

## **Berneslai Homes Audit & Risk Committee 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – Meeting Summary:**

<b>External Audit Plan for audit of 2024/2025 Financial Statements</b>
<p>Committee received a report which outlined the intention to bring forward the External Audit Plan to be presented to the Committee in January instead of April commencing 2026.</p> <p>Committee noted the report and agreed with the recommended approach.</p>
<b>Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report</b>
<p>Committee received a report which provided an annual overview of the activities undertaken by Committee, together with identified opportunities for further development through self-assessment.</p> <p>Committee recommended the report be presented to Berneslai Homes Board to provide assurance the Committee are fulfilling their remit.</p>
<b>Risk Reporting Quarterly Update</b>
<p>Committee reviewed and commented on the report which provided a summary on the strategic risks. A self-assessment of the 2024 RSH Sector Risk Profile has also been undertaken which shows how Berneslai Homes is mitigating the risks identified by the Regulator. The Emergency Response Plan has also been reviewed.</p> <p>Committee recommended the Risk Management Quarterly Update be approved by Berneslai Homes Board.</p>
<b>Value for Money Strategy</b>
<p>Committee considered the Value for Money (VFM) Strategy 2024 – 2027 which had been updated to reflect current organisational strategies, the operating environment, and new challenges together with the Strategy's Year 1 Action Plan. The Strategy aligns with BMBC's ambitions for 2030 and incorporates national standards and regulatory requirements. BMBC Corporate Assurance will commence an assurance review on VFM, which is part of the Corporate Assurance Plan for the current year.</p> <p>Committee recommended the Strategy for approval by Berneslai Homes' Board.</p>

<b>Corporate Assurance Activity Report</b>
Committee received and considered a report which provided the BMBC Corporate Assurance Team's progress against the agreed plan of assurance work for Berneslai Homes Ltd for the period 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2024.
<b>Housing and Tenancy Fraud Policy</b>
Committee received the newly developed draft Housing & Tenancy Fraud Policy for approval. The Policy ensures that Berneslai Homes' meets its obligations under the Regulator of Social Housing's Regulatory Framework and effectively tackles housing and tenancy fraud. Approval of the policy reinforces Berneslai Homes' commitment to fairness and integrity within its housing system and ensure that properties are occupied by those in greatest housing need.
Committee approved the Housing & Tenancy Fraud Policy for implementation.
<b>Building Safety Compliance Scorecard</b>
Committee received and considered a report which gave an update on the performance of Berneslai Homes in delivering key services related to Building Safety Compliance. Compliance remains strong across the 7 key compliance areas. 100% compliance achieved on fire risk assessments, asbestos, passenger lifts and water safety. Damp, mould and condensation has had significant focus over the last year and will continue when Awaab's Law is implemented.
Committee noted Berneslai Homes' performance in delivering overall Building Safety Compliance.
<b>Information Governance and Security Compliance Update</b>
Committee reviewed a report which provided assurance on the governance activity being undertaken within Berneslai Homes.
<b>New Repairs Module Post Implementation Update</b>
Committee received an update regarding the repairs module implemented in February 2024.
Committee noted the update and were assured on the progress being made whilst recognising the challenges of implementing this type of system.
<b>Review of BH Insurances</b>
Committee received and noted the contents of a report which provided a summary of Berneslai Homes' insurance cover which is arranged by BMBC as part of its insurance portfolio.

<b>Procurement Regulations Update</b>
Committee received an update on the Procurement Act 2023, introduced since Brexit and leaving the EU, which all public sector organisations will follow with a go live date of 24 February 2025.
Committee noted the update and requested the submission of an annual/periodic report with Procurement to enable Committee to have greater oversight and assurance.