Somerset Rivers Authority
County Hall
Taunton, TA1 4DY

Agenda for the
Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) Board Meeting

9:45am – 1:00pm, Friday 4 December 2026

at Somerset Council Offices, Council Chamber, Cannards Grave, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5BT

Members of SRA Board:

Cllr Steve Ashton - *Chair*, Somerset Council
Tony Bradford - *Vice-Chair,* Parrett Internal Drainage Board (IDB)
Anthony Betty, Parrett IDB
Ian Collins, Wessex Regional Flood & Coastal Committee
Cllr Bob Filmer, Axe Brue IDB
Claire Newill, Natural England
Cllr Nick O'Donnell, Somerset Council
Cllr Mike Stanton, Somerset Council
Cllr Claire Sully, Somerset Council
Wendy Welland, Axe Brue IDB
Matt Wheeldon, Wessex Water
Ian Withers, Environment Agency
Cllr Ros Wyke, Somerset Council

In Attendance:

Jennie Channing, SRA
Nicola Dawson, Somerset Council
Bel Deering, SRA
James Divall, Somerset Council
Caroline Dunn, SRA
Ross Edwards, Environment Agency
Paul Elliston, SRA
Sam Hitchcott, Somerset Council
Piers Hooper, Somerset Council
Jonathan Hudston, SRA
David Mitchell, Somerset Drainage Boards Consortium

Apologies:

Cllr Mike Caswell, Somerset Council

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AGENDA

Item	Title	Purpose	Lead
1.	Introductions and apologies for absence	To list apologies.	Chair
2.	Declarations of Interest	Transparency.	Chair
3.	Minutes of previous meeting 11 September 2026	a. To agree accuracy b. Matters arising from last meeting	Chair
4.	Chair's update	To update on any matters of relevance to the SRA Board since its last meeting.	Chair
5.	Public Question Time	To allow the public to ask questions	Chair
6.	Administration	To agree SRA Board 2027-28 Meeting dates	Chair
7.	Update on £50m Flood Resilience Programme	To update the Board on latest developments on Somerset Council's Flood Resilience Programme	James Divall, Piers Hooper
8.	Finance Report and Enhanced Programme Performance Monitoring	To update the Board on: a. Quarter 2 2026-27 Finance Report b. Quarter 2 2026-27 Performance Monitoring	Sam Hitchcott, Caroline Dunn
9.	Top-up funding request	a. To request additional funds for King's Sedgemoor Drain Bank Raising b. To request additional funds for 2026 - 27 River Parrett maintenance: Water Injection Dredging c. Agree to re-allocate funding to Axe Brue Internal Drainage Board for further River Brue works	David Mitchell,
10.	Proposed 2027-28 Enhanced Programme and draft Budget	To review and approve the proposed 2027-28 Enhanced Programme and draft Budget	Caroline Dunn, Jonathan Hudston
11.	Somerset Prepared Community Resilience Day 2026	To update the Board on the Somerset Prepared Community Resilience Day 2026 held on 21 October 2026	Nicola Dawson, Bel Deering
12.	Flood Risk Impacts of New Developments	Verbal update	Chair
13.	Strategic Risk Register	Annual review of the Risk Register	James Divall
14.	Any other business (AOB)	Please notify the Chair of AOB in advance of the meeting.	Chair
Next meeting: 5 March 2027			

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Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA)
GUIDANCE NOTES

For the SRA Board Meeting 9:45am – 1pm, Friday 4 December 2026
at Somerset Council Offices, Council Chamber, Cannards Grave, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5BT

For further information about the meeting, please contact Somerset Rivers Authority on (01823) 355111 or email sra@somerset.gov.uk

This meeting will be open to the public and press.

The agenda, reports and background papers are available on request prior to the meeting in large print, Braille, audio tape & disc and can be translated into different languages. They can also be accessed via Somerset Rivers Authority's website on
www.somersetriversauthority.org.uk/meetings



1 Inspection of Papers

Any person wishing to inspect reports or the background papers for any item on the agenda should contact Somerset Rivers Authority on 01823-355111 or email sra@somerset.gov.uk
Papers can also be accessed at www.somersetriversauthority.org.uk/meetings

2 Notes of the Meeting

Details of issues discussed, and decisions taken at the meeting, will be set out in the Minutes, which the Board will be asked to approve as a correct record at its next meeting. In the meantime, details of decisions and draft minutes will be available on the SRA website seven days after the meeting has taken place:
www.somersetriversauthority.org.uk/meetings

3 Public Question Time

At the Chair's invitation, you may ask questions and/or make statements or comments about any matter on the Board's agenda. You may also present a petition on any matter within the Board's remit. The length of public question time will be no more than 30 minutes in total.

A slot for Public Question Time is set aside near the beginning of the meeting, after the minutes of the previous meeting have been signed. However, questions or statements about any matter on the agenda for this meeting may be taken at the time when each matter is considered at the Chair's discretion.

If you wish to speak at the meeting, or submit a petition, then you will need to submit your statement or question in writing to Somerset Rivers Authority by 12 noon on Tuesday 1 December 2026. Email sra@somerset.gov.uk

You must direct your questions and comments through the Chair. You may not take direct part in the debate. The Chair will decide when public participation is to finish. If there are many people present at the meeting for one particular item, the Chair may adjourn the meeting to allow views to be expressed more freely.

If an item on the agenda is contentious, with a large number of people attending the meeting, a representative should be nominated to present the views of a group.

An issue will not be deferred because you cannot be present at the meeting.

Remember that the amount of time you speak will be restricted normally to three minutes only.

4 Access and Attendance

The Board meeting is open to the public and press but there is limited capacity for health and safety reasons.

The venue has a maximum capacity which cannot be exceeded. If numbers attending exceed capacity, then priority will be given to those who have registered to speak at Public Question Time and thereafter admittance will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Visitor parking is available in the long stay car park or alternatively if full at the following pay and display car parks: Commercial Road Car Park, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5DX, Great Ostry Car Park, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5TT, Regal Road East Car Park, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5AL

5 Hearing Aid Loop System

To assist hearing aid users, the venue is fitted with a hard of hearing loop system. This works in conjunction with a hearing aid in the T position. If you require assistance on the day, then officers will be happy to assist.

6 Emergency Evacuation Procedure

The emergency evacuation procedures are displayed on notices throughout the venue.

7 Recording of meeting

Somerset Rivers Authority supports the principles of openness and transparency, it allows filming, recording and taking photographs at its meetings that are open to the public providing it is done in a non-disruptive manner. Members of the public may use Facebook and X (formerly Twitter) or other forms of social media to report on proceedings, and a designated area will be provided for anyone who is wishing to film part of or all of the proceedings. No filming or recording will take place when the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting. As a matter of courtesy to the public, anyone wishing to film or record proceedings is asked to provide reasonable notice to Somerset Rivers Authority so that the Chair can inform those present at the start of the meeting.

We ask that, as far as possible, members of the public aren't filmed unless they are playing an active role such as speaking within a meeting and there may be occasions when speaking members of the public request not to be filmed.

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Somerset Rivers Authority makes audio recordings of Board meetings in order to have verbatim records of what was discussed. A copy of the Recording of Meetings Protocol should be on display at the meeting for inspection, alternatively contact Somerset Rivers Authority in advance.