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Welsh Government Housing Regulation

Regulatory Judgement

Cadarn Housing Group – L025

March 2020

The Welsh Ministers have powers under Part 1 of the Housing Act 1996 to regulate Registered Social Landlords in relation to the provision of housing and matters relating to governance and financial management.

The Welsh Ministers are publishing this Regulatory Judgement under sections 33A and 35 of the Housing Act 1996.

The judgement is published in accordance with the Regulatory Framework for Registered Social Landlords in Wales and the related performance standards.

<https://gov.wales/housing-associations-registered-wales-regulatory-framework>

The judgement is based upon the Association's own evaluation of its compliance with the performance standards together with regulatory intelligence gained through on-going, co-regulatory, relationship management between the Regulator and the Association.

Basis of Judgement

This judgement is designed to provide the Registered Social Landlord, its tenants, service users and other stakeholders with an understanding of its financial viability and how well it is performing, at a specific moment in time, in relation to:

- Governance and Service Delivery
- Financial Management

The judgement must not be relied upon by any other party for any other purpose. The Registered Social Landlord is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of information provided to the Regulator.

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Profile

Cadarn Housing Group (“the Group”) provides homes and services to their tenants and the community. Working in ten local authority areas, the Group owns 3,067 homes including five sheltered housing schemes.

The Group has 131 staff. Its main office is in Cardiff with community hubs in Pontypridd and Newtown. The Group was founded in 1974 and is registered in England and Wales with non-charitable rules and under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.

The Group has three subsidiary companies; Newydd Housing Association (1974) Ltd (“Newydd”), Living Quarters (Lettings and Sales) Ltd (“Living Quarters”) and Newydd Maintenance Services (“NML”). Newydd is registered in England and Wales with charitable rules and under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014. Living Quarters and NML are unregistered companies limited by shares.

For the year ending 31 March 2019, the Group’s turnover was £16.1m (2018: £16m) and its surplus was £1.8m before actuarial loss in respect of pension scheme (2018: £2.4m).

Key Financial Data

	Historical Data		Covenant Limit	Sector Average
	2017/18	2018/19		2017/18
Performance				
Operating surplus as % of turnover	26.7%	24.6%	n/a	20.1%
Surplus/(deficit) for the year as % of turnover	15.1%	11.5%	n/a	8.1%
Loss from empty properties and uncollected rent as % of rental income	2.3%	2.2%	n/a	2.1%
Funding				
Fixed borrowing as a % of total	69%	84%	n/a	75%
Gearing (net worth)	47%	51%	75%	61%
Interest cover	150%	155%	110%	165%
Current cash balances and undrawn facilities are sufficient for the Group to complete its committed development programme.				

Regulatory Judgement – Co-Regulation Status

Co-Regulation Status – March 2020

Governance and Services - Standard

- Identifies and manages new and emerging risks appropriately.

Financial Viability - Standard

- Meets viability requirements and has the financial capacity to deal with scenarios appropriately.