



North East Combined Authority

DURHAM · GATESHEAD · SOUTH TYNESIDE · SUNDERLAND

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Permanent Secretary  
Accounting Officer  
Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

Date: 12 December 2019

Dear Permanent Secretary,

**Re. North East LEP**

As the Section 73 Officer for the North East Combined Authority, the LEP's Accountable Body, I would like to confirm that myself and my deputies have undertaken all the necessary checks to ensure that the LEP has in place the processes to ensure the proper administration of their financial affairs.

Accordingly, having considered all the relevant information, in my role as the Section 73 Officer, I am of the opinion that the financial affairs of the LEP are being properly administered. The LEP's Local Assurance Framework is compliant with the minimum standards as outlined in the National Local Growth Assurance Framework (2019).

Yours sincerely,

John Hewitt  
S73 Officer  
North East Combined Authority.

CC Paul Woods, Financial Consultant, North East Combined Authority (based in North East LEP office).