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Fran MacDonald
Housing Quality Standards,
Homes and Places Division
Welsh Government
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Dear Mrs Macdonald

Achievement of WHQS to Council Stock within the Vale of Glamorgan

Further to our letter dated 20th November 2017 I am writing to notify you of the Vale of Glamorgan's achievement of the Welsh Housing Quality Standard. Our previous letter advised the Council would require until the 31st March 2018 to achieve the standard and I can now confirm this has been achieved.

As part of this major investment programme the Council has invested significantly in its housing stock and has completed the following works to the 3,800 properties owned by the Council:

- 3,412 kitchens have been replaced.
An additional 375 properties were identified for kitchen replacement where tenants have exercised their right to decline the work (acceptable fail).
- 3,161 bathrooms have been replaced.
An additional 293 properties were identified for bathroom replacement where tenants have exercised their right to decline the work (acceptable fail).
- 976 properties have received new heating systems.
An additional 64 properties were identified for heating replacement where tenant have exercised their right to decline the work (acceptable fail).
- 3,619 properties have been rewired.
An additional 164 properties have acceptable fails recorded.
- 1,376 new roof coverings have been installed.

- 555 properties have received external wall insulation to either resolve damp issues or improve the energy efficiency of the home.
- 1,280 properties have received external wall repairs including repointing, rendering and painting.

Additionally, works have been undertaken to ensure the local environment is a place where residents can feel safe and be proud. This work has included replacement of footpaths and hard standings, fencing and boundary walls, as well as estate improvement projects where residents have been able to contribute to the project.

In May 2018, the Welsh Audit Office reviewed the information held by the Council and the Assumptions it had made on achieving the WHQS. During this visit they concluded the Council had achieved the standard.

Having now achieved the Welsh Housing Quality Standard, the Council is entering the Maintenance Phase of the programme and future replacement dates for attributes are factored into the Council's Housing Business Plan.

Yours sincerely

Cllr John Thomas

Leader of the Vale of Glamorgan Council