
| Number of tenants | 11,914 | 11,835 | 11,657 | 11,479 | 11,371 | | | | |
| Tenants with benefit | 8,304 | 8,442 | 8.263 | 8,168 | 7,947 | | | | |
| Tenants without benefit | 3,610 | 3,393 | 3,394 | 3,311 | 3,424 | | | | |
| % in receipt of Housing Benefit | 70% | 71% | 71% | 71% | 70% | | | | |