



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@levellingup.gov.uk, copying the BEIS Area Lead, by **19 January 2023**. This statement should also be published on the LEP's website by **28 February 2022** with confirmation sent to the email address above. **(max 500 words)**

The Combined Authority is required to produce and publish an annual governance statement, alongside the Annual Statement of Accounts. As the Combined Authority encompasses the LEP, the annual governance statement applies to both.

The statement includes:

Scope of responsibility – Conducting business within the law. Ensuring public money is properly accounted for and used economically. Meeting duties under the Local Government Act. Establishing governance in line with CIPFA and SOLACE framework.

The Purpose of the Governance Framework and Our Vision – Comprising the systems and processes, culture & values that direct and control our activities. A clear vision of our purpose and intended outcomes for businesses and resident (High Value, Low Carbon, Diverse & Inclusive Economy).

The Key Elements of our Governance Framework – Arrangements that are in place to ensure governance is up to date and effective and that our services are delivered in line with our objectives. Includes details of Overview & Scrutiny Committee arrangements.

Review of Effectiveness (including an improvement plan) – Review conducted at least annually with oversight from the Group Chief Executive and Group Director of Finance & Resources. An improvement plan is produced as a result with specific actions and timescales.

The statement is signed by the Chief Executive of the Combined Authority, the Tees Valley Mayor and the LEP Chair.

A copy of the statement is published on our website here: <https://teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/transparency/annual-statement-of-accounts/>

More detail of how the Authority operates can be found within the constitution here: <https://tvca.wpenginepowered.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/TVCA-Constitution-V8-September-2022.pdf>



Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Signed: *Siobhan McArdle*
Name: Siobhan McArdle
Position: LEP Chair
Date: 16/01/2023

Signed: *Julie Gilhespie*
Name: Julie Gilhespie
Position: Group Chief Executive
Date: 16/01/2023