

# MENZIES

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## SOCIAL HOUSING KNOW-HOW

FEBRUARY 2026



In last month's **Social Housing Know-How**, we focused on fraud resilience, employment law change and grant audits and assurance, each carrying material financial, operational and reputational implications for providers.

Next month, we'll be attending the **NHF Housing Finance Conference** in March, returning to our usual location at **stand 400**. We're really looking forward to being back and reconnecting with so many of you. This year, we'll be introducing a wider service line offering and welcoming colleagues from our VAT, ESG, grant audit and assurance and tax teams. It's a great opportunity to put faces to names and to demonstrate how our enhanced, truly national team will continue supporting you over the year ahead.



In April, we'll also be recording our third and fourth Social Housing podcast episodes. Episode three will focus on fraud prevention and detection, and episode four will explore grant audit and assurance in practice, both using real-life case examples of how we have worked alongside clients to resolve complex issues and strengthen their controls.

👉 [If you want to listen to our last podcast visit here](#)

This month's Social Housing Know-How includes:

- NHF Annual Finance Conference 2026
- ESG Strategy & Reporting
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Linked Loans
- Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund (formerly SHDF)

As always, if you would like to discuss any of the issues raised, meet with us at the NHF Conference, or explore how these developments may affect your organisation, please contact us on 📞 **03330 910411** or visit **Social Housing - Menzies**.

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### **NHF Housing Finance Conference 2026**

We're delighted to be returning to stand 400 and sponsoring the day one drinks reception.

More importantly, we're looking forward to conversations. The same team who will be supporting you throughout the coming year will be there, now strengthened with colleagues from VAT, ESG, grant audit and assurance and tax reflecting the broader, integrated national offering Menzies LLP now brings to the sector.



**Please do come and say hello.**

**If you'd like to arrange a 1-1 conversation with any member of the team during the conference, you can book via the link below.**

👉 [Find out who will be attending](#)

👉 [Book a 1-1 meeting at the conference](#)

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### **ESG Strategy & Reporting**

ESG continues to move firmly into the governance spotlight. Boards are increasingly expected to demonstrate that sustainability objectives are embedded within strategy, risk and financial planning.

Clear data, transparent reporting and proportionate assurance are becoming essential - not simply to satisfy stakeholders, but to build long-term resilience and credibility.

If you would like to understand more about how ESG strategy, reporting and assurance may apply to your organisation, you can find further information here:

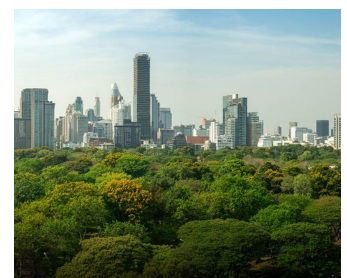
👉 [Menzies ESG Services](#)

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### **Sustainable Development Goals-Linked Loans: the need for audit and assurance**

In a tightening economic environment, proactive covenant monitoring and regular stress testing remain critical. Early engagement, realistic modelling and clear communication help maintain lender confidence and reduce avoidable financial risk.

At the same time, sustainability-linked borrowing structures



including Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) linked loans, continue to evolve across the sector. While these facilities offer flexibility, they also introduce increased responsibility around KPI setting, measurement and reporting integrity, particularly where performance directly impacts borrowing terms.

Independent oversight and proportionate assurance can provide reassurance to Boards, lenders and stakeholders alike, ensuring that financial resilience and sustainability commitments are supported by robust governance and reliable data.

[👉 Read the full article here on Sustainable Development Goals](#)

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### Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund

The Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund (formerly SHDF) presents significant opportunity - alongside tighter compliance and assurance requirements.

With annual reporting deadlines and ISAE 3000 assurance expectations, early preparation remains key to protecting funding and delivery timelines.

[👉 Read the full article here](#)

[👉 Find out more about our grant audit and assurance services](#)

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## Brighter Thinking with Menzies LLP

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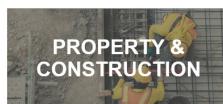
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We always appreciate hearing from the organisations we support. If you've enjoyed working with your Menzies/B&S team and found our ongoing advice helpful, a short Google review for the office you work with would really mean a great deal.

It helps recognise the team locally and supports others in understanding the service we provide and value to this sector.

You can leave a review for your local office here:

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## Stay informed

For more updates, expert commentary, and business insights, visit

[menzies.co.uk](https://menzies.co.uk)



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