

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. In particular, you should focus on any issues raised in Annex A. This statement should also be published on the LEP's website following conclusion of the Annual Conversation process (in April 2018). You should cover any Overview and Scrutiny function undertaken by the Accountable Body. **(max 500 words)**

As chair and chief executive respectively, we can confirm that Gfirst LEP operates in accordance with the National Assurance Framework for Local enterprise Partnerships as issued in November 2016. We can also confirm that GFirst LEP is fully committed to implementing the recommendations of the Ney report to ensure good governance is one of the driving forces in the LEP.

This is reflected in our local assurance framework version 3, dated 14th Feb 2017.

Gfirst LEP commits to make all decisions relating to the expenditure of public funds in an open and transparent way.

All board directors are required to fully declare any commercial interests and potential conflicts of interests in relation to funding decisions. A publically available register of interests is maintained and a register of interests in relation to specific business at each board meeting is also published.

The board directors are all also committed to the Nolan Principles of conduct in public office.

The LEP works with a number of advisory forums, as detailed in Appendix d of the assurance framework (copy attached), including the LEP Investment Panel and the GEGJC. It is also subject to oversight from the LEP Overview and Scrutiny Committee drawn from representatives of all of the local authorities in Gloucestershire.

The LEP is also subject to an annual audit of compliance against the assurance framework, conducted by the accountable body.

Board member details, Board papers and minutes are published on the Gfirst LEP website. Appointment to the board is in accordance of the Gfirst LEP CIC articles of association and is subject to an open recruitment process.

Chair & Chief Executive Sign-off:

Signed: 

Name: Diane Savory

Position: Chair

Date: 13th Nov 2017

Signed: 

Name: David Owen

Position: Chief Executive

Date: 13th Nov 2017

Enclosures

- Assurance Framework update 14-2-17 paper
- Assurance Framework app. D
- Vision 2050 summary
- Gfirst LEP CIC articles of association