

Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) Board Paper

Quarter 1 2026-27 Enhanced Programme Performance Monitoring Report

RECOMMENDATION

The Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) Board is asked to:

1. Note the overall delivery status of the schemes and activities within the current Enhanced Programme for Quarter 1 2026-27.

Purpose of the item

To provide Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) Board members with an overview of project progress across the SRA Enhanced Programme.

To enable the SRA Board to oversee progress towards meeting SRA objectives and ensuring effective use of funding.

Background and context

The SRA Strategy 2024-2034 published in March 2024 sets out a reporting structure for how the SRA Board can assess what is being achieved through the SRA's Enhanced Programme.

It specifies that annually the Board will receive:

1. Total number of schemes and activities funded year on year.
2. Total number of funded schemes and activities that are new.
3. Number of partnership projects – projects involving two or more organisations.
4. A summary of schemes and activities completed in the last financial year with a statement on outputs and outcomes.
5. Analysis of the programme assessing how schemes and activities are contributing to achieving our objectives.

Quarterly the Board will receive:

1. Amount of spend per quarter on scheme delivery as a percentage of total funds available.
2. Summary of total programme spend assessed against funds available and forecast future spend.
3. Summary of progress on delivery of the programme assessed against originally agreed timescales.
4. A report on completed schemes and activities with a statement about outputs and outcomes.

Quarter 1 2026-27 Overview

The first two metrics for quarterly reporting are covered in Item 9a Quarter 1 2026-27 Finance Report.

1. Summary of progress on delivery of the programme assessed against originally agreed timescales

Table A and Chart A below provide an overview of how projects that set milestones are progressing compared to the milestone deadlines they set in their Grant Agreements. Examples of milestones 1 - 4 are shown at the end of this paper, on page 6.

Table A

Milestone Description	Milestone 1	Milestone 2	Milestone 3	Milestone 4
Completed Early	3	3	3	3
Completed As Planned	23	11	4	0
On Track	3	15	18	18
Behind Schedule	2	4	7	13
Completed Late	11	9	9	8

Chart A

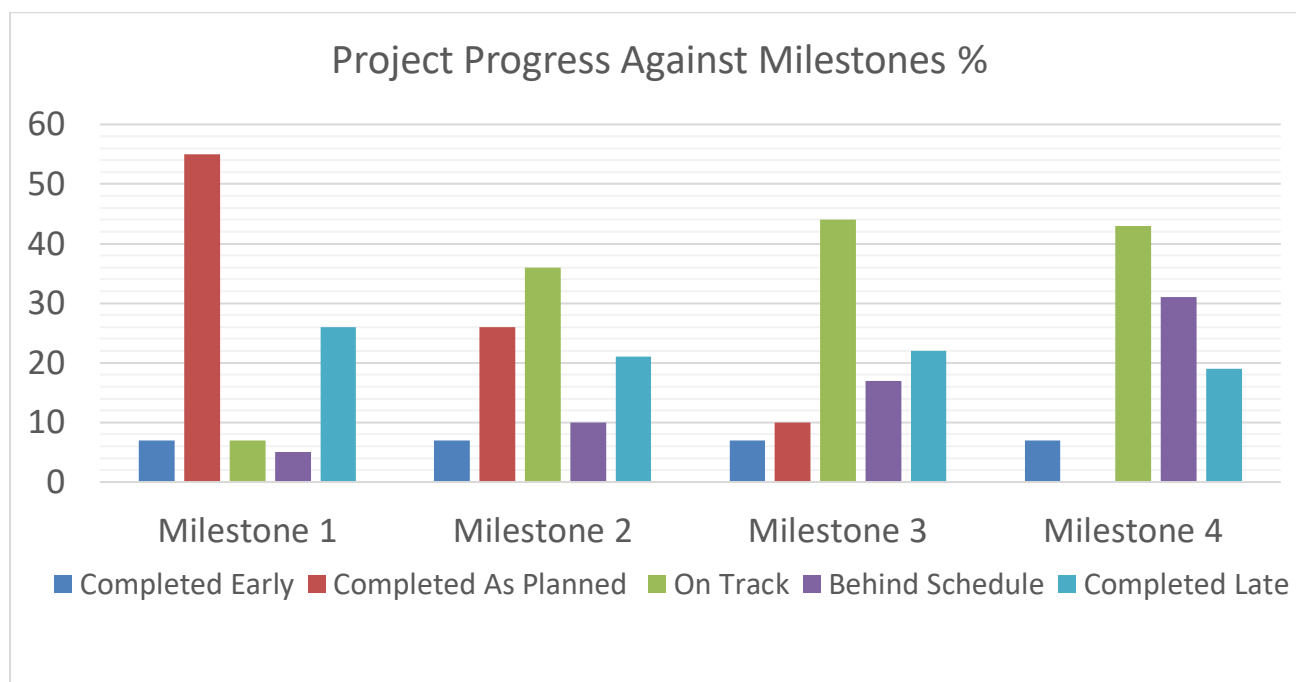


Table B below is a summary of the number of projects that are behind schedule for hitting their next milestone. For example, three projects are between one and six months behind meeting their current milestone.

Period behind Schedule	1 to 6 months	7 to 12 months	13 to 24 months	2 to 3 years	3 years +
Number of Projects	0	2	1	4	8

Projects that are delayed for more than two years are reported as such for various reasons. In some instances, projects are largely complete but with a few small outstanding elements and until those are completed and funding claimed they cannot be 'closed down'. Other projects are suffering from being complex and having challenging development phases. Each of the organisations leading these projects have confirmed they do intend to complete the projects.

2. Report on completed schemes and activities with a statement about outputs

For this report, a 'completed scheme' is one where the final claim has been submitted to the SRA for payment. The project activity may have been completed in an earlier reporting Quarter. Three schemes were completed in Quarter 1 2026-27. Funding Year relates to the year the activity was originally funded.

Table C

Completed Schemes and Activities Q1 2026-27	Funding Year
Bridgwater Tidal Barrier (Contribution)	2026-27
River Parrett Maintenance: Water Injection Dredging and shoulder work	2025-26
Siphons Appraisal Work: Swallows, Crossmoor, Browns Bank - Godney	2024-25

Table D provides the list of outputs from the Enhanced Programme that have been delivered between April and June (Quarter 1 2026-27) by workstream category.

Table D

Type of Output	Q1 2026-27 Number
W1: Dredging and River Management	
Study/Report completed: Siphons Inspection Risk Report	1
Study/Report completed: Taunton Integrated Catchment Study	1
W2: Land Management Including Natural Flood Management	
new grants offered for the Hills to Levels programme	5
Hills to Levels grant schemes completed	5
land/soil management visits/workshops	15

Highway flooding issues referred to FWAG SW for consultation	7
grants offered for Trees for Water Action Fund	1
Trees for Water Action Fund schemes completed	12
Trees/shrubs planted	1790
Hedge planting (m)	1142
NFM features: Leaky, woody or trash dams constructed	35
NFM features: Scrapes	7
NFM features: in channel features, swales, bank regrading, etc	7
NFM features: attenuation area, pond restoration	1
W5: Building Local Resilience	
Adapting Somerset (Act to Adapt) visits/workshops	5
community Flood Group meetings attended by Community Outreach Team	3
Somerset Prepared Roadshows	1
community visits by Community Outreach Team	11
communities visited by Community NFM adviser	7
school/college visits	3
LCN, council meetings attended by Community Outreach Team	6
LCN, council meetings attended by Community NFM Advisor	3
public events attended by Community Outreach Team	19
public events attended by Community NFM adviser	1
people reached through Engagement Activities	1367
Community Flood Action Fund	
Community Flood Action Fund grants awarded	3
Community Flood Action Fund applications received	3
Community Flood Action Fund Schemes completed	3

RECOMMENDATION

The Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) Board is asked to:

1. Note the overall delivery status of the schemes and activities within the current SRA Enhanced Programme for Quarter 1 2026-27.

Date: 3 September 2026

Authors: Caroline Dunn, SRA Project and Performance Officer; David Mitchell, Senior Manager, Somerset Rivers Authority.

Appendix: Examples of Milestones

Milestone One:

- Initial scoping and assessment
- Initial survey and methodology
- Define partners and stakeholders
- Development of framework
- Outline design

Milestone Two:

- Commence programming of work
- Data Review and tender
- Procurement
- Consents and permissions
- Detailed design

Milestone Three:

- Works tendered and awarded
- Construction start date
- Works commencement date
- Engagement and communication
- Draft report

Milestone Four:

- Construction or works complete
- Final report publication
- Launch date