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<b>Title:</b>	<b>Chair Recruitment Update</b>
<b>Purpose:</b>	<b>To update members on the progress in recruiting a new BLEP Chair and to approve the draft recruitment pack.</b>
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	<b>That members note the content of this report and provide comment on the draft recruitment pack and appointment schedule and approve for publication and to consider if the Current Chair should be part of the final interview process.</b>
<b>Impact on Risk Register:</b>	<b>The appointment of a new Chair is a commitment within our annual review process and is in line with our Assurance and Governance Framework.</b>

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## **1 Background**

As members will recall all LEP Chairs serve up to three year terms capped as a requirement of both national and local assurance frameworks. Our Chair has been able to serve an additional term, with Government approval, due to the exceptional circumstances associated with Local Authority unitarization and LEP incorporation. The LEP Review has raised an interesting context in which to recruit a new Chair and the attached programme is designed to provide us with flexibility through that process but we would expect to have greater certainty around the outcome of the LEP Review before we begin the recruitment process. We have further agreed with Government that we will meet our governance requirements before the end of 2021.

## **2 Recruitment Plan & Timetable**

Following consultation with other LEPs, that have recently advertised and successfully appointed to Chair and board member roles, we have drafted a recruitment pack detailing recruitment processes, the role description and person specification. The draft recruitment pack is attached to this report as **Appendix 1** for comment and feedback prior to final sign off and publication. The post will be advertised from the beginning of September with the appointment process completed by in November.

## **3 Reporting & Engagement Process for the Board**

We would want to ensure that members of the board are engaged throughout and have incorporated a number of opportunities to engage during the recruitment process. Andrew, as the outgoing Chair will lead a virtual discussion with potential candidates to outline the practical implications of the role and the RemNom Sub Group will present its recommendation for shortlisted candidates back to the full board prior to interview. The following of board members have been invited to be part of the formal interview process, Clare Pelham, Lucy Edge & Martin Tett together with Mark Bretton as Chair of the LEP Network. Board Members are asked to consider if our current Chair should also be part of this final interview process.

The final appointment will be ratified by the full board at a special meeting linked to our AGM in November.

**Board members are asked to:**

**Note the content of this report and provide comment on the draft recruitment pack and appointment schedule and approve for publication.**