

Directorate for Local Government and Housing
Better Homes Division

T: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
Scottish Federation of Housing Associations
1st Floor, Room 15
39 St Vincent Place
Libertas House
Glasgow G1 2ER

By Email: [REDACTED]
21st November 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

FUEL INSECURITY FUND 2022-23 – SCOTTISH FEDERATION OF HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS - PROJECT: SOCIAL HOUSING TENANTS FUEL SUPPORT FUND

The Scottish Ministers in the exercise of their powers under Sections 1 and 2 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1988 hereby offer to give to Scottish Federation of Housing Associations (SFHA), a company incorporated under the Companies Act with registered number SC059549 and having its registered office at 39 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow G1 2ER ("the Grantee") an additional grant of up to **£4,516,666**. The grant funding will be payable over the financial year 2022/23, in connection with the costs of your project, which is more particularly described in Part 1 of Schedule 1 ("the Project/Programme") and / or support the government and communities in responding to issues relating to fuel insecurity, as required, and subject to the following terms and conditions. **The grant funding is a contribution towards the delivery of the Social Housing Tenants Fuel Support Fund with detailed outcomes previously agreed with the Scottish Government Fuel Poverty Team Leader, [REDACTED]**

1. Definitions and Interpretation

1.1 In these Conditions, the words and expressions set out in **Schedule 4** shall have the meanings ascribed to them in that Schedule.

1.2 In these Conditions unless the context otherwise requires, words denoting the singular shall include the plural and vice versa and words denoting any gender shall include all genders.

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1.3 The headings in these Conditions are for convenience only and shall not be read as forming part of the Conditions or taken into account in their interpretation.

1.4 Except as otherwise provided in these Conditions, any reference to a clause, paragraph, sub-paragraph or schedule shall be a reference to a clause, paragraph, subparagraph or schedule of these Conditions. The schedules are intended to be contractual in nature. They form part of the Agreement and should be construed accordingly.

1.5 This Agreement shall not be varied except by an instrument in writing signed by both parties.

2. Purposes of the Grant

2.1 The Grant is made to enable the Grantee to carry out the Project/Programme.

2.2 The Grant shall only be used for the purposes of the Project/Programme or to support the government and communities in responding to issues relating to fuel insecurity, as required, and for no other purpose whatsoever.

2.3 No part of the Grant shall be used to fund any activity or material which is party political in intention, use, or presentation or appears to be designed to affect support for a political party.

2.4 The main objectives/expected outcomes of the Grant are:

- Progress towards the outcomes detailed in your workplan, revised if necessary following discussions with appropriate policy officials
- Regular meetings with appropriate policy officials from Better Homes Division, with at least two per year to be held

2.5 The targets/milestones against which progress in achieving objectives/expected outcomes shall be monitored are:

- We can demonstrate that our policies, practices and procedures are consistent with promoting fair working practices including payment of the Living Wage.

2.6 The eligible costs for which the Grant can be claimed are:

- direct project costs

2.7 The eligible costs exclude:

- reclaimable Value Added Tax
- redundancy payments
- capital expenditure, including the purchasing of property

3. Payment of Grant

3.1 The Grant shall be paid by the Scottish Ministers to the Grantee in accordance with the terms of **Schedule 1** attached.

3.2 In addition to the progress and financial reports to be submitted in relation to the funded Project/Programme, the Grantee shall within four weeks of the end of the funded period in which the Grant has been paid submit to the Scottish Ministers a statement of compliance with the Conditions of the Grant using the form of words provided in **Schedule 3**. The statement shall be signed by the Grantee's Director/CEO/authorised signatory.

3.3 In the event that the amount of the Grant paid by the Scottish Ministers to the Grantee at any point in time is found to exceed the amount of the expenses reasonably and properly incurred by the Grantee in connection with the Project/Programme, the Grantee shall repay to the Scottish Ministers the amount of such excess within 14 days of receiving a written demand for it from or on behalf of the Scottish Ministers. In the event that the Grantee fails to pay such amount within the 14 day period, the Scottish Ministers shall be entitled to interest on the sum at the rate of two per cent per annum above the Bank of England base lending rate prevailing at the time of the written demand from the date of the written demand until payment in full of both the sum and the interest.

3.4 The Scottish Ministers shall not be bound to pay to the Grantee, and the Grantee shall have no claim against the Scottish Ministers in respect of, **any instalment of the Grant which has not been claimed by the Grantee by 31 March 2023 as set out in Schedule 1**, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Scottish Ministers.

4. Inspection and Information

4.1 The Grantee shall keep the Scottish Ministers fully informed of the progress of the Project/Programme in the form of bi-annual progress reports, and quarterly financial reports to be submitted with claims for Grant. Details shall include actual expenditure to date compared with profiled expenditure and any change to estimated expenditure for the 12 month period and/or the Project/Programme as a whole, the reasons for any such changes and progress in achieving objectives/outcomes.

4.2 Revisions to targets/milestones against which progress in achieving outcomes are monitored shall be subject to the written agreement of the Scottish Ministers.

4.3 The Grantee shall, on completion of the Project/Programme, submit a report to the Scottish Ministers summarising the outcomes and performance of the Project/Programme. Such a report shall include such statistical and other information relating to the impact of the Project/Programme as shall be required by the Scottish Ministers.

4.4 The Grantee shall also provide any other information that the Scottish Ministers may reasonably require to satisfy themselves that the Project/Programme is consistent with the Agreement. The Grantee shall provide the Scottish Ministers with prompt access to any information they reasonably require to ensure compliance with these Conditions.

4.5 The Grantee shall keep and maintain for a period of six years after the expenditure occurs, adequate and proper records and books of account recording all receipts and expenditure of monies paid to it by the Scottish Ministers by way of the Grant. The Grantee shall afford the Scottish Ministers, their representatives, the Auditor General for Scotland, his/her representatives and such other persons as the Scottish Ministers may reasonably specify from time to time, such access to those records and books of account as may be required by them at any reasonable time in response to a written request for such access from the person seeking it. The Grantee shall provide such reasonable assistance and explanation as the person carrying out the inspection may from time to time require.

4.6 The Grantee must have robust safeguarding policies in place to protect vulnerable groups. The Grantee must also have in place clear processes which must be followed if it becomes aware of specific incidents, including referral to the relevant authorities where necessary. Where the Grantee is working directly through a partner organisation, the Grantee is required to have undertaken due diligence in relation to safeguarding arrangements, including obtaining evidence of satisfactory safeguarding policies and / or

procedures by the Grantee's partner organisation. The Grantee must report all and any cases of suspected abuse or malpractice relating to anyone involved in delivery of the Project/Programme or any beneficiary of the Project/Programme to Scottish Ministers and the relevant authorities immediately. The Grantee must, upon request from Scottish Ministers, provide copies of the safeguarding policies and procedures referred to in this clause.

4.7 In the event of the Grantee becoming aware of or suspecting:

- any irregular or fraudulent activity in relation to the Grant or Project/Programme, or any part of either of them; and/or
- any safeguarding incident by or in respect of any person involved in the Project/Programme,

the Grantee shall immediately notify the Scottish Ministers of such activity or incident and provide such other information as the Scottish Ministers may reasonably require in relation to the impact on the Project/Programme and the use of the Grant. In so notifying Scottish Ministers, the Grantee must also confirm that such irregular or fraudulent activity or safeguarding incident has been referred to the relevant regulatory or other authorities as appropriate, in line with any statutory duty and otherwise in line with any guidance issued from time to time on Notifiable Events by either the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulatory (OSCR) or as appropriate the Charity Commission for England and Wales. For the avoidance of doubt, in this agreement, a "safeguarding incident" includes any incident of abuse or mistreatment of any vulnerable person.

4.8 The grantee shall immediately inform the Scottish Ministers of any change in its constitution, for example, but not limited to, a change in status from one type of body corporate to another.

5. Confidentiality and Data Protection

5.1 The Grantee will respect the confidentiality of any commercially sensitive information that they have access to as a result of the Project/Programme.

5.2 Notwithstanding the above, the Grantee may disclose any information as required by law or judicial order. All information submitted to the Scottish Ministers may need to be disclosed and/or published by the Scottish Ministers. Without prejudice to the foregoing generality, the Scottish Ministers may disclose information in compliance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, any other law, or, as a consequence of judicial order, or order by any court or tribunal with the authority to order disclosure. Further, the Scottish Ministers may also disclose all information submitted to them to the Scottish or United Kingdom Parliament or any other department, office or agency of Her Majesty's Government in Scotland, in right of the Scottish Administration or the United Kingdom, and their servants or agents. When disclosing such information to either the Scottish Parliament or the United Kingdom Parliament it is recognised and agreed by both parties that the Scottish Ministers shall if they see fit disclose such information but are unable to impose any restriction upon the information that it provides to Members of the Scottish Parliament, or Members of the United Kingdom Parliament; such disclosure shall not be treated as a breach of this agreement

5.3 The Grantee shall ensure that all requirements of Data Protection Laws are fulfilled in relation to the Project/Programme.

5.4 To comply with section 31(3) of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010, the Scottish Ministers publish an annual statement of all payments over £25,000. In addition, in line with openness and transparency, the Scottish Government publishes a monthly report of all payments over £25,000. The Grantee should note that where a payment is made in excess of £25,000 there will be disclosure (in the form of the name of the payee, the date of the payment, the subject matter and the amount of grant) in the both the monthly report and the annual Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 statement.

6. Disposal of Assets

The Grantee shall not, without prior written consent of the Scottish Ministers, dispose of any asset funded, in part or in whole, with Grant funds during the lifetime of the asset. During that period the Scottish Ministers shall be entitled to the proceeds of the disposal – or the relevant proportion of the proceeds based on the percentage of grant funding used in connection with the acquisition or improvement of the asset against the whole proceeds. The Scottish Ministers shall also be entitled to the relevant proportion of any proceeds resulting from any provision included as a condition of sale. Recovery by the Scottish Ministers shall not be required where the value of the asset is less than £1,000.

7. Publicity

The Grantee shall where reasonably practicable acknowledge in all publicity material relating to the Project/Programme the contribution of the Scottish Ministers to its costs. The Scottish Ministers may require to approve the form of such acknowledgement prior to its first publication.

8. Intellectual Property Rights

8.1 All Intellectual Property Rights are hereby assigned to and shall vest in the Crown or its assignees.

8.2 The Grantee shall ensure that nothing contained in any materials produced or submitted to the Scottish Ministers by the Grantee or anyone acting on its behalf nor the reproduction of such materials, shall constitute an infringement of any third party copyright or intellectual property right and shall indemnify the Scottish Ministers against all actions, proceedings, claims and demands made by reason of any such infringement.

9. Default and Recovery etc. of Grant

9.1 The Scottish Ministers may re-assess, vary, make a deduction from, withhold, or require immediate repayment of the Grant or any part of it in the event that:

9.1.1 The Grantee commits a Default;

9.1.2 The Scottish Ministers consider that any change or departure from the purposes for which the Grant was awarded warrants an alteration in the amount of the Grant;

9.1.3 The Grantee fails to carry out the Project/Programme;

9.1.4 In the Scottish Ministers' opinion, the progress on the Project/Programme is not satisfactory; or

9.1.5 In the Scottish Ministers' opinion, the future of the Project/Programme is in jeopardy.

9.2 If the Grant (or any part or condition thereof) does not comply with applicable Subsidy Control obligations, Scottish Ministers may require immediate repayment of the Grant or any part of it together with interest at such rate and on such basis as may be determined from time to time in accordance with law.

9.3 The Scottish Ministers may withhold the payment of the Grant if at any time within the duration of the Agreement:

9.3.1 The Grantee passes a resolution that it be wound up, or a court makes an order that the Grantee be wound up, in either case otherwise than for the purposes of reconstruction or amalgamation, or circumstances arise which would enable a court to make such an order or the Grantee is unable to pay its debts within the meaning of section 123 of the Insolvency Act 1986;

9.3.2 Where the Grantee is an individual, if a petition is presented for the Grantee's bankruptcy or the sequestration of his estate or a criminal bankruptcy order is made against the Grantee; or the Grantee makes any composition or arrangement with or for the benefit of creditors, or makes any conveyance or assignation for the benefit of creditors, or if an administrator or trustee is appointed to manage his affairs; or

9.3.3 A receiver, manager, administrator or administrative receiver is appointed to the Grantee, or overall or any part of the Grantee's property, or circumstances arise which would entitle a court or a creditor to appoint such a receiver, manager, administrator or administrative receiver.

9.4 In the event that the Grantee becomes bound to pay any sum to the Scottish Ministers in terms of clause 9.1, the Grantee shall pay the Scottish Ministers the appropriate sum within 14 days of a written demand for it being given by or on behalf of the Scottish Ministers to the Grantee. In the event that the Grantee fails to pay the sum within the 14 day period, the Scottish Ministers shall be entitled to interest on the sum at the rate of two per cent per annum above the Bank of England base lending rate prevailing at the time of the written demand, from the date of the written demand until payment in full of both the sum and interest.

9.5 Notwithstanding the provisions of this clause 9, in the event that the Grantee is in breach of any of the Conditions, the Scottish Ministers may, provided that the breach is capable of a remedy, postpone the exercise of their rights to recover any sum from the Grantee in terms of clause 9 for such period as they see fit, and may give written notice to the Grantee requiring it to remedy the breach within such period as may be specified in the notice. In the event of the Grantee failing to remedy the breach within the period specified, the Grantee shall be bound to pay the sum to the Scottish Ministers in accordance with the foregoing provisions.

9.6 Any failure, omission or delay by the Scottish Ministers in exercising any right or remedy to which they are entitled by virtue of clauses 9.1 to 9.3 shall not be construed as a waiver of such right or remedy.

10. Assignation

The Grantee shall not be entitled to assign, sub-contract or otherwise transfer its rights or obligations under the Agreement without the prior written consent of the Scottish Ministers.

11. Termination

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The Agreement may be terminated by the Scottish Ministers giving not less than three months' notice in writing from the date of the notice being sent.

12. Corrupt Gifts and Payments of Commission

The Grantee shall ensure that its employees shall not breach the terms of the Bribery Act 2010 in relation to this or any other grant. The Grantee shall ensure that adequate controls are in place to prevent bribery.

13. Continuation of Conditions

13.1 These Conditions, except for Condition 6, shall continue to apply for a period of five years after the end of the financial year in which the final instalment of the Grant was paid.

13.2 Condition 6 shall continue to apply until the end of the period referred to in that Condition.

14. Compliance with the Law

The Grantee shall ensure that in relation to the Project/Programme, they and anyone acting on their behalf shall comply with the relevant law, for the time being in force in Scotland.

15. Governing Law

This contract is governed by the Law of Scotland and the parties hereby prorogate to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts.

If you wish to accept the offer of this Grant on the whole terms and conditions as set out in the letter and annexed Schedules, you should sign and date both copies of the Grant Acceptance below and return one full copy of the offer of Grant and Schedules electronically to [REDACTED] if the person accepting the grant and the witness are unable to sign the grant acceptance letter electronically, an email trail that makes clear this offer has been accepted by both parties before being sent onto me will suffice. You should retain the second copy of the offer of Grant and Schedules for your own records.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Deputy Director for Better Homes

GRANT ACCEPTANCE

On behalf of the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations (SFHA) I accept the foregoing offer of Grant by the Scottish Ministers dated 21/11/2022 on the whole terms and conditions as set out in the letter and annexed Schedules. I confirm that SFHA is solvent. I confirm that I hold the relevant signing authority.

Signed: 

Company Secretary

Print Name: 

Position in Organisation of Person Signing: Chief Executive & Company Secretary


Date: 22/11/2022

Place of Signing: Glasgow

Signed:



Witness Name: 

Address: 

Date: 22/11/2022

Place of Signing: Glasgow

SCHEDULE 1

PART 1: THE PROJECT

The grant funding is a contribution towards the delivery of the Social Housing Tenants Fuel Support Fund with detailed outcomes previously agreed with the Scottish Government Fuel Poverty Team Leader, [REDACTED]

PART 2: PAYMENT OF GRANT

1. The total Grant of up to £4,516,666 shall be payable by the Scottish Ministers to the Grantee quarterly in arrears on receipt of a completed claim for Grant in the form set out in SCHEDULE 2;
2. SCHEDULE 2 together with the associated monitoring information set out in paragraph 4.1 of the Offer of Grant.
3. The total Grant shall be payable over the financial year 2022/23. The Scottish Ministers shall not be bound to pay any instalment of the Grant which has not been claimed by the Grantee by 31 March of the applicable financial year, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Scottish Ministers.
4. The Grantee shall provide a monthly profile of expenditure of the Grant before the start of the financial year. Any change to the profile or to the overall costs of the Project shall be notified to the Scottish Ministers at the earliest opportunity via the claims for Grant and monitoring reports.
5. Each claim shall be for an amount equal to the actual reasonable and proper costs and expenses incurred by the Grantee in connection with the Project since the submission by it of the last claim for an instalment of the Grant.
6. Each claim shall be submitted together with such explanatory or supplementary material as the Scottish Ministers may from time to time require whether before or after submission of the claim.
7. On receipt of each claim (and any required documentation and information), the Scottish Ministers shall determine the amount of expenditure which they consider the Grantee has reasonably and properly incurred in connection with the Project having regard to that claim. The determination shall be based on the information provided by the Grantee in accordance with this Schedule. The Scottish Ministers shall use their best endeavours (but shall be under no obligation or duty) to pay the amount determined to the Grantee within 2 weeks of receiving a claim and any required documentation and information relevant to the claim.
8. In order to facilitate the accrual of expenditure of the Grant for the financial year the Grantee shall, where appropriate, advise the Scottish Ministers in writing by mid-April the amount of the Grant actually expended up to and including 31 March.

SCHEDULE 2

GRANT CLAIM FORM

Organisation: Scottish Federation of Housing Associations (SFHA)

Bank details (Name, address, sort code, account number):

Project: Social Housing Tenants Fuel Support Fund (2nd Phase)

Total agreed grant for: £4,516,666.66

Latest forecast of expenditure of grant for: £4,516,666.66

Grant claimed to date: Nil

Claim for Grant for the period from 2022 to March 2023

We hereby claim grant of £ 4,516,666.66 in respect of the above period in accordance with the terms and conditions of the offer of Grant dated 21/11/2022 and the Schedules attached thereto.

Completed by:

Position:

Contact Details:

Date: 22 November 2022

Items of Expenditure

Please list in the table below all discrete items of expenditure relevant to the above period and the type of documentary evidence that will be made available on request to substantiate each amount.

A Item	B Amount (£)	C Paid Invoice [Y/N]	D Other (please specify, e.g. certificate of payment in kind)
Fuel Insecurity Funds for distribution	£4,416,666.66		
SFHA hosting and administration fee	£100,000		
TOTAL*	£4,516,666.66		

* Note the total should add up to the total expenditure claimed for the period.

SCHEDULE 3

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH CONDITIONS OF GRANT

Name of the Project: **Social Housing Tenants Fuel Support Fund**

This is to confirm that the grant claimed by Scottish Federation of Housing Associations (SFHA) in relation to the above Project during the financial year ended 31 March 2023 was properly due and was used for its intended purpose(s) in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Grant. This statement is supported by the records of Scottish Federation of Housing Associations (SFHA).

Signed:

Name in block capitals:

Position:

Date:

SCHEDULE 4

DEFINITIONS

"Agreement" means the agreement constituted by the Scottish Ministers' invitation to apply for a grant, the Grantee's Workplan, these Conditions and the Grantee's acceptance of these Conditions;

"Conditions" means these grant conditions;

"Default" means:

- a) Any breach of the obligations of either party under this Agreement (including, but not limited to, any breach of any undertaking or warranty given under or in terms of this Agreement);
- b) Any failure to perform or the negligent performance of any obligation under this Agreement;
- c) Any breach of any legislation; or
- d) Any negligence or negligent or fraudulent mis-statement or misappropriation of Grant, or any other default.

In all cases by either party, its employees, agents or representatives;

"Financial Year" means a period from 1 April in one year until 31 March in the next;

"Grant" means the grant offered by the Scottish Ministers to the Grantee as specified in the Award Letter, as varied from time to time in accordance with these Conditions;

"Grantee" means the person, organisation or body to which the Grant will be payable as specified in these Conditions. Where two or more persons, organisations or bodies are the Grantee, references to the "Grantee" are to those persons, organisations or bodies collectively and their obligations under the Agreement are undertaken jointly and severally;

"Intellectual Property Rights" means all rights of ownership, including all copyrights and other intellectual property rights in books, leaflets and other printed and published materials in whatever form produced as part of the Project by or on behalf of the Grantee including all reports and any such published materials stored in or made available by means of an information technology system and the computer software relating thereto and all patents, trademarks, registered designs and other rights in the nature of intellectual property;

"Project" means the purpose for which the Grant has been awarded as described in the Offer of Grant;

"Payment" means each of the payments specified in Schedule 1 hereto.