ITEM 8b

Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) Board Paper

Quarter 2 2026-27 Enhanced Programme Performance Monitoring

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 2 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 2 2026-27 Overview

The first two metrics for quarterly reporting are covered in Item 8a Quarter 2 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	2	2	2	2
Completed As Planned	20	14	4	0
On Track	1	5	11	14
Behind Schedule	2	4	7	11
Completed Late	9	8	8	7

Chart A

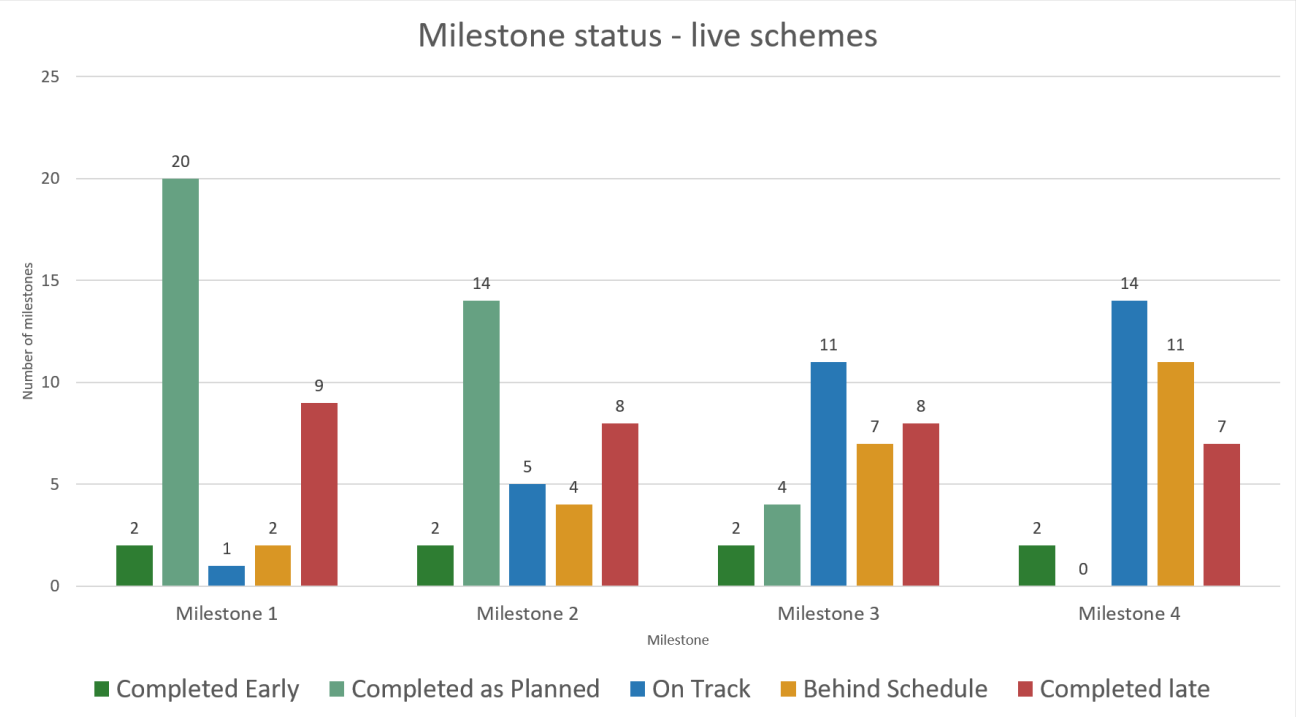

Table B below is a summary of the number of projects that are behind schedule for hitting their next milestone. For example, five projects are more than three years behind their original completion date**.**

Period behind Schedule	1 to 6 months	7 to 12 months	13 to 24 months	2 to 3 years	3 years +
Number of Projects	1	0	1	4	5

Projects delayed by more than two years remain open for several reasons. Some are largely complete, with only minor elements outstanding, but cannot be closed until these are completed and the funding claimed. Others have experienced delays due to their complexity and challenging development phases. All organisations leading these projects have confirmed their intention to complete them.

The five projects that are more than three years behind schedule are:

Projects more than 3 years behind schedule		
Delivery Partner	**Project**	**Current Completion Date**
Axe Brue Internal Drainage Board	Burtle culvert replacement and ditch restoration	31-Mar-27
Somerset Council	Rode Flood Management Project: (remaining drainage works at Crooked Lane and Straight Lane, Rode)	30-Jun-27
Somerset Council	Tone Strategic Flood Alleviation Scheme TTC5: Left bank of the River Tone between Frieze Hill and Town Bridge	01-Apr-28
Somerset Council	Tone Strategic Flood Alleviation Scheme LRM: Optimisation of Longrun Meadow Storage	31-Dec-29
Internal Drainage Boards	Culvert inspections (complete) and remedial works (Puriton Road, Mark and Buttlake Rd, near Brent Knoll)	31-Mar-27

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

For this report, a scheme is classed as 'completed' when its final claim has been submitted to the SRA for payment, although the activity itself may have been completed in an earlier reporting quarter. Three schemes were completed on this basis in Quarter 2 2026-27. 'Funding Year' refers to the year in which the activity was originally funded.

Table C

Completed Schemes and Activities Quarter 2 2026-27	Funding Year
Main River Maintenance - Environment Agency delivery	2025-26
Adapting Somerset	2024-25
Associations on the Levels and Moors	2023-24

Table D summarises the Enhanced Programme outputs delivered between June and September (Quarter 2 2026-27), grouped by workstream.

Table D

Type of Output	Quarter 2 2026-27
W1: Dredging and River Management	
Main river maintenance completed: No of Watercourses	10
Main river maintenance completed: length (km)	24.7
Agricultural land - reduced flood risk (ha) - estimated	17,055
W2: Land Management Including Natural Flood Management (NFM)	
No of new grants offered for the Hills to Levels programme	1
No of Hills to Levels grant schemes completed	5
No of Hills to Levels schemes revisited	3
No of land/soil management visits/workshops	10
No of Highway flooding issues referred to FWAG SW for consultation	6
No of NFM features: in channel features, timber flow spreader, bank regrading, swales, silt traps, bund etc	4
No of NFM features: desilting of pond and vegetation clearance	1
No of NFM features: attenuation area, leaky pond, pond restoration	3
W3: Urban Water Management	
No of CCTV Surveys carried out	1
W4: Resilient Infrastructure	
No of sites where drains were jetted	17

W5: Building Local Resilience	
No of Adapting Somerset (Act to Adapt) visits/workshops (Somerset Wildlife Trust)	10
No of Flood Group Network Meetings organised by SRA community team	3
No of community Flood Group meetings attended by SRA community team	3
No of community visits by (SRA community team)	20
No of communities visited by Community NFM adviser	13
No of Riparian Workshops	2
No of school/college visits	4
No of equipment/training grants awarded	1
No of business resilience engagement /training events	1
No of Local Community Network, council meetings attended by SRA community team	3
No of public events attended (SRA community team)	3
No of public events attended (FWAG SW)	4
No of people reached through Engagement Activities	700
Community Flood Action Fund	
No of Community Flood Action Fund grants awarded	4
No of Community Flood Action Fund applications received - August deadline	7
No of Community Flood Action Fund Schemes completed	2

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Date: 18 November 2026
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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