

## 'Making a Mark'

### Mark Holder Social Impact Declaration

## Wessex Resolutions CIC

Wessex Resolutions CIC is a unique lender, working with homeowners to fund home improvements. Our mission is to deliver sensible lending that sees individuals as being more than just a credit score.

We work across the South West providing loans to homeowners, landlords, empty property owners and others, in partnership with local councils.

We have created a sustainable funding stream in partnership with councils, to improve the quality of homes throughout the UK.

We work in partnership with 18 local councils across the South West to provide low cost loans for home repairs for homeowners, who are often unable to access mainstream finance, and would otherwise find themselves unable to fund repairs to their property.

The Social Enterprise Mark criteria includes a requirement for all applicants and renewing Mark Holders to answer a set of social impact questions, which illustrate how they are striving to meet their social/environmental objectives.

Below are examples of how **Wessex Resolutions** is Making a Mark, striving to create a positive impact on people and planet.

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## Improving housing conditions to benefit health

The link between housing and health is well established, with poor housing conditions known to cause poor health, isolation and restriction of social mobility. We aim to create social change on three levels:

- We want to make finance accessible to as many people as we reasonably can.
- We are passionate about using the opportunity to see the client in their home to improve more than just the condition of their home.
- Finally, we believe our core purpose is to improve housing conditions in the private and rented sector (via landlords).

## Examples of support provided

- **Making finance accessible** - Up to end of June 2019, we have lent £13,917,699. We have developed a flair for lending responsibly to those who cannot access mainstream lending, and to date have an enviably low bad debt rate of 0.019% of all capital lent.
- **Signposting to other services** - our advisers refer clients on to Money Advice Services, the Fire Service, Credit Unions and more. We aim to use this ethos to help provide earlier interventions directly at the heart of communities.
- **Improving housing conditions** - we support intervention work, disabled adaptations (where grant funding falls short), energy efficiency measures, park homes, landlords and empty homes.

## Creating benefits for local communities

In Q1 of 2019, we improved housing conditions for 76 people and signposted 16 people to other services for support. £318,432 was lent. 63% of these funds helped fund improved warmth and security measures and 5% disabled adaptations, leading to improved health and wellbeing.

*"I really am pleased to be able to carry on living in my lovely home where I grew up and now having paid off all of my loan; it feels great!"*

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