



Annual Performance Review (preparation)

The LEP Chair and Chief Executive should here provide a brief formal assurance statement on the status of governance and transparency. In particular, they 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 Performance Review process (in April 2019). You should cover any overview and scrutiny function undertaken by the Accountable Body. **(max 500 words)**

The SELEP continues to put good governance, transparency and the Nolan Principles at the heart of all its operations. All SELEP Board meetings are held in public, with Board papers published in advance and during this year many of our meetings have been attended by both members of the public and media.

Following the Deep Dive held in early 2018, governance arrangements have been strengthened and a new post was created to co-ordinate the processes required to ensure good governance. It is important to state that the holder of this role does not have responsibility for ensuring good governance; this can only be achieved through every Board Member, each officer and all partners embedding the processes and the principles of the governance framework in all that they do.

We continue to have a strong relationship with our S151 Officer and Accountable Body and they continue to provide appropriate challenge and oversight of our activities. We are also scrutinised by our local authority partners with invitations to scrutiny committees extended and accepted. The principle of ensuring democratic representation within decision making, especially where decisions pertain to the allocation of public funds, is of the highest importance to us and so we welcome the interest and scrutiny of our partners.

Much progress has been made over the last twelve months to strengthen and formalise the arrangements with our sub-Boards in federated areas. There are now full registers of interests for all members and meeting papers and minutes are published. We will continue to work with these Boards to ensure that the LEP Review recommendations are implemented across the Board in a timely manner.

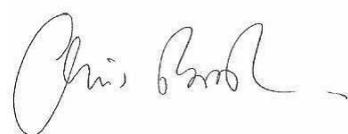
It is clear that we have work to do to improve the diversity of our Boards and sub Boards and we have made that a priority. SELEP's strength comes from the large numbers of partners that are involved in some way in our cause and we will be working with them to bring forward candidates that properly represent our business community and our populations.

To ensure that we have the best people at the table and as an enabler of increased diversity, we are reviewing our Board recruitment processes and terms of office policies. These revised policies will be in line with the LEP Review recommendations and will be put to Board for agreement during 2019.

To increase full transparency of our Strategic Board meetings we now take an audio recording of the meeting and these recordings are available on our website for all interested parties to access.

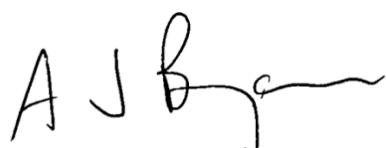
We are currently working to produce a single, robust prioritised pipeline of projects to be applied to our remaining unspent Local Growth Fund in the first instance. This has been a challenging but ultimately instructive exercise to undertake and has included the establishment of a private sector led Investment Panel. The process has ensured that prioritisation has been made on an open, transparent and consistent basis across the Partnership. The development of this single pipeline is a significant development and is a clear indication of the continuing maturity of the partnership, which in turn gives us a strong base to build on the recommendations of the LEP Review.

Signed



Name: Christian Brodie
Position: Chair of SELEP
Date: 15/01/2019

Signed



Name: Adam Bryan
Position: SELEP Managing Director
Date: 15/01/2019