

## Exemptions to the National Local Growth Assurance Framework 2021-22

Provision in the NLGAF	NLGAF ( <i>version 2021</i> ) Reference	Exemption
1. Appointment Process for Board Members and Chairs	<p>“The LEP should outline, or refer to, its appointment process for Board Members (public and private sector), Chairs and Deputy Chairs within the Local Assurance Framework. As part of this they should ensure that they advertise opportunities for private sector leaders to become a LEP Chair or private sector Board Member when vacancies emerge. They should advertise openly, on a variety of platforms to ensure that people across the business community have an opportunity to apply and consider the diversity requirements outlined in this Framework...”</p> <p>Paragraph 75-77</p>	<p><b>New Exemption 2021:</b> we acknowledge the ongoing government-led review into the role of LEPs. Therefore, there may be circumstances where the board opts to extend or temporarily appoint board members/chairs without needing to proceed to a full recruitment, on the basis a full and open recruitment is conducted after these exceptional circumstances cease. In such circumstances, the LEP <u>must</u> notify the Area Lead, copying in <a href="mailto:localgrowthassurance@communities.gov.uk">localgrowthassurance@communities.gov.uk</a> and providing clear justification for the decision. Any extensions should be within the current financial year only.</p>
2. LEP Board composition – Chair and Deputy Chair’s term	<p>“To support the Chair in their role, all LEPs should appoint a Deputy Chair. The LEP should have a defined term limit of three years for the Chair and Deputy Chair, with an optional extension of three years. There is an option to extend for a further three years in exceptional circumstances if approved by the Board”.</p> <p>Paragraph 133</p>	<p><b>New Exemption 2021:</b> we acknowledge the ongoing government-led review into the role of LEPs. We hold that these are exceptional circumstances. Therefore, the board may wish to extend a Chair or Deputy Chair beyond normal term. In such circumstances the LEP <u>must</u> notify the Area Lead, copying in <a href="mailto:localgrowthassurance@communities.gov.uk">localgrowthassurance@communities.gov.uk</a> for <u>consent</u> to extend the term.</p>
3. LEP Board composition – private sector	<p>“The LEP Board must contain representatives from different parts of the community. In addition, at least two-thirds of the Board must be representatives from the private sector as defined by the National Accounts Sector Classification”.</p> <p>Paragraph 125</p>	<p><b>New Exemption 2021:</b> we acknowledge the ongoing government-led review into the role of LEPs, and this may affect board composition. Therefore, there may be circumstances where the private sector composition is temporarily non-compliant. Should the board composition drop below two-thirds private sector representation, the LEP <u>must</u> notify the Area Lead, copying in <a href="mailto:localgrowthassurance@communities.gov.uk">localgrowthassurance@communities.gov.uk</a>, and providing clear explanation of why representation cannot be maintained.</p>
4. LEP Board composition – gender	<p>“The diversity statement should include a commitment to ensure at least one third of members of LEP Boards are women, with an expectation of equal representation by the beginning of 2023.” Paragraph 79.</p>	<p><b>New Exemption 2021:</b> we acknowledge the ongoing government-led review into the role of LEPs, and this may affect board composition. Therefore, there may be circumstances where the gender composition is temporarily non-compliant. Should the board composition drop below one-third female representation, the LEP <u>must</u> notify the Area Lead, copying in <a href="mailto:localgrowthassurance@communities.gov.uk">localgrowthassurance@communities.gov.uk</a> and providing clear explanation of why representation cannot be maintained.</p>