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D2N2 Chief Executive and Chair Assurance Statement

(The D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership, April 2019)



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(The D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership,
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D2N2 is fully committed to embedding the highest levels of transparency and accountability in all aspects of its governance and decision making. Significant progress has been made over the last year and further changes are planned to continue strengthening our overall governance.

Following last year's Annual Conversation a Governance Action Plan was put in place to address the actions, along with the recommendations of the Ney Review and the findings of the Accountable Body audit. The Board closely monitored the progress of the plan, and all actions have now been fully addressed and are being implemented.

Over the last year the changes made include the adoption of a clear Code of Conduct for all Board and staff members, a revised Complaints and Whistleblowing policy, Declarations of Interests for all board and senior staff.

We have also made changes to board member chairing arrangements of the Enterprise Zone Steering Group to address any perceived or potential conflict of interests.

All policies, Board papers and minutes are available on the D2N2 website. Going forward we will continue to ensure the website is regularly updated and constantly reviewed to ensure it remains user friendly.

D2N2 is fully compliant with the National Assurance Framework and is further revising its Local Assurance Framework to reflect the changes made in the draft published in December 2018.

The D2N2 board led by the Chair is fully committed to implementing the strengthened role of the LEP as set out in the Strengthening Local Enterprise Partnerships Review. We are currently on track to put in place the revised governance arrangements to comply with the review including a single accountable body, a new company limited by guarantee structure, strengthened scrutiny arrangements and a stronger private sector board.

Further work is still required to address the overlap in 5 district areas in the North of the Sub-region.

In terms of scrutiny arrangements, Derbyshire County Council as the lead Accountable Body undertakes an annual audit and scrutiny of D2N2 in relation to governance and delivery arrangements. The latest audit was undertaken in September 2018 and concluded that the LEP had made significant improvements in the last year in relation to both. D2N2, also regularly attends the Nottinghamshire County Council Policy Scrutiny Committee to provide an update on performance and delivery.

Going forward, scrutiny arrangements are being strengthened and formalised as part of the appointment of the single accountable body. The specification for the accountable body states a requirement to put in place a formal scrutiny process for all aspects of the LEPs delivery and governance and extend the invitation to the respective chairs of all local authority scrutiny committees across D2N2

Chair & Chief Executive Sign-off:

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Fagan', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sajeeda Rose', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Name: Elizabeth Fagan

Position: Chair

Date: 4th April 2019

Name: Sajeeda Rose

Position: Chief Executive

Date: 4th April 2019

