



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

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 **20 January 2021**. This statement should also be published on the LEP's website by **24 February 2021** and confirmation sent to the email address above.

(max 500 words)

As we have done for a number of years all the committee and board meetings are open to the public and all our committee and board papers continue to be published on the LEP website.

The Local Assurance framework was substantially rewritten and updated in line with the auditor's recommendation. It was reviewed by Cheshire East's legal and audit team and approved by the LEP Board in September.

We have continued to improve the information available on the website, and the new website will have pages covering each of the different areas of LEP activity.

We held the second public Annual General Meeting in September which had to be held virtually, but despite this, still had an excellent attendance and feedback and coverage featured on the front page of the Daily Mail as well as being covered extensively by other media. The Annual report is published on the LEP website.

We are updating the Service Level Agreement with Cheshire East Council to reflect the change in scope of services as the LEP evolves.

We continue to work closely and collaboratively with key stakeholders and will engage with them over the Recovery and Delivery plan which will be published as a consultation draft by the end of February.

The engagement board made up of younger people has actively engaged with the board and sub-committees and helps to ensure that the LEP's work programmes reflect the needs of younger generations.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has met 4 times in 2020/21 and focussed on interrogating the LEP's overarching objectives and its recovery to COVID.



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Signed:

Name: Clare Hayward

Position: Chair

Date: 19th January 2021

Signed:

Name: Philip Cox

Position: Chief Executive

Date: 19th January 2021