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Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Scrutiny Panel	
European Funding – Review of: (a) Commissioning/ Bidding Framework (b) Governance Arrangements	
Aims and Objectives	
Aim and Objectives	<p>The aim of the review is to support the Combined Authority and the Local Enterprise Partnership in ensuring that:</p> <p>(a) the commissioning/ bidding framework being developed to underpin the local delivery of the European Programme 2014-2020 will secure the right outcomes for the City Region; and</p> <p>(b) the governance arrangements in place to shape and oversee the local operation of the programme are effective, robust and accountable.</p>
Context/Background	<p>The Liverpool City Region has been allocated £190m as part of the 2014-2020 European Programme. The Local Enterprise Partnership has led on the City Region's submission (ESIF) to form part of the national European Regional Development and European Social Fund programme. Whilst the City Region's ESIF was signed off by government in mid-2014, the government has yet to agree the final national programme (for England) with the EU.</p> <p>Since the Combined Authority was formed in April 2014, it has discharged its strategic economic development function through the Local Enterprise Partnership. It also approved an operating agreement which incorporated a European Programme Protocol setting out the</p>

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	<p>respective roles, of the Combined Authority, the constituent authorities and the Local Enterprise Partnership in relation to that programme.</p> <p>At its development session in September 2014, followed by its first formal meeting in October 2014, the Scrutiny Panel identified “European Funding” as an area of interest it might wish to examine in more detail in its role to support/ challenge the Combined Authority and its constituent parts. At a briefing session in January 2015, the Panel received a presentation which set out the current context in relation to European Funding in the Liverpool City Region. In considering this information, the Panel agreed two specific aspects of this complex topic that it felt would benefit from closer examination as part of a relatively brief review that could feed its findings into the Panel’s formal meeting scheduled for 8 April 2015. These two aspects were:</p> <p>(a) Local commissioning/ bidding framework; (b) Local governance arrangements.</p>
Methodology	
Timescale	<p>It is proposed that this review will be conducted during the period February to March 2015 with a view to submitting a report/ recommendations to the formal meeting of the Panel on 8 April 2015.</p> <p>It is proposed that the review will comprise 2 evidence sessions, 1 for each topic followed up by wrap-up session to consider the content of final report and recommendations.</p> <p>Following endorsement by the formal Panel meeting, it is anticipated that the report and recommendations will be submitted to a meeting of the Combined Authority in April or June.</p>

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Evidence session 1	<p>Date of meeting: 11.00am 18th February 2015</p> <p>Purpose of the session: To consider the governance arrangements in place to shape and oversee the local operation of the 2014-2015 programme.</p> <p>Expert witness: Mike Henesey – Department for Communities and Local Government</p>
Evidence session 2	<p>Date of meeting: 11.00am 4th March 2015</p> <p>Purpose of the session: To consider the proposed commissioning/ bidding framework being developed to support the operation of the European Programme 2014-2020 in the City Region.</p> <p>Expert witnesses: Mike Henesey – Department for Communities and Local Government</p>
Wrap up meeting	<p>Date of meeting: 11.00am 17th March 2015</p> <p>Purpose of the session: To consider and agree the review's final report and recommendations.</p>

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Potential outcomes	
Expected outcomes	<p>It is expected that this review will support the Combined Authority and Local Enterprise Partnership in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) ensuring that the commissioning/ bidding framework being developed for the 2014-2020 European Programme will produce the right results; (b) securing appropriate and transparent governance of the European Programme in the City Region. <p>As this will be the Scrutiny Panel's first in-depth review, it is anticipated that the lessons drawn from carrying it out will inform the Panel's future scrutiny practice.</p>
Measuring success	<p>Any recommendations arising out of the review will be considered by the Combined Authority. Subject to approval, their implementation will be monitored.</p>
Officer/Member involvement	
Members	<p>All Members of the Scrutiny Panel will have the opportunity to be involved in the review, subject to availability.</p>