



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)

Hertfordshire LEP continues to respond positively to all Governance assurance requirements and remains fully compliant.

It has an excellent relationship with its accountable body, Hertfordshire County Council (HCC), which continues to support the LEP in a range of areas and HCC is committed to support the ongoing operation of the LEP whatever the outcome of the forthcoming Levelling Up White Paper.

We are committed to ensuring we meet the needs of our businesses. The LEP Annual Conference 2021 was held online but hosted by Warner Brothers Leavesden Studios and focussing on our key role is supporting the growth of the Film & TV sector. The event was open to the public with over 200 delegates. The LEP Annual Report was also published to share impact and progress as was our AGM in December

Hertfordshire LEP continues to go 'above and beyond' in supporting the work and reputation of LEPs from local leadership into the Hertfordshire Growth Board (e.g. in contributing to a County Deal submission), its regional role in Catalyst South to supporting and leading the development of the LEP Network via the role of Mark Bretton as Chair.

The LEP continues to have strong private sector engagement in its governance. We have used the recent flexibilities allowed to extend the terms of two Board members by 12 months until the outcome of the LEP Review/White Paper is clear.

Whilst it is fully compliant in terms of the diversity composition of the LEP Board, it is fully committed to ensure that its Board continues to represent the diverse communities that it supports.

Members from public and private sectors, in all parts of the LEP, uphold high standards of integrity in line with Nolan Principles. Board member Declarations of Interest are available on the LEP website. These are reviewed regularly following any updates to the code of conduct and conflict of interest policy.



Board papers continue to be published five working days in advance of meetings, with the minutes of meetings published 10 days following the meeting on the Hertfordshire LEP website.

Any further feedback through the Annual Performance Review process is welcomed.

Signed:
Name: Mark Bretton
Position: Chair
Date: 14 /1/2022

Signed:
Name: Neil Hayes
Position: Chief Executive
Date: 14/1/2022