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**Southern  
Water.** 

# South East Strategic Reservoir Option (SESRO)

Supporting Document I  
Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and  
J696-AA-XXXX-ZZZZ-RP-ZD-100001

Version: 1.0

Standard Gate three submission for SESRO  
SRO

### Notice – Position Statement

- This document has been produced as the part of the process set out by RAPID for the development of the Strategic Resource Options (SROs). This is a regulatory gated process allowing there to be control and appropriate scrutiny on the activities that are undertaken by the water companies to investigate and develop efficient solutions on behalf of customers to meet future drought resilience challenges.
- This report forms part of the suite of documents that make up the ‘Gate 3 submission.’ Gate 3 of the RAPID programme represents a checkpoint on the way to solutions being prepared for consent applications. The intention at this stage is to provide RAPID with an update on activities being undertaken in preparation for consent application submission; activities’ progress including programme through to completion; and consideration of specific activities to address particular risks or issues associated with a solution. The regulatory gated process does not form part of the consenting process and will not determine whether an SRO is granted planning consent.
- Given the stage of the SROs in the planning process, the information presented in the Gate 3 submission includes material or data which is still in the course of completion, pending further engagement, consultation, design development and technical / environmental assessment. Final proposals will be presented as part of consent applications in due course.
- The project information captured in this document reflects a design freeze in October 2024 following the non-statutory consultation, to meet the requirements of RAPID’s gated process. Since then, the design has continued to evolve which includes further work with Affinity Water and Southern Water partners to form agreed requirements for the development consent application, such as the incorporation of Southern Water’s proposed water treatment works into the SESRO consent. You can find the latest information about the design and development of the project at <https://thames-sro.co.uk/projects/sesro/>.

### Disclaimer

This document has been written in line with the requirements of the RAPID Gate 3 Guidance (v3, January 2024) and to comply with the regulatory process pursuant to Thames Water’s, Southern Water’s and Affinity Water’s statutory duties. The information presented relates to material or data which is still in the course of completion. Should the solution presented in this document be taken forward, the co-sponsors will be subject to the statutory duties pursuant to the necessary consenting process, including environmental assessment and consultation as required. This document should be read with those duties in mind.

Revision history

Version	Date	Submitted at
1.0	04-08-2025	RAPID submission

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
2.1	Confirm requirements and objectives	The submission should outline what requirements and objectives this solution is aiming to address, including requirements and objectives set out by the Environment Agency for England in the National Framework for Water Resources, published in 2020 and the Water Strategy for Wales. The submission should demonstrate alignment with regional and company plan(s), explaining clearly how the regional and company planning process has informed the development of the solution, and how the solution is reflected in the final plans.	Yes	The requirements and objectives are set out in the main gate three report.	Main gate three report	2
2.2	The submission should provide design information about the preferred option for the solution and evidence justifying its selection with respect to the range of options considered in previous gates.	Solution Description	Yes	An overview of the scheme is provided	Main gate three report Supporting Document A1: Basis of Design	2
		Selection of preferred solution <i>Rationale and evidence for selection of the preferred solution option, and scalable elements where justifiable, in reference to the range of options considered.</i>	Yes	Rationale for selection of preferred option as part of WRSE regional best value plan in Thames Water Final WRMP  Summary in gate three main report	Thames Water, Final WRMP24  Gate three main report	10  2

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		Solution configuration <i>Configuration of the preferred solution option and its elements including a description of how the solution and its elements will be operated and how that operating strategy has influenced design.</i>	Yes	Summary of the configuration of the preferred scheme is provided, along with an interim master plan, which formed a key part of public consultation in summer 2024	Main gate three report  Interim master plan consultation document ( <a href="#">Interim+Master+plan.pdf</a> (dn9cxogfaqr3n.cloudfront.net))	2
		Site selection and optioneering <i>A description of the site selection process, and routing where relevant, for the preferred solution option, how multi-disciplinary input has been integrated into the process and noting any outstanding risks or constraints and how these will be addressed.</i>	Yes	Summary of options appraisal in Thames Water Final WRMP  Summary of detailed site-specific optioneering in gate three main report  Options appraisal technical reports published as part of summer 2024 public consultation	Thames Water, Final WRMP24  Summary in main gate three report  <a href="#">Document library - Thames Water Resources Management Plan (thames-wrmp.co.uk)</a>	10  2  Options appraisal reports
		Project specific vision and design principles	Yes	Summary in main gate three report  Site specific design vision and principles published as part of summer 2024 public consultation	Main gate three report  <a href="#">Design+principles.pdf</a> (dn9cxogfaqr3n.cloudfront.net)	2
		Key Assets <i>A description of the key assets to be constructed as part of the preferred solution including relevant</i>	Yes	A summary of key assets is provided	Summary in main gate three report	2

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Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		<i>diagrams/schematics and site general arrangement design drawings and maps, consistent with any pre-application submissions. This may include process diagrams, or completing RAPID-issued cost data tables, as requested.</i>			Supporting Document A1: Basis of Design	
		Key interactions <i>Evidence of, and any assumptions relating to interactions within the solution, as well as between other proposed water resource solutions, in terms of system connectivity / impacts and mutual inclusivity / exclusivity. This should be described in the context of outcomes of regional groups reconciliation, and any further development on agreements made since.</i>	Yes	A summary of the key interactions with other water resource schemes and SROs is provide, along with details of how each interface will be managed	Summary in main gate three report  Supporting Document A1: Basis of Design	2
		Scalability <i>Scalability within the preferred solution option, as well as between other proposed water resource solutions, in terms of dependency and phasing.</i>	Yes	Scalability for SESRO is very limited, once the chosen scheme is delivered, but rationale for this is included in the main gate three report	Summary in main gate three report	2
		Digital Twin Strategy <i>Plan and programme of work on how and when you will develop a digital twin, with an explanation of how it will integrate into the company's existing digital twins and how testing through this process will influence design, construction and operation.</i>	Yes	An overview of the plan to produce a digital twin in provided in the main gate three report	Summary in main gate three report	2
		Independent Design Reviews <i>Recommendations and output from an independent design review where</i>	Yes	Input from an independent Reservoir Advisory	Summary in main gate three report	2

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		<i>proportionate, and how these have been taken into account</i>		Panel (RAP) - advising specifically on reservoir safety issues – and an Independent Design Review have helped inform the current preferred option design position		
2.2.1	At gate three we expect information on solution utilisation and water resource benefits to be provided in the submission, aligned with information in final published WRMPs (draft plans if final plans are not available). Uncertainties should be thoroughly explored and understood, and actions in place to manage these through the design and operation of the solution.	Quantitative presentation of finalised anticipated operational utilisation rates determined from the final, or most up to date company and / or regional modelling and aligning with regional resource need.	Yes	Utilisation of preferred solution confirmed in WRSE final regional water resources plan and in WRMP24 for project partners	Summary in main gate three report	2
		Utilisation rates for dry year annual average operation, for events such as 1 in 500 year droughts, peak demand or as part of emergency response, in addition to standby, or normal-year operation.	Yes	Utilisation of preferred solution needs to balance resource use across the three project sponsors, under various conditions	Summary in main gate three report	2
		Where uncertainty exists in utilisation rates, utilisation rates should be provided for a range of clearly defined scenarios representing the uncertainties. Further work should be detailed to address uncertainties, or statements made where uncertainties may remain in the long term.	Yes	Utilisation of preferred solution needs to balance resource use across the three project sponsors, under various conditions	Summary in main gate three report	2

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		Final conclusions around third party options which have been explored to increase utilisation and value from solution supply.	No	No viable options available from SESRO	-	-
		Where multiple users (public water supply or third party) form part of the utilisation of the solution, the submission should set out the preferred prioritisation rules with clear justification for how these have been developed, an indication that users and prioritisation agreements have been considered in the solution's commercial model (the detail of which may be presented in section 7) and a strategy and indicative timetable for delivering the necessary agreements.	Yes	Utilisation of preferred solution needs to balance resource use across the three project sponsors, under various conditions and ensure commercial arrangements enable delivery of these requirements	Summary in main gate three report	2 and 7
		A clear description of the risks and assumptions in the utilisation figures presented, their impacts and how these will be managed in the detailed design and operation of the solution.	Yes	Utilisation is based upon a series of assumptions regarding abstraction and discharge licence conditions and demand profiles. Assumptions at this stage are stated and future management proposed.	Summary in main gate three report	2
		A clear explanation of how asset management plans are being developed to ensure the solution will provide the intended	Yes	Summary of asset management arrangements included as part of	Summary in main gate three report	7

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		deployable output when required, especially when utilisation may be infrequent such as in severe droughts.		future operational model		
2.2.2	Updated information on the water resources benefit. This should be quantified to a high degree of confidence, with uncertainties explored, quantified and mitigated where feasible. Calculations on water resources benefit should be aligned with linked solutions, regional and company water resources modelling and planning.	The water resource benefit, aligned and consistent with the need and justification presented in final published company and regional water resource plans (draft plans if final plans are not available).	Yes	SESRO forms a key part of the preferred plan in WRSE regional plan and WRMP24 for Thames Water, Affinity Water and Southern Water	Thames Water, Final WRMP24  Gate three main report	11  2
		A finalised water resource benefit assessment including conjunctive use benefit where relevant, consistent with information provided to regional groups to support assessment of regional water resource benefit.	Yes	Confirmation of Water Resource benefit consistent with data issued to WRSE and WRMPs provided in main gate three report	Summary in gate three main report	2
		The water resource benefit of the solution, as a deployable output. Where solutions have previously presented a yield, water resource benefit assessments should now incorporate areas supplying and receiving yield to present a deployable output of the solution as a whole.	Yes	Confirmation of deployable output provided in main gate three report	Summary in gate three main report	2
		Deployable output, presented for the dry year annual average and critical periods, for events such as the 1 in 500 year drought, considering spatial coincidence where relevant.	Yes	Confirmation of deployable output provided in main gate three report. DO provided as dry year annual average only for SESRO.	Summary in gate three main report	2

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		If the solution concerns offsetting a change or redirection of supply, deployable output presented to ensure the water resource benefit is sufficient to maintain consumer supply.	No	N/A for SESRO	-	-
		Methods and calculations which are well evidenced, for example with modelling that utilises appropriate inflow sequences to test relevant drought events, up-to date demand forecasts, and includes environmental and operational constrictions to the water resource benefit, and constraints from other users of the resource. Assumptions in the calculation should be clearly stated.	Yes	Aligned with Thames Water WRMP24	Summary in main gate three report  Thames Water, WRMP24 ( <a href="#">Document library - Thames Water Resources Management Plan (thames-wrmp.co.uk)</a> )	2  4 and Technical Appendix I
		An assessment of the risks and uncertainty associated with the water resources benefit of the solution, including the likelihood and impact on solution deployable output due to climate change, and how risks and uncertainties will be managed through design and operation of the solution.	Yes	Aligned with Thames Water WRMP24	Summary in main gate three report  Thames Water, WRMP24 ( <a href="#">Document library - Thames Water Resources Management Plan (thames-wrmp.co.uk)</a> )	2  4 and Technical Appendix I
		The Level of Service against which the water resource benefit is calculated and an explanation of the calculation.	Yes	Aligned with Thames Water WRMP24	Summary in main gate three report  Thames Water, WRMP24	2

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					<a href="#">(Document library - Thames Water Resources Management Plan (thames-wrmp.co.uk))</a>	4, 6 and Technical Appendix I
		Where the water resource benefit is received, and by whom. The water resource benefit should be contextualised (and its need justified) through the impact it has on the forecast supply-demand balance of the benefiting area.	Yes	Aligned with final WRMP24 for all project sponsors, with benefit received by customers across all three companies.	Summary in main gate three report	2
		An explanation on how outage may be considered for the solution in the context of describing its water resource benefit, in the event this would be calculated any differently or separately to any other of the water companies' assets or projects in the relevant WRMP.	Yes	Aligned with final WRMP24, no difference in outage allowance for any other asset	Summary in main gate three report  Thames Water, WRMP24 <a href="#">(Document library - Thames Water Resources Management Plan (thames-wrmp.co.uk))</a>	2  6 and Technical Appendix J
2.2.3	Long term opportunities and scalability It is important that Strategic Resource Options (SRO) explore opportunities for wider benefits.	<b>Wider benefits</b> Information on wider benefits integrated into the solution design and proposed modes of operation and/or to be provided to third parties.  Wider benefits include benefits to public water supplies beyond the primary goal of increasing drought resilience, for example enhancing the operational supply resilience, flexibility and adaptability of supply systems. It	Yes	Summary of environmental, economic, social and community benefits provided in gate three main report. This includes potential flood defence benefits for surrounding areas realised through partnership working with EA.	Summary in main gate three report  Details of legacy strategy provided in Supporting Document G: Stakeholder Engagement Strategy	8 and 9

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Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		also includes benefits to third parties such as social and environmental benefits from the solutions, and benefits associated with providing water supplies to other sectors. Some benefits will be realised through adjustments to the asset design, others through the operational aspects. Where wider benefits are proposed to be provided to third parties, proposals should be submitted demonstrating how those parties propose to contribute a fair share of the costs according to their own responsibilities and the benefits they realise, and evidence of engagement and commitment by those third parties.		Legacy strategy, which guides the development of the amenity and recreational aspects of SESRO are also included in the gate three submission.		
		Where options were available for scaling a solution to accommodate future capacity needs, or modify the solution in future to mitigate uncertainties, justification should be presented for the preferred proposed option. This should include an appraisal of the costs and benefits of different scaling options, and their potential timings.	Yes	Scalability for SESRO is very limited, once the chosen scheme is delivered, but rationale for this is included in the main gate three report	Main gate three report	2

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		<p>Infrastructure resilience to the risk of flooding and coastal erosion</p> <p>Information on infrastructure resilience to the risk of flooding and/or coastal erosion and on delivering wider flood risk management benefits.</p>	Yes	A summary of how flood risk issues are addressed in the design of the preferred solution for gate three is provided in the main report	<p>Main gate three report</p> <p>Supporting Document A1: Basis of Design</p>	2
3	<p>Drinking water quality. Submissions should provide updated assessments of drinking water quality considerations and potential risks to drinking water quality and supply issues and resilience</p>	Well-developed Drinking Water Safety Plans.	Yes	<p>Updated drinking water safety plan provided as part of gate three submission.</p> <p>In accordance with ACWG guidance for gate three, the gate three summary will be limited to methodology rather than data. Publish approach and key findings only</p>	<p>Main gate three report</p> <p>Supporting Document B: DWSP</p>	3
		Details of proposed mitigation for any emerging contaminants identified	Yes	Updated drinking water safety plan provided as part of gate three submission.	<p>Main gate three report</p> <p>Supporting Document B; DWSP</p>	3
		Evidence of consultation with stakeholders and consumer engagement, paying particular attention to consumers and stakeholders who will receive	N/A for SESRO	No change to source water addressed as part of SESRO SRO. Any changes to source water for	Summary in main gate three report	3 and 9

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		water from a different or blended source.		Affinity and Southern Water customers to be resolved in subsequent development of T2ST and T2AT SROs.		
		A plan for continued engagement and any required mitigation provided.	N/A for SESRO	As above.	-	-
		Details of any specific concerns from company drinking water quality teams and how they will be addressed.	Yes	Updated drinking water safety plan provided as part of gate three submission.	Main gate three report Supporting Document B: DWSP	3
		Details of any specific concerns from the Drinking Water Inspectorate (DWI) and how these will be addressed.	Yes	Updated drinking water safety plan provided as part of gate three submission.	Main gate three report Supporting Document B: DWSP	3
		In scenarios where there is expected to be a change of source water, that testing has been carried out to ascertain any risks that may come with this change.	N/A for SESRO	No change to source water addressed as part of SESRO SRO. Any changes to source water for Affinity and Southern Water customers to be resolved in subsequent development of T2ST and T2AT SROs	-	-
		Deployable output expected from the solution, consistent with the regional plan and WRMP.	Yes	Deployable output aligned with WRMP24	Main gate three report	2

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		Where remineralisation is being undertaken prior to mixing with another source of water, that any risks associated with this are captured in the DWSP.	No	N/A for SESRO at gate three as no new water treatment facilities included in current scope	-	-
		Consideration of the requirements of Regulation 31 and tracking of any products required for use.	Yes	Updated drinking water safety plan provided as part of gate three submission.	Main gate three report Supporting Document B: DWSP	3
		Consideration of the requirements of Regulation 15.	Yes	Updated drinking water safety plan provided as part of gate three submission.	Main gate three report Supporting Document B: DWSP	3
		Ensure alignment with Resilience of water supplies in Water Resource Planning – Guidance Note ( <a href="http://dwi.gov.uk">dwi.gov.uk</a> ) on long term planning, and The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2016 ( <a href="http://legislation.gov.uk">legislation.gov.uk</a> ) for England and The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2018 ( <a href="http://legislation.gov.uk">legislation.gov.uk</a> ) for Wales. This should be considered in the concept design report.	Yes	Asset resilience addressed in gate three submission	Supporting Document A1: Basis of Design	
4.1	Update on the assessments to ensure the solution complies with and supports the achievement of The	Evidence (including monitoring evidence) that the solution will meet WFD objectives	Yes	WFD compliance required, especially with regard to impacts on River Thames and on diversions to tributary	Summary in main gate three report Supporting Document C1: WFD Assessment Report	4

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
	Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 requirements and objectives as set out in the River Basin Management Plans			channels in River Ock catchment.  In accordance with ACWG guidance, gate three submission includes provision of evidence of progress including potential outcomes, rather than updated data, whereas the release of data prematurely could present a risk to the scheme in the planning process.		
		If necessary, evidence that Regulation 19 test criteria will be met.	Yes	WFD compliance required, especially with regard to impacts on River Thames and on diversions to tributary channels in River Ock catchment.  In accordance with ACWG guidance, gate three submission includes provision of evidence of progress including potential outcomes, rather than updated	Summary in main gate three report  Supporting Document C1: WFD Assessment Report	4

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
				data, whereas the release of data prematurely could present a risk to the scheme in the planning process.		
		If uncertainties remain in your assessment, you must provide a plan to gather further evidence in a timely manner.	Yes	Summary of timescales for evidence collection, in context of DCO submission, provided in gate three submission	Summary in main gate three report  Supporting Document C1: WFD Assessment Report	4
4.2	Habitats Regulations Assessment should be sufficiently advanced to represent the solution's position within DCO or local planning pre-application stages and follow the latest HRA guidance.	Where an HRA may indicate that a solution could have an adverse effect on a European Site or a European Offshore Marine Site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), an outline strategy should be provided for ensuring that there will be no such effect or demonstrating that there are no alternatives and that the solution must be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest. Where mitigation or other measures need to be taken in connection with the effects on a European Site or a European Offshore Marine Site, the outline strategy should set out how these measures are to be implemented and an	Yes	HRA compliance required, but no significant issues identified in either gate three analysis or previous RAPID submissions.  In accordance with ACWG guidance, gate three submission includes provision of evidence of progress including potential outcomes, rather than updated data, whereas the release of data prematurely could present a risk to the	Summary in main gate three report  Supporting Document C2: Habitats Regulation Assessment	4

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		indicative timetable for implementation. The outline strategy and indicative timetable should be sufficiently developed for RAPID to assess its likely deliverability. We recommend consulting with the Environment Agency, Natural England (England only) and Natural Resources Wales (Wales only) on the strategy.		scheme in the planning process.		
4.3	For most solutions, a statutory Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be required to support planning and permitting applications. The solution owner is expected by gate three to know the likely scope of the EIA through informal consultation with environmental regulators but application for a formal EIA scoping opinion does not have to be made by gate three.	We recommend consulting with Local Planning Authorities, PEDW, or referring to The Planning Inspectorate guidance for DCO applications. The Planning Inspectorate provides Advice Notes on a number of topic areas relating to environmental assessments and the roles of statutory consultees and other advisory bodies. Advice Notes 3 and 7 are specifically related to EIA.	Yes	EIA Scoping Opinion obtained from PINS prior to gate three	Summary in gate three main report  SESRO EIA Scoping Report and PINS Scoping Opinion available on PINS website: <a href="https://www.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/documents/south-east-strategic-reservoir-option-sesro/">Documents   South East Strategic Reservoir Option (SESRO)</a> ( <a href="https://www.planninginspectorate.gov.uk">planninginspectorate.gov.uk</a> )	4
4.4	For solutions that may affect National	An outline strategy should be provided summarising the likely	Yes	Potential impacts on the North Wessex	Summary in gate three main report	4

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
	Parks, The Broads or Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the likely effects on those areas should be assessed, having regard to the statutory purposes for which the areas are designated.	effects on these areas and showing how these effects will be addressed, having regard to the statutory purposes for the designations. Where mitigation or other measures need to be taken in connection with the effects on these areas, the outline strategy should set out how these measures are to be implemented and an indicative timetable for implementation. The outline strategy and indicative timetable should be sufficiently developed for RAPID to assess its likely deliverability. We recommend consulting with relevant National Park Authorities, The Broads Authority (where relevant), relevant local authorities and Natural England (England only) or Natural Resources Wales (Wales only) on the strategy.		Downs National Landscape. A strategy to manage these impacts in the context of the scheme design and EIA are provided in the gate three submission.	Supporting Document C4: Strategy for managing impacts on North Wessex Downs National Landscape	
4.5	Biodiversity net gain (England only)	This should support the net gain actions in the Government's 25 year Environment Plan, meet the requirements of the Environment Act 2021 and any national planning policy requirements set out in the NPPF and/ or National Policy Statement where relevant. It should also satisfy the requirements of any applicable local planning policies.	Yes	Strategy to deliver expected BNG requirements are integrated into the SESRO Interim Master Plan at gate three.	Summary in gate three main report  Supporting Document C5: Biodiversity Net Gain Report	4

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5	Solution development to gate three should continue to build from the gate two submissions. In particular, you should continue to follow the Water Resources Planning Guidelines for WRMP24 section 8.3.2 (published on April 2022) which states expectations for accounting for and reducing greenhouse gas emissions	The operational and embodied carbon of solutions (in tCO <sub>2</sub> e). This should be done for all options presented.	Yes	Carbon analysis for single SESRO option only (150 Mm <sup>3</sup> )	Summary in gate three main report  Supporting document A2: Carbon Report	5
		How whole life carbon reductions have been considered .	Yes	Carbon analysis for single SESRO option only (150 Mm <sup>3</sup> )	Supporting document A2: Carbon Report	
		How carbon has been considered in the best value planning approaches, metrics and decision making associated with a proposed solution.	Yes	Carbon emissions provided to WRSE as part of best value planning metrics	Summary in gate three main report	8
		That operational and embedded carbon emissions have been considered as part of the best value assessment.	Yes	Carbon emissions provided to WRSE as part of best value planning metrics	Summary in gate three main report	8
		That due consideration has been given to the seven Kyoto Protocol greenhouse gases.	Yes	Carbon analysis for single SESRO option only (150 Mm <sup>3</sup> )	Supporting document A2: Carbon Report	
		How relevant policies, frameworks and approaches have been used to consider reductions on carbon emissions.	Yes	Potential reductions in carbon emissions considered against relevant policies, frameworks and approaches	Supporting document A2: Carbon Report	
		How solutions are embracing innovative designs and opportunities to generate or be powered by renewable energy and/or sequester carbon and explore joint opportunities with other sectors.	Yes	Ongoing work to consider options for renewable energy use and generation by SESRO and will be subject to consultation after Gate 3	Initial discussions included within Supporting Document A2: carbon Report	

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		Whether a focus on carbon reduction has been able to drive down solution costs. The key emission areas and what opportunities there are for reducing emissions. We expect the submission to demonstrate consideration of Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions.	Yes	Carbon analysis for single SESRO option only (150 Mm3), to show changes from gate two estimates	Summary in gate three main report  Supporting document A2: Carbon Report	5
		How materials have been selected and whether the lowest carbon options have been considered as part of solution design. It should be made clear why the lowest carbon solutions are not taken forward.	Yes	Carbon analysis for single SESRO option only (150 Mm3)	Supporting document A2: Carbon Report	
		How water companies will work with the supply chain to deliver lower carbon materials where they may not be readily available.	Yes	Carbon analysis for single SESRO option only (150 Mm3)	Supporting document A2: Carbon Report	
		The role of monitoring and reporting due the life cycle of the solution, particularly with a view to ensure transparency and continual improvement	Yes	Carbon analysis for single SESRO option only (150 Mm3)	Supporting document A2: Carbon Report	
6.1	A clear project-level plan that sets out the key solution-specific milestones to delivery and includes key activities and outputs that need to be undertaken and	The date when the solution is required (based on company and regional plans, as appropriate), and any updates if this changes.	Yes	Summary schedule provided in main gate three report with more detailed breakdown in supporting reports	Summary in gated three main report  Supporting Document D: Project Management Plan	6
		The phasing of key activities and decisions.	Yes			
		Summary of all key risks and mitigation plans.	Yes			

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
	achieved prior to each subsequent gate should be provided. It should contain sufficient detail to support assessment of progress in relation to delivery incentives (ie, clarity around important milestones and interdependencies)	The assumptions and dependencies within the programme.	Yes			
		Information about construction activities (such as scoping, detailed design, planning route and direct procurement for customers (DPC)).	Yes			
		The planned construction start date within the 2025-30 period.	Yes			
		The earliest possible deployable output date (assuming planning started today) – which might be significantly earlier than the required date.	Yes			
		An assessment of progress against the project plan that indicates whether or not it is on track. Reasons should be provided for any missed milestones and impacts on the overall programme caused by delays.	Yes			
		An estimate of overall project delivery timescales for subsequent gates.	Yes			
		Missing information – outline any information that is missing from the project plan and how this will be addressed before gate four.	Yes			
6.2	An assessment of key risks to the solution's planned progress to	This should include consideration of potential regulatory barriers to the solution's progress. The risk assessment should include	Yes	Risk is quantified and built into SESRO cost estimation process. Summary of key risks	Summary in main gate three report	6 and 8

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
	completion (including requirements at gates) and an assessment of risks to costs and realisation of the benefits of the solution should be provided.	proposed mitigation measures, which should, where appropriate, have been agreed with relevant regulators and costed in. It should present original risk scores and residual risk scores following mitigation. It must also be consistent with information presented in quarterly dashboards.		provided as part of gate three submission	Supporting Document A3: Cost Report	
6.3	Solution owners should propose dates for gate four onwards aligned with the solution project plan. proposals should be the list of activities included in the PR19 final determinations water resource solutions appendix.	<p>By gate four, solution owners should have submitted applications for DCO or planning permission for a firm single solution, including location, as included in final regional plans and WRMPs.</p> <p>We expect companies to have tested their design through a digital twin.</p> <p>Procurement and commercial arrangements should be sufficiently progressed to enable construction to begin at the construction-ready date. The starting point for gate four activity</p> <p>Solution owners should set out proposals for gate four activities and outcomes, depending on whether they are on preferred or alternative pathways, penalty</p>	Yes	<p>Summary schedule provided in main gate three report with more detailed breakdown in supporting reports.</p> <p>Outcomes for gate 4 are listed, aligned with SRO requirements from PR19 Final Determinations.</p>	<p>Summary in gated three main report</p> <p>Supporting Document D: Project Management Plan</p>	6

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		scale, assessment criteria and contributions. This should include explicit consideration of solution delay impacts.				
6.4	An updated land and planning strategy for the solution should be provided.	An explanation of the preferred planning route for the solution and the key planning steps	Yes	SESRO is an NSIP and will be consented via DCO application to PINS	Summary in main gate three report  Supporting Document E: Planning and Land Strategy	6
		Progress made in pre-application non-statutory and statutory consultations and in preparing applications for a DCO or planning permission including supporting documents.	Yes	Completion of non-statutory consultation in 2024 and planning for Statutory Consultation in 2025	Summary in main gate three report  Overview of Statutory Consultation requirements in Supporting Document E: Planning and Land Strategy	6 and 9
		The plan for obtaining other regulatory consents needed for construction and operation. This should include a high-level summary of the consents needed (i.e. types of consent) and indicative application timings. For solutions utilising the DCO process, the submission should indicate if there are any consents that must be obtained outside of the DCO, briefly explain how you will gain those consents and indicate how they fit in the overall programme plan	Yes	Various additional consents needed for SESRO. List and requirements updated from gate two position	Summary in main gate three report  Overview of requirements in Supporting Document E: Planning and Land Strategy	6 and 9
6.4	The land lifecycle, including the strategy and plan for	an explanation of the part, if any, to be played by compulsory purchase as a tool for delivering	Yes	Land acquisition (potentially requiring compulsory	Summary in gate three main report	6

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
	effectively delivering it and explaining how the approach will support the effective and efficient delivery of planning consent, acquisition of required land and rights over land, and delivery of the programme	the required land and rights over land on time and in budget. Where compulsory purchase powers are to be made available, the legal vehicle for their availability (compulsory purchase order, DCO etc), the statutory compulsory purchase powers that will be relied upon, the circumstances in which the powers will be used to acquire land and rights over land and the timing of their use must be included. You must also outline the steps that you will take to attempt to acquire the necessary land and rights over land by agreement, in advance of any compulsory purchase powers being applied for and used. Recognising that the availability of compulsory purchase can be a useful way of ensuring deliverability of projects and acquisition of land and rights over land at an objectively fair price, if compulsory purchase powers are not to be made available, the justification for their absence must be set out.		acquisition powers) will be required to deliver the SESRO project	Supporting Document E: Planning and Land Strategy	
		An explanation of how the strategy relates to a common methodology (agreed with other water companies and/or other	Yes	Land acquisition (potentially requiring compulsory acquisition powers)	Summary in gate three main report	6

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		infrastructure promoters) for acquiring land and rights in land on large projects including a common approach to compensation policies.		will be required to deliver the SESRO project	Supporting Document E: Planning and Land Strategy	
		Explanation of how you are managing the land and planning process, including providing assurance that you have (or will have) adequate systems and resources and that there are effective and efficient processes and governance arrangements.	Yes	Land acquisition (potentially requiring compulsory acquisition powers) will be required to deliver the SESRO project	Summary in gate three main report  Supporting Document E: Planning and Land Strategy	6
		An explanation of how you are proposing to manage the "journey" for all those who will be directly affected by the construction and operation of the solution, and how solution owners will continue to ensure a good experience for them.	Yes	Land acquisition (potentially requiring compulsory acquisition powers) will be required to deliver the SESRO project	Summary in gate three main report  Supporting Document E: Planning and Land Strategy	6
		The key risks and issues relating to land and planning and explaining how the strategy supports the management/mitigation of the risks. This may require the solution owner to provide us with information that is commercially sensitive where it identifies a material risk or issue to the delivery of the solution. In such a situation, this information can be redacted or removed from the	Yes	Key risks to be addressed in risk summary  In accordance with ACWG guidance, information on negotiations will be high level to not prejudice ongoing negotiations	Summary in gate three main report  Supporting Document D: Project Management Plan	6

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		published submission documentation, subject to the position on access to information set out in paragraph 1.5 above.				
		an update on work done to date to support the proposed land and planning process, including the outcome of pre-planning application activities, and how this has affected the land and planning strategy for the solution.	Yes	Land acquisition (potentially requiring compulsory acquisition powers) will be required to deliver the SESRO project	Summary in gate three main report  Supporting Document E: Planning and Land Strategy	6
		a breakdown of estimated costs included in the solution cost estimate for acquisition of land rights and compensation and the likely timing of this expenditure; the level of risk around these costs; and explain the basis for the estimates.	Yes	Land acquisition and compensation costs built into scheme capex estimate	Summary in gate three main report  Supporting Document E: Planning and Land Strategy  Supporting Document A3: Cost Report	8
7	Following gate two submissions we expect companies to continue to develop the procurement arrangements for the project and present an updated procurement strategy.	Where a competitive delivery model such as Direct Procurement for Customer (DPC) or under the Specified Infrastructure Project Regulations (SIPR) was identified at gate two as the preferred procurement route, companies are required to follow Ofwat's DPC process. By gate three we expect companies to have submitted and had accepted by Ofwat the DPC stage 1 and stage 2 submissions except where RAPID projects have	Yes	SESRO will follow a SIPR procurement route, with Stage 2 submission issued to Ofwat prior to gate three.	Confirmation in gate three main report  Included in Ofwat Stage 2 submission (not published, commercially sensitive)	7

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		successfully completed RAPID gate two and addressed all relevant actions in relation to procurement, we do not require a separate DPC stage 1 submission to be provided.				
		In addition, provide the following within the submission initial draft heads of terms for the CAP agreement as well as those between the project partners and where appropriate other third parties.	Yes	Included in Stage 2 submission to Ofwat	Included in Ofwat Stage 2 submission (not published, commercially sensitive)	7
8	At gate three, solution owners should present updated key cost information provided at gate two for the preferred option with reduced uncertainty in costs and benefits and an explanation of any material change in costs, including where optimism bias has been reduced as costs firm up.	Overall costs of construction and operation for the preferred option and options that have been discarded in order to demonstrate that the preferred option is best value	Yes	Capex and opex cost estimate updated at gate three to reflect latest design, schedule and risk estimates.  Cost updates for preferred (150 Mm3) option only as no other SESRO options selected by WRMP24.  Best value is identified by the WRSE and WRMP24 options appraisal process.	Summary in gate three main report  Supporting Document A3: Cost Report	8
		Detail of capital expenditure	Yes	As above	As above	As above

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		Detail of operating expenditure - include an indication of design life of the asset and any significant maintenance liabilities during operational life.	Yes	As above	As above	As above
		Optimism bias	Yes	As above	As above	As above
		Assumptions and exclusions	Yes	As above	As above	As above
		Cost of all environmental and water quality mitigations should be included	Yes	Environmental mitigations either built into base capex (if fully understood) or else accounted for within QCRA	As above	As above
		An indication as to whether solution costs are in line with relevant methodologies agreed with regulators and relevant green book guidance.	Yes	As above	As above	As above
		Cross-comparison of updated solution costs as tested in regional or national modelling	No	We are working with WRSE to update modelling.	Summary in gate three main report.	8
		Clear description of where solution cost scalability moves from marginally more expensive to substantially more expensive (tipping points)	N/A to SESRO, limited scaling options	N/A	-	-
		Solution owners should complete and provide the template developed by the All Company Working Group (ACWG), consistent with the cost profiles information included within the WRMP24 Table 5 , as an annex.	Yes	ACWG cost template completed and provided to RAPID	ACWG cost template	

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		Cost profile information includes capex, opex, financing cost, optimism bias, costed risk, discount rate, as well as fixed and variable opex and capex unit costs. Solution owners must ensure that the costs of any proposed mitigations to identified risks are included in the reported costs of the solution.				
		Solution owners can reflect on costs uncertainty and volatility given changing input prices such as energy, and can discuss these in checkpoints in the run up to gate three submission.	No	SESRO WLC relatively insensitive to energy price fluctuation (low energy use), hence no analysis undertaken on this aspect	-	-
		For the each of the cost components contained within the ACWG cost template, solution owners should provide a comparison of the value submitted at gate two and the updated value for the preferred solution at gate three. Solution owners should also discuss the cost-effectiveness of the preferred option relative to the other options considered at gate two.	Yes	Comparison provided in main gate three report	Summary in main gate three report	8
		Solution owners should also fill out the template provided by RAPID requesting solution	Yes	RAPID cost template completed and provided to RAPID	RAPID cost template	

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		design and cost information. When solution owners publish their gate submission, they should include all costs information unless it is information that has been redacted in WRMP24 tables in line with the instructions to complete those tables. These instructions provide for publication of water resource planning tables to help regulators, water company customers and other organisations understand and appraise the plan. They provide that the only information that should be redacted is information that the Secretary of State or Welsh Ministers have determined to be commercially confidential under section 37B(2) of the Water Industry Act 1991 and information where its publication would be contrary to the interests of national security.				
8.2	The RAPID process draws on the assessments in the regional and company plans regarding best value considerations. Therefore, the gate	This should include the consideration of financial cost and how it will achieve an outcome that increases the overall benefit to customers, the wider environment and overall society. Benefits to consider could include any amenity or	Yes	SESRO gate three submission includes clear statement of WRSE best value metrics for SESRO and also an updated benefits appraisal	Summary in gate three main report	8

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
	three submissions should include a summary of the best value considerations relevant to the preferred option for each solution included in all the individual company WRMPs and regional plans where the solution appears.	recreation value, regional economic impact, multisector benefits, and other societal benefits.  Gate three submissions should clearly present a summary of the following: Which best value metrics have been applied to the solution within regional plans and individual company WRMPs. Any differences should be identified and explained		(socio-economic analysis)		
		A summary of the best value metric evaluation outcomes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Weights and scoring applied</li> <li>○ Non-monetised and monetised (where possible) best value benefits consistent with WRMP24 Table 5 for the solution within each company WRMP and regional plan where the solution appears</li> </ul>	Yes	SESRO gate three submission includes clear statement of WRSE best value metrics for SESRO	Summary in gate three main report	8

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any significant differences in best value evaluation outcomes for the solution between plans should be identified and explained</li> <li>Any changes from the gate two submission with respect to the above bullets should be clearly highlighted and explained.</li> </ul>				
		Evidence that approaches used for scoring and weighting metrics are consistent with those used within associated WRMPs and regional plans.	Yes	No additional weighting or scoring was applied to SESRO metrics beyond those supplied to WRSE	Confirmed in gate three main report	8
		An explanation of how the solution features within each WRMP and regional plan that it is included in. The explanation should clearly identify whether it appears in preferred or alternative pathways and the timing of its selection.	Yes	SESRO resources shared between three sponsor companies. Confirmation of the benefits provided are given in the gate three main report	Summary in gate three main report	2
9	By gate three submission, solutions should	Pre-planning statutory consultation as outlined in as described in The Planning	Yes	Non-statutory consultation completed in 2024	Summary in main gate three report	9

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
	have completed non-statutory consultation, and be undertaking statutory pre-planning consultation for DCO solutions, or planning application and permission. Solution owners should begin engagement with all relevant statutory bodies as early as possible to de-risk solutions and ensure opportunities are not missed.	Inspectorate Advice note 11 and Annexes A-H		ahead of gate three. Plans for Statutory Consultation in 2025 are underway, as part of preparation for DCO submission in 2026.	Supporting Document G: Stakeholder Engagement Strategy	
		Plans showing ongoing and continued engagement, that have been shared with public and statutory bodies, including any required enhanced advisory services.	Yes	Non-statutory consultation completed in 2024 ahead of gate three. Plans for Statutory Consultation in 2025 are underway, as part of preparation for DCO submission in 2026.	Summary in main gate three report  Supporting Document G: Stakeholder Engagement Strategy	9
		Customer engagement, particularly on changes of source where relevant.	Yes	Customer research completed between gate two and gate three	Summary in main gate three report  Supporting Document G: Stakeholder Engagement Strategy	9
		Engagement with all stakeholders affected by the solution's development.	Yes	Non-statutory consultation completed in 2024 ahead of gate three. Plans for Statutory Consultation in 2025 are underway, as part of preparation for DCO submission in 2026.	Summary in main gate three report  Supporting Document G: Stakeholder Engagement Strategy	9

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		Solution submissions should also describe specifically what stakeholder concerns have been raised in representations to date (including representations on the draft decisions at the previous gate) and how they have been addressed at gate three or will be addressed at future gates.	Yes	Summary of representations to date provided in gate three submission. Response to 2024 consultation is not available in time for gate three, so will be reported and published ahead of gate four.	Summary in main gate three report  Supporting Document G: Stakeholder Engagement Strategy	9
		Under the Water Industry Act 1991, water suppliers have a statutory duty to supply water used for domestic purposes, including drinking, cooking, food preparation and washing, that is wholesome. Concerns can be allayed by water companies engaging with stakeholders and customers at an early stage, before any changes are made to their supply. This engagement should highlight any potential changes to their supply, clearly explain why this is happening and whether this will be a permanent, intermittent, or temporary change.	Yes	Customer research completed between gate two and gate three	Summary in main gate three report  Supporting Document G: Stakeholder Engagement Strategy	9
10	At gate three, an assurance statement should be provided from the	Statements for solutions should confirm that the Board of each solution owner is satisfied that each solution owner has	Yes	Board Assurance Statement on behalf of all three SESRO	Board Assurance Statement within cover letter	

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
	Board of each solution owner, in its own words.	<p>undertaken sufficient assurance and due diligence and the Board is therefore confident in making the statements provided in the gate three guidance</p> <p>All solution owners are assuring the whole submission, not just their respective contributions. Assurance statements should be signed by the Board or on behalf of the Board. Where an assurance statement is signed on behalf of the Board it should be clear that the person signing the statement has delegated authority to sign on behalf of the Board.</p> <p>The assurance statement(s) should clearly set out the evidence, information and external and/or internal assurance that the Board has considered in providing assurance. This should be explained separately for each of the five points of the statement. Joint solutions will require supporting statements from all partners' Boards.</p>		partners provided at gate three		
11	We expect solution owners to agree this list of development activities with us up	We require solution owners to complete the Efficiency of Expenditure template for each solution detailing incurred costs	Yes	Efficiency of expenditure template completed for gate three submission	Efficiency of expenditure template and included in gate three main report	11

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
	front and to provide us with expenditure estimates for the activities they deem necessary for the gate, within their total allowance. Any activities estimated over £0.5 million may warrant further discussion with us in checkpoint meetings.	<p>for each gate activity. We ask solution owners for this information not only for transparency, but also to collect valuable benchmarks for development expenditure and thus enhance our learning for future gated processes.</p> <p>Activities should be allocated to the categories of Programme and Project Management; Finalised Feasibility and Developed Design; Environmental Assessment; Data Collection, Sampling, and Pilot Trials; Planning and Land; Commercial and Procurement; Stakeholder Engagement; Legal, and Other.</p> <p>Incurred expenditure for the gate activity should be presented in the 2017-18 price base and provided aligned to the agreed gate activities within each category listed above.</p> <p>Expenditure should be further broken down if any line is greater than £0.5 million in value.</p>				
11.1	The PR19 final determination allows solution owners to spend gate four allowances during	In principle this is acceptable and should be discussed with us before expenditure is incurred. Such expenditure should be clearly delineated as gate four	N/A for SESRO	There is no gate four spend required ahead of gate three	-	-

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
	the assessment and decision period for gate three, in line with their submission recommendations for progression of the solution. In some cases, solution owners may need to undertake some gate four activities during the gate three period before submissions are made.	spend when completing the efficiency of expenditure annex and in gate accounts. In order to keep investigation and development of a solution on track to be construction ready in the 2025-30 period, particularly if this is required early in the period, some solution owners may need to procure work for gate four activities before submissions are made.				
11.2	We expect solution owners to make recommendations for which solution(s) and option(s) should progress through a gate and continue to receive funding for their investigation and development. Clear reasons should be given for recommendations with supporting evidence clearly identified.	<p>The focus at gate three is to have commenced pre-application activities for DCO or planning application and permission for solutions and meet criteria that test the need for accelerated development and regulatory oversight and support. In assessing the solution owner's recommendation to progress or not progress in the gated process, we will consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the solution in a preferred or alternative pathway in relevant regional plan and/or WRMP (where applicable) to</li> </ul>	Yes	Recommendations provided in gate three main report	Gate three main report	11

## Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		<p>be construction ready in 2025-30?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is there value in accelerating the solution's development to be "construction ready" in 2025-30?</li> <li>Does the solution need continued enhancement funding for investigations and development to progress?</li> <li>Does the solution need the continued regulatory support and oversight provided by the Ofwat gated process and RAPID?</li> </ul>				
12	Concise summary of the conclusions and recommendations from the sponsors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether the solution should progress to gate four.</li> <li>Approaches to resolving any major risks or barriers to scheme progression and application for a DCO or local planning application.</li> </ul>	Yes	Conclusions and recommendations provided in gate three main report	Gate three main report	12
13	Gate two actions and recommendations	A table of any actions and recommendations given by RAPID at the previous gate and signpost where further detail can	Yes	Table in gate three main report	Gate three main report	Appendix A

### Gate 3 Guidance Criteria and Signposting

Guidance reference	Overview of expectation	Sub-reference and detail of expectation	Addressed?	Description and/or rationale for SESRO SRO	Report	Section reference
		be found in the main report and/or appendix.				



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