

The Board
Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership
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28 June 2023

The Board

Summary of Engagement

Please find below our findings regarding the review of the annual financial reports of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Scope

The scope of our work was:

- Review of annual financial reports for the year ended 31 March 2023 for the purpose of providing an opinion on whether these reports are a fair presentation of the activity for the financial year.
- Review the company wide processes of the GLLEP to ensure compliance with Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) policies, grant agreements and financial regulations.
- Perform a systems walkthrough of the selected project South Lincolnshire Food Enterprise Zone.

This work was performed in accordance with our standard terms of business.

Disclaimer

Our procedures do not constitute an examination made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the objective of which would be the expression of assurance on the contents of the return. Accordingly we do not express such assurance. Had we performed additional procedures or had we performed an audit or review of the annual financial reports in accordance with generally accepted auditing or review standards, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you. This report relates only to the annual financial reports and does not extend to any other reports of the GLLEP.

Our report is prepared solely for the confidential use of the GLLEP. This report is released to the GLLEP on the basis it shall not be copied, referred to or disclosed, in whole or in part (save as otherwise permitted by agreed written terms), without our prior written consent. Without assuming or accepting any responsibility or liability in respect of this report to any party other than the GLLEP, we acknowledge that the GLLEP may be required to disclose this report to other parties demonstrating a statutory right to see it, to enable such other parties to exercise statutory rights of access to this report.

This report is designed to meet the agreed requirements of the GLLEP and particular features of our engagement determined by the GLLEP's needs at the time. Therefore, this report should not be regarded as suitable to be used or relied on by any other party wishing to acquire any rights against Duncan & Toplis Limited for any purpose or in any context. Any party other than the GLLEP which obtains access to this report or a copy and chooses to rely on this report (or any part of it) will do so at its own risk. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Duncan & Toplis Limited, will accept no responsibility or liability in respect of this report to any other party.

Executive Summary

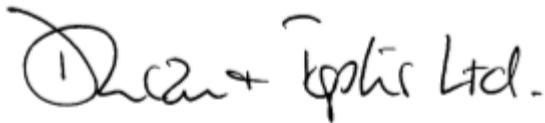
Based on the work carried out as detailed in this report the financial records are properly kept and are in compliance with the requirements of the funding. The financial report prepared by GLLEP is a fair representation of the financial activities and the financial position of the GLLEP as at 31 March 2023. Detailed finding of our work can be found in Section 3 and in summary our findings are:

- The income and expenditure recorded in the financial reports are consistent with the accounting records held.
- Differences between the closing cash reserve balances per the accounting system and those recorded in the financial reports were identified and related to the misallocation of one transfer which has subsequently been corrected.
- Differences between fund balances reported as at 31 March 2022 and brought forward balances as at 1 April 2022 were identified as being due to reallocations agreed by the board prior to finalisation of the financial reports for 31 March 2022, but were not reflected in the accounting records until the 2023 financial year. It is recommended that in future such reallocations are shown separately for clarity.
- The utilisation of the SLGF/GBF offset balances in the year were tested and confirmation from LCC was obtained to confirm the balances held by LCC agreed to the balances stated in the financial report.
- Other than an accrual that was overstated in relation to LMSF, there appears to be adequate accounting records in place and all transactions tested were accurately recognised in the correct period from our sample of income and expenditure across all main funding streams.
- Based on our sample, the systems and controls described to us as being in place were observed to be being applied correctly.
- Sufficient controls are in place for ensuring project funding is being spent in line with LCC policies, grant agreements and financial regulations.
- As with last year it is understood that due to time constraints and given that March 2023 expenditure is estimated in some circumstances, claims for the quarter ended 31 March 2023 were not initially reviewed to the same standards as for the other quarters. However, there

are procedures in place to ensure subsequent reviews are undertaken with regard to the final quarter.

- Interest received was calculated accurately in accordance with LCC procedures and interest rates.
- Other than the error mentioned above in relation to LMSF, no significant errors were found from our review of the financial reports for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Duncan & Toplis Ltd." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Duncan & Toplis Limited