



Chief Executive's Health & Safety Policy Statement

As Chief Executive of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive I am ultimately responsible for ensuring the health, safety and welfare of all colleagues, contractors, clients, tenants, visitors and other persons who may be affected by the Housing Executive's work activities.

Health and safety is an organisational priority and with the support of the Board and Directors I am fully committed to ensuring that we comply with our legal obligations as an employer, landlord and client. We will do this through active leadership, open reporting and communication and by ensuring that health & safety is considered an integral part of our systems and culture in the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE).

This Policy Statement reflects my approach and commitment to attaining organisational health, safety and welfare excellence whilst protecting the environment through safety plans and initiatives based upon continuous improvement. My objectives are to:

- Protect and promote the health, safety & welfare of all colleagues, contractors, clients, tenants and visitors;
- Meet in full the requirements of all applicable legislation relating to compliance, health & safety and protecting the environment.
- Establish a positive, proactive culture by embedding the management of health & safety throughout the organisation. We will do this by securing cooperation between our colleagues, contractors, internal and external stakeholders and in partnership with Trade Unions ensuring effective consultation takes place consistently.

The effective management of health & safety involves everyone working in the NIHE. Active participation and promotion of health and safety clearly contributes to our organisational success and is therefore a key priority placed upon myself, my Directors, line managers, colleagues and contractors. As an Executive Team, we will ensure that appropriate arrangements are implemented to ensure that the NIHE meets statutory requirements and establish these as the minimum standard by ensuring effective management of health & safety through a process of proactive, continual improvement and striving to implement best practice.

In order to implement and to maintain the effective management of health, safety and welfare and achieve my objectives a General Health & Safety Policy and

supporting Health & Safety policies and procedures on specific legislation have been developed and made available to everyone throughout the organisation on the Compliance Health and Safety dedicated page on Gateway.

These policies and procedures detail the responsibilities of specific roles and the arrangements in place to ensure effective implementation of the relevant policy supported by more detailed procedures and processes.

It is a functional responsibility of Directors and line managers to provide effective, visible leadership, and ensure that our policies and procedures for health, safety and welfare are fully implemented and adhered to within their area of operational responsibility. Everyone working at NIHE should be empowered to take action to minimise health & safety risks and should raise any issues of concern with their line manager as soon as possible.

I undertake to ensure that adequate resources, including the provision of information, training, instruction and supervision, continue to be made available to ensure the competence of all of our people to fulfil their role and responsibilities.

We will engage with and actively monitor our contractors to ensure that their health & safety capability, competence and performance fulfil our expectations.

All colleagues, contractors, and visitors to our premises or properties under our control have a legal responsibility to co-operate with the implementation of the General Health & Safety Policy, specific policies and procedures, where relevant. Employees have a legal duty to themselves, their colleagues and those they come into contact with, to ensure that their acts and omissions do not adversely affect others.

Chief Executive
Dated: 21 December 2023

**Housing
Executive**