## **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 <a href="mailto:localgrowthassurance@levellingup.gov.uk">localgrowthassurance@levellingup.gov.uk</a>, copying the DBT Area Lead, by 29 February 2024. This statement should also be published on the LEP's website by 15 March 2024 with confirmation sent to the email address above. (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).

As the LPB operates through the GLA, all decisions are subject to approval by the Mayor of London (or GLA officers as delegated) and as such are made through robust decision making processes consistent with the GLA's corporate governance, financial, legal and procurement frameworks. Publication of the decision forms ensures transparency.

LPB is co-chaired by the Mayor of London and the Chair of London Councils. Membership is made up of representatives from London's government, business community and civil society and includes senior representatives from the police, transport, healthcare, central government, education and other key sectors. LPB's <u>Terms of Reference</u> set out its responsibilities towards transparency and diversity.

LPB meets quarterly to provide strategic advice to policy and decision makers across the capital as well as to oversee key workstreams established by the GLA and other partners. It also acts as London's Local Partnership Group for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

The London Assembly scrutinises the Mayor's work, including that which is commissioned or endorsed by the LPB. The GLA's senior political and officer leadership may be held to account by the Assembly through public meetings (webcast live or otherwise recorded and made available on the GLA's website), with actions identified and addressed through formal letters, and senior leaders from other member organisations of the LPB may also be called to appear before the Assembly where appropriate. LEP-funded programmes are also subject to the GLA's internal audit regime.

Agendas and reports of the London Partnership Board are published on the

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GLA's website in advance of meetings. Minutes of the meetings of the Board are published wherever possible within ten working days following each meeting. Papers and minutes are published in full unless information is considered exempt under Freedom of Information legislation.

I am satisfied that sound governance arrangements are in place and there are no issues we wish to raise regarding LEP / LBP governance.

Signed: Pillie Col

Name: Phil Graham

Position: Senior Responsible Owner; Executive Director Good Growth

29th February 2024 Date: