



Annex C: Governance Assurance Statement

The LEP Chair and Chief Executive should here provide a brief formal assurance statement on the status of governance and transparency. This should include any overview and scrutiny function undertaken by the Accountable Body. This should be sent to the Assurance Team via localgrowthassurance@communities.gov.uk, copying the Cities and Local Growth Unit Area Lead, by **14 January 2022**. This statement should also be published on the LEP's website by **28 February 2022** and confirmation sent to the email address above.

(max 500 words)

We continue to comply with our Local Assurance Framework (LAF), recently updated in line with the National Local Growth Assurance Framework. That update, plus a revised Scheme of Delegation, goes to Board for approval late Jan 2022. Our LAF demonstrates our embedding of the Nolan Principles throughout our organisation. We publish all [governance information](#) on our website.

The LEP Board comprises leaders from business, education, and local authorities, with details [on our website](#). We recognise further improvements to Board diversity are needed, and continue to work with Appointments Committee on succession planning, focusing on equality and public/private sector balance.

Board member [Register of Interests](#) are on member's profile pages, with declarations of interest recorded within Board minutes as per our Conflicts of Interest policy. A Gift and Hospitality Register is published [here](#).

A LEP Board decision log is included in [Board meeting minutes](#). Board, Statutory Boards and Strategic Advisory Board papers and minutes are published online to demonstrate evidence-based decisions, and our active private sector challenge culture.

Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) remains our Accountable Body. An LCC senior finance officer advises on repayment of our Growing Places Fund, Growth Hub, and programmes, and has oversight of SLGF and GBF decision making and spend. The LCC S151 Officer regularly attends Board and Investment Committee.

All LEP policies are published [on our website](#). The policy review plan and newly revised policies are currently under development.

Our accounts are subject to an independent audit, and are [published on our website](#), with our financial policies.



The Finance & Audit Committee (F&A) has oversight & scrutiny of remuneration & financial transactions and has Accountable Body representation. The Investment Board provides strategic assessment of proposed bidding rounds and projects, and funding approval recommendations. The Accountable Body provide governance and transparency oversight and agree scrutiny arrangements. We provide an open offer to the Greater Lincolnshire Upper Tier and Unitary Authorities to attend their scrutiny panels to share updates on our work, and hold membership of the Joint Strategic Oversight Committee for Greater Lincolnshire.

Our AGM was held on 2nd November 2021, concurrently with our Annual Conference, to maximise attendance.

We are extremely active with stakeholder collaboration and engagement, working closely with the Midlands Engine, Local Authorities, local institutions, and Business Representative Organisations.

We programme manage 36 projects and 4 programmes to the value of £149.5m. We work closely with the Accountable Body and project managers to ensure resources are used effectively within the required timescales, and risks are managed appropriately. We operate an independent, transparent, and robust appraisal and selection process, and project progress is published on our website, in line with branding requirements.

A new Risk Management Plan and Register will be reviewed by F&A in Feb 2022, and enhanced performance monitoring and reporting will be launched for 22/23 with a new Director's Dashboard.

Mindful of the uncertainties of LEP Review, we have conducted scenario planning with the Board, ensuring plans are prepared to maintain the important work of the LEP through any future changes.

Signed:

Name: Pat Doody

Position: Chair

Date: 6th January 2022



Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Signed:

Name: Ruth Carver
Position: Chief Executive
Date: 6th January 2022