

## Strategic Board

For Agreement by Electronic Procedure  
Agenda Item: SELEP Assurance Framework 2017  
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## SELEP Assurance Framework 2017

### 1. Purpose

1.1. The purpose of this report is to:

1.1.1. **Agree** the revised SELEP Assurance Framework 2017 which has been updated to reflect changes to the National Assurance Framework and the revised SELEP Terms of Reference approved by the Strategic Board (the Board) in December 2016.

### 2. Recommendations

2.1. The Board is asked:

2.1.1. To **approve** the revised SELEP Assurance Framework 2017 (Appendix A)

2.1.2. To **note** the intention for SELEP to develop an SELEP Assurance Framework Implementation Plan

### 3. Background

3.1. In October 2016, the Government published a revised National Assurance Framework (Appendix B) which sets out the requirements of local assurance frameworks to have robust systems to be in place to ensure that resources are spent with regularity, propriety, and value for money.

3.2. To reflect changes to the National Assurance Framework, LEPs are required to review, refresh and sign off their Local Assurance Framework in light of this update. The requirements set out in the National Assurance Framework must be incorporated in SELEPs Assurance Framework as a condition of funding in future Growth Deal grant offer letters.

3.3. The purpose of the SELEP Assurance Framework is to set out the systems and processes which are necessary to manage the delegated funding from Central Government Budgets effectively. This includes, but not limited to, funding decisions in relation to Local Growth Fund and Growing Places Fund.

3.4. The updated SELEP Assurance Framework 2017 incorporates the necessary changes to meet the expectations of Government as set out in the National Assurance Framework.

### 4. Process for Approving the SELEP Assurance Framework

4.1. The Board are asked to approve the SELEP Assurance Framework, as set out in Appendix A, through Electronic Procedure by the **1<sup>st</sup> February 2017**.

- 4.2. The Board decision to agree the updated SELEP Assurance Framework 2017 by electronic procedure shall be ratified at the next Strategic Board meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017.
- 4.3. The SELEP Accountable Body s.151 Officer is required to write to DCLG's Accounting Officer by 28th February each year beginning 2017, certifying that the local Assurance Framework has been agreed, is being implemented and that it meets the revised standards set out in the National Assurance Framework.
- 4.4. Following agreement from Strategic Board Members, the Accountable Body s.151 Officer is required to confirm to Government that the Assurance Framework meets the requirements of the National Assurance Framework, which will give the Government confidence that it can release the funding to SELEP.
- 4.5. For the s.151 Officer to provide assurances that the SELEP Assurance Framework is being actioned and adhered to, a SELEP Assurance Framework Implementation Plan will be developed and monitored by SELEP Accountability Board on a quarterly basis.
- 4.6. The updated SELEP Assurance Framework 2017 will come into implementation following approval by the Board.

## **5. List of Appendices**

- 5.1. Appendix A - SELEP Assurance Framework 2017
- 5.2. Appendix B – LEP National Assurance Framework

## **6. Background Documents**

- 6.1. SELEP Assurance Framework 2016

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