

## **Submission from Patrick Gilbride, Retired Director, Dalmuir Housing Association 7 January 2025**

I attended the LGHP Parliamentary Committee looking at SHR Scrutiny on 3 December, 2024 to provide evidence and on 17 December as an observer. Below are some factual corrections to some of the statements made by the two SHR representatives on the 17th.

1. The cost of intervention by the SHR was agreed at a typical figure of £400-500k by several of the representative bodies providing evidence to members attending the 3 December Committee. On the 17th December the SHR Chief Executive stated when questioned that the cost of intervention at Dalmuir Park Housing Association was £100k. It was however also stipulated that this figure represented only the cost of the SHR-appointed Statutory Manager.

There are several inaccuracies, misleading at best, attached to this response. The first is that the SHR Chairperson has already provided this information on 11 October, 2021 in writing in response to an enquiry letter from Evelyn Tweed, MSP stating the cost of the part-time Statutory Manager as £142,466.48.

We have continually argued that this is nowhere near the full cost of intervention which must include at least the cost of a formal investigation by a London consultant, another 2 statutory managers during the same period, compensation to myself, compensation to the whistleblower, legal expenses and the cost of a tenant ballot and all associated consultants and reports. The true cost of intervention was nearer £500k. Beyond financial, the real cost is loss of local control.

2. At the meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> the SHR Chairperson claimed that DPHA was performing poorly prior to intervention. This is untrue. I have previously provided annual performance data from before, during and after intervention and this evidences performance being at the very highest level prior to intervention and in fact actually dropping after intervention (please refer to original submission appendix).
3. At the same meeting the SHR Chairperson claimed more than once that SHR staff were subjected to verbal abuse including shouting and swearing. I was astonished to hear that this was connected to intervention at DPHA. This is simply impossible given the intimidating relationship which was created between SHR staff and association committee members and the fact that there was absolutely zero dialogue between SHR staff and myself or any other senior officer at DPHA over the whole 14 months of intervention and investigation while I was still employed.