



## Annex B: Section 151/73/127 Assurance Statement

The Section 151/73/127 Officer should here provide a report to the Annual Performance Review on their work for the LEP over the last twelve months, and their opinion, with a specific requirement to identify any issues of concern, on governance and transparency. The report should focus on any issues raised in Annex A: Annual Performance Review Preparation. This report should be sent to the Assurance Team via [localgrowthassurance@levellingup.gov.uk](mailto:localgrowthassurance@levellingup.gov.uk) copying the DHLUC/DBT Area Lead by **28 February 2024. (max 500 words)**

The London LEP board (London Economic Action Partnership) was disbanded at the end of March 2023.

As highlighted in the LEP Integration Plan (submitted on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023), responsibility for oversight and compliance of ongoing 'LEP' initiatives and funding, such as Growth Hub funds, has been taken forward by the GLA with strategic oversight by the London Partnership Board (LPB).

The LPB acts in an advisory capacity to the Mayor of London, which gives it a different role from that of most LEPs. All endorsements are subject to approval by the Mayor (or delegated to approved GLA officers) and must comply with the GLA's corporate governance, financial, legal and procurement frameworks and processes, and are subject to the same audit and scrutiny. The GLA's finance officers maintain close oversight of programmes and budgets, including ongoing historic LEP initiatives, and input to all formal decisions, their financial consequences and subsequent monitoring.

The finance role encompasses oversight of business case proposals, advice on financial deliverability, and financial due diligence of proposed recipients and projects. Finance comment on all reports to the Board and its sub-groups and attend meetings where required.

Through robust monitoring and reporting processes any project underspend is quickly identified and reallocated for other Board priorities and returns from maturing capital investments made through the Growing Places Fund are being applied to new projects.

There is close liaison between GLA finance officers and the client teams responsible for programme expenditure and delivery. Noting the above, there are no issues to raise regarding the governance and transparency of financial decision making and use of funds allocated to LEAP.



Department for Levelling Up,  
Housing & Communities

Department for  
Business & Trade

Signed: 

Name: Enver Enver

Position: Section 151 Officer and Interim Chief Finance Officer, Greater  
London Authority

Date: 26/02/2024