

1 October 2020

STAGE 2 FORMAL CONSULTATION NOTICE

Dear

PROPOSED TRANSFER FROM THISTLE HOUSING ASSOCIATION TO SANCTUARY SCOTLAND HOUSING ASSOCIATION

On 27 August 2020 we sent you our Stage 1 Consultation Notice on the proposal for Thistle Housing Association to transfer all of its interests to Sanctuary Scotland Housing Association. If this transfer of engagements is supported by a majority of Thistle tenants through our planned tenant ballot, Sanctuary Scotland would replace Thistle as the local landlord and take over Thistle's homes and services. Thistle would cease to exist on the day the formal transfer takes place. If approved the formal transfer is currently planned for 1 February 2021.

After issuing the Notice, we tried to speak with every Thistle tenant between 27 August 2020 and 23 September 2020. Many customers provided feedback and asked questions about our proposal and the detailed transfer offer from Sanctuary Scotland. These representations were communicated to us in writing (feedback cards, email, Facebook) and through discussion at our six local events, over the phone and to staff as they went door-to-door. We thank you for taking the time to tell us what you thought.

In summary, there was overwhelming support for Sanctuary's package of transfer promises. Sanctuary's affordable rent guarantee, £11 million-plus investment plan and commitment to retaining your local staff team/office were among the most popular pledges. Our Management Committee carefully considered all Stage 1 representations. **Given the positive response from the majority of tenants, Sanctuary's proposal is unchanged.**

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Registered in Scotland as a charity SC044426
Property Factor Registration Number PF000379

The only way the transfer to Sanctuary Scotland can happen is by tenants giving their formal approval by voting YES in the coming tenant ballot. We will now instruct Civica Election Services to conduct the independent tenant ballot. The ballot will commence on **Monday 5 October 2020 and close on Monday 2 November 2020**. Civica Election Services will send every tenant (including joint tenants) a ballot paper directly. The ballot result will be reported to our Management Committee and the Scottish Housing Regulator and will then be quickly communicated to you and other Thistle customers. For the transfer to happen, the ballot result **must** show a majority of tenants want the transfer to proceed.

Please find enclosed a brief newsletter with:

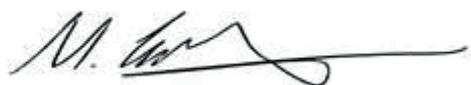
- ✓ A summary of Sanctuary Scotland's promises to Thistle tenants.
- ✓ Information on Sanctuary's investment commitments, plus its programme to survey all homes in the coming months so improvement work can start quickly post-transfer.
- ✓ Answers to your questions from the Stage 1 consultation.

If you have any questions, please phone the office on **0141 613 2700**. For another copy of the Stage 1 Notice document please phone us or download the document from our website (www.thistle-ha.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/STAGE-1-NOTICE-FINAL.pdf)

The Tenants Information Service (TIS) continues to provide independent advice on the proposal. To take advantage of this service please call TIS on Freephone **0800 488 0982**.

Thistle's Management Committee and staff team encourage tenants to cast your vote as soon as you can. REMEMBER Sanctuary's transfer promises can only be delivered if tenants vote YES.

Yours sincerely,



Mags Lightbody
Transfer Lead

