

ITEM 7

Somerset Rivers Authority Board Paper

Title: SRA Half Year Progress Report 2017-18

RECOMMENDATION

The SRA Board is asked to:

1. Approve the publication of the SRA Half Year Progress Report 2017-18

Purpose:

The Half Year Progress Report 2017-18 provides the Board with a detailed account and analysis of the SRA's progress during the first half of 2017-18 (April to September). The purpose of this Item is to seek Board approval to publish this.

Background and context

At the last SRA Board meeting, members approved the publication of a comprehensive End of Year Performance Report, covering performance and finance, and the compilation and prospective publication of a First Half Year Progress Report for the October Board meeting.

Like the End of Year Report, 2016-17, that was circulated across Somerset after the last Board meeting, the Half Year Progress Report 2017-18 covers all SRA funding sources, key projects and work streams. There is one significant difference. The Half Year Progress Report, as its name suggests, is focused on progress, on what has actually been done, and on what – as a result of planning and preparations so far this year – is coming up imminently. Where there is no news, no news is given. The End of Year Report 2017-18 will provide the Board with a much fuller account of all actions (and any inactions).

Both this Half Year Progress Report and the next End of Year Performance Report are also intended for a wider audience. In 2017-18, the SRA is getting £2.843m in council tax and contributions from Somerset's IDBs. One goal of the SRA's communications strategy is to make people across Somerset aware of what the SRA is achieving with their money. Approving the publication of this report would let people know what has been done so far this year to give them extra flood protection and resilience.

Latest status

The Half Year Progress Report 2017-18 has been reviewed and approved by the SRA's Technical Group and Management Group. If it is approved by the Board, it will be circulated to partners, councillors, MPs, other stakeholders including community groups and residents, and its contents made available on the SRA's website.

Recommendation:

The Board is asked to approve the publication of the SRA Half Year Progress Report 2017-18.

Date: 3 October, 2017

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