

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@communities.gov.uk, copying the Cities and Local Growth Unit Area Lead by **20 January 2021**.
(max 500 words)

2020/21

As the S151 Officer for Wiltshire Council acting as the Accountable Body for the SWLEP, I, or my nominated representative have been active in a range of ways during the last 12 months:

- i. value for money sign off for 4] grant awards presented to SWLEP Board:
 - a Getting Building Fund £9.7m (Capital)
 - b EU Transition Business Readiness £136,050 (Growth Hub Revenue)
 - c Peer Networks £150k (Growth Hub Revenue)
 - d Growth Hub Additional Funding £257k (Growth Hub Revenue)
- ii. scrutiny of the LGF allocation and spend
- iii. participation in the GPIF Working Group including due diligence checks and interest rate calculations for successful applicants during 2019.
- iv. attendance and reporting to all Board meetings and scheduled meetings of the Delivery and Performance Team;
- v. confirmation that the SWLEP Board conducts its business in public and operates in an accessible and transparent manner
- vi. sign off the updated Governance Framework 2020

Looking ahead to 2021/22

The following work has already been identified which will require my, or my nominated representative's, involvement, support and scrutiny during the forthcoming year:

- i. scrutiny of the LGF allocation and spend to March 2021 and closure of the funding programme from April 2021
- ii. continued support to the GPIF programme in terms of existing loan agreements and future calls
- iii. scrutiny of the Getting Building Fund allocation and spend
- iv. attendance and reporting to all Board meetings and scheduled meetings of the Delivery and Performance Team;
- v. compliance checks and sign off regarding the Governance Framework 2021



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Closing statement

I do not have any issues of concern regarding governance and transparency and the SWLEP operate within the terms of its Governance Framework.

Signed:

Name: Andy Brown

Position: Interim Corporate Director for Resources (S151 Officer)

Date: 14th January 2021