

# Affinity Water Taking care of your water



# South East Strategic Reservoir Option (SESRO)

Supporting Document D Project Management Plan

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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 <a href="https://thames-sro.co.uk/projects/sesro/">https://thames-sro.co.uk/projects/sesro/</a>.

## 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

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## 1 Overview

The South East Strategic Reservoir Option (SESRO) is a proposed 150 Mm³ raw water storage reservoir in the upper catchment of the River Thames. The reservoir will abstract water from, and release water to, the River Thames via a 4km long tunnel. In periods of drought the reservoir will supply Thames Water and Affinity Water customers with water via the Thames, and Southern Water customers via the Thames to Southern Transfer scheme (a new pipeline towards Hampshire), subject of a separate DCO application.

The project is overseen by RAPID (Regulators' Alliance for Progressing Infrastructure Development) a joint team of three water regulators Ofwat, Environment Agency (EA) and Drinking Water Inspectorate (DWI). All Strategic Resource Option schemes, such as SESRO, pass through a series of Gates at strategic points before moving onto the next phase.

The key objective of this Project Management Plan (PMP) is to provide a summary of the forward plan for SESRO during Gate 4, as well as reflecting on any key changes between Gate 2 and Gate 3.

## It provides:

- A summary of the final financial position for Gate 3 providing a summary of the costs for the larger works packages, supporting section 11 of the Gate 3 main report.
- A project plan setting out key milestones to delivery, including key activities and outputs which need to be undertaken and achieved prior to each gate.
- Proposed gate four activities and outcomes summarising the schedule and activities to Gate 4, highlighting key activities and milestones, as well as key risks and opportunities.
- **Key risks and mitigation measures** providing a summary of key risks and proposed mitigations based on a more mature understanding of the design and conditions from the work undertaken in Gate 3.

## 2 Gate 3 Financial Position

This section of the Project Management Plan provides a summary of the final financial position in order to deliver Gate 3. This shows that the agreed scope has been undertaken within the budget set out at the start of Gate 3, plus any agreed changes throughout the Gate. This provides good confidence in the financial management for the project which should allow the project to move into the next stage.

Table 11.2 in the Main Gate 3 report (reproduced in summary form below) provides a summary of the financial position in 17/18 prices, aligned to the Work Breakdown Structure.

A full breakdown of costs is provided in the Appendix which accords with RAPID's guidance for Gate 3, breaking down cost items in excess of £500,000. This has been interpreted to apply to current prices, rather than 2017/18 deflated prices.

Table 2.1 – Gate 3 cost summary

Category	Expenditure*	% of Total
Programme & Project Management	11,290,376	17%
Feasibility Assessment and Concept Design	15,502,376	24%
Option benefits development and appraisal	264,373	0%
Environmental Assessment	7,976,358	12%
Data Collection, Sampling, and Trials	11,592,519	18%
Procurement Strategy	4,021,147	6%
Planning Strategy	2,580,208	4%
Stakeholder Engagement	4,005,360	6%
Legal	1,916,204	3%
Other	6,290,866	10%
Total	65,439,788	100%
Gate three allowance	65,490,000	-
Gate Underspend	50,212	-

<sup>\* (£, 2017-2018</sup> prices)

## 3 The Project Plan

#### 3.1 Overview

This Project Plan sets out the key milestones to delivery, including key activities and outputs which need to be undertaken and achieved prior to each Gate.

#### It comprises:

- An overview of the schedule and summary of key activities, including the date when the solution is required, changes from previous gates and the phasing of key activities and decisions.
- A summary of the key assumptions and dependencies
- An overview of any information which is missing and will be provided prior to Gate 4

#### 3.2 Schedule (Key Project Milestones)

The phasing of the project generally mirrors that presented at Gate 2 and is governed by a series of phases. Gate 1 was completed in July 2021, Gate 2 was completed in November 2022 and work associated with Gate 3 was completed in March 2025, with this submission of this Gate 3 document suite to RAPID thereafter.

The key changes from Gate 2 are:

- Gate 3 submission alignment with publication of WRMP24 Annual Review in 2025
- The DCO submission is now anticipated to be prior to Gate 4
- The contract mechanism is now assumed as SIPR (Special Infrastructure Projects Regime), rather than DPC (Direct Procurement for Customers)

Table 3.1 – Key Project Milestones

Phase	Milestone	Description	Date (indicative)
1	Gate 1	RAPID Gate 1 Submission	July 2021
2	Gate 2	RAPID Gate 2 Submission	November 2022
3	Gate 3	RAPID Gate 3 Submission	Summer 2025
4	SIPR specification	Consideration, consultation and approval of the specification for SESRO	Winter 2025 / 2026
5	Gate 4	<ul> <li>RAPID Gate 4 Submission</li> <li>Complete Preliminary         Environmental Information         Report (PEIR)</li> <li>Complete Statutory Public         Consultation on the DCO         project</li> <li>Submit the DCO         application</li> </ul>	Winter 2026 / 2027
6	Main Works Contract Award	Early Contractor     Involvement to support     DCO examination and     further develop     construction methodology     and schedule	Winter 2026 / 2027
7	DCO Examination and approval	Secretary of State's award of DCO	Spring 2028
8	Infrastructure Provider License Award	OFWAT Stage 4     approved.	Spring 2029
9	Delivery	Scheme operational	2040

## 3.3 Key Activities

A series of activities have been set out to inform an integrated programme and provide an indicative forecast for works.

Gate 4 activities (see section 4 for further detail) are largely based upon:

• development and assessment of the design for the Preliminary Environment Information Report and Environmental Statement.

- development of products for the DCO submission;
- supporting stakeholder engagement activities.
- early strategic land acquisition.
- supporting commercial and procurement activities.

**DCO Examination and approval activities** comprise support to the examination process through development of documentation and provision of expert witnesses.

**Infrastructure Partner Contract Award** activities will start in parallel with the development of the DCO submission with the provision of information to support OFWAT Stage 3 and Stage 4, as well as development of works information and schedules for main works procurement.

The **Delivery stage** of the scheme key activities from enabling works through the impounding of the reservoir and commissioning.

## 3.4 Management and Reporting of Programme and Forecast

The Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) which has been developed for the programme, is as per Gate 2. This will be used to develop, manage and report on the programme and cost profile.

The WBS comprises the following categories:

- Programme & Project Management
- Feasibility Assessment and Concept Design
- Option benefits development and appraisal
- Environmental Assessment
- Data Collection, Sampling and Pilot Trials
- Procurement Strategy
- Planning Strategy (including land support)
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Legal
- Other

Costs will be reported to RAPID on a quarterly basis.

#### 3.5 Key Assumptions and Dependencies

The programme and forecast are underpinned by a number of assumptions and dependencies as stated in Table 3.2, as well as proposed mitigations. These will be reviewed on a regular basis and updated at each key milestone. RAPID will be informed of any key movements on a quarterly basis.

Table 3.2 – Key assumptions / dependencies

Accumption	Management Proposal
Assumption	Management Proposal
A minimum of 50% land access is achieved for 2025 summer survey season	<ul> <li>Land access negotiation is ongoing with further land parcels becoming available throughout 2025.</li> <li>Thames Water has issued a number of notices under Section 172 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 to landowners.</li> </ul>
Geotechnical characteristics and properties align with current expectations.	<ul> <li>Ground Investigations and Clay Compaction Trial ongoing (to validate previous findings).</li> <li>The DCO design will provide flexibility to manage any uncertainty in ground conditions.</li> <li>Full Trial embankment will be undertaken (amongst other trials) prior to main works construction.</li> </ul>
Procurement concept (Early Contractor Involvement) is agreed with OFWAT	Discussions with RAPID and OFWAT are ongoing to confirm the procurement strategy.
PINS and Secretary of State have the resources available to examine and approve application in time set out in schedule.	<ul> <li>'Standard' DCO timescales have been set out in the schedule, with 'what if' analysis to be undertaken within Gate 4 to understand any impact of any potential delays.</li> <li>Engagement with PINS throughout DCO development, via the Standard Package for PINS services.</li> <li>Early Contractor Involvement could help mitigate any delays within delivery part of the schedule.</li> </ul>
Power for the construction and operation of the site is available within the required timescales.	<ul> <li>Discussions underway with electrical provider in order to determine requirements.</li> <li>Renewable Energy study ongoing to determine power generation options as part of scheme development.</li> </ul>
The required plant and resource is available to complete earthworks within prescribed timescales	Early market engagement is ongoing with potential earthwork contractors and main contractors.
Weather allows earthworks to be completed within prescribed timescales	<ul> <li>What-if analyses to be undertaken in Gate 4 to understand impacts of an additional season.</li> <li>Engagement with the market continues to obtain advice from industry experts.</li> </ul>

## 3.6 Gaps in information

The scope for Gate 4 seeks to enhance the Gate 3 design into a design ready for both DCO and procurement. It will do this through providing further refinement and / or detail, taking account of ongoing surveys, environmental assessment and stakeholder feedback from consultation.

Further work will also be undertaken on constructability which will further refine the cost estimate and risk models.

Current gaps in information are provided in Table 3.3 below

Table 3.3 – Information Gaps

Gap	Work to Gate 3 and future mitigation
Enhanced understanding of ground conditions	<ul> <li>Ground Investigations and the Clay Compaction Trial began in Gate 3 and will be concluded and interpreted in the Gate 4 period, informing the DCO design.</li> <li>Note, a Trial Embankment will be undertaken as part of the main works contract post DCO.</li> </ul>
Environmental Surveys	<ul> <li>A survey programme started in Gate 3 and will continue through Gate 4 as access to land increases.</li> <li>2025 summer and Winter seasons (ecology and archaeology) are critical to broadening understanding of requirements for design and mitigation.</li> </ul>
Environmental Impact Assessment	<ul> <li>All relevant environmental topics, as agreed through EIA Scoping and Opinion undertaken in Gate 3, will undergo an assessment to inform the DCO design.</li> </ul>
Construction methodology detail	Building on the work undertaken in Gate 3, the construction schedule and methodology will be further developed and refined with the support of industry experts.
Public Consultation Feedback	Statutory Consultation will be undertaken in winter 2025 in order to obtain formal feedback from stakeholders and members of the public. This will build upon the knowledge obtained to date through consultation and engagement activities.
Stage 2 feedback	Feedback from the OFWAT Stage 2 submission will inform future procurement and commercial activities.

## 4 Proposed Gate 4 activities and outcomes

#### 4.1 Introduction

This section sets out an activity schedule to Gate 4, highlighting key activities and milestones, as well as key risks and opportunities.

Within the Gate 3 period Thames Water has procured a Technical Partner – (Arup-Binnies Joint Venture) – to support the development and delivery of: Gate 4; the Development Consent Order (DCO); and works information for the procurement of the main works contractor.

Gate 4 is currently due to be delivered in the first quarter of 2027, approximately three months after the submission of the DCO.

A series of milestones have been developed to track progress to Gate 4 and support the delivery of key activities on route to the DCO such as the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), Statutory Consultation and the Environment Statement.

The development and outcomes of key activities will be shared with our partners (Southern Water and Affinity Water) through various collaboration sessions and prescribed governance routes.

#### 4.2 Programme (Key Project Milestones)

Key milestones are set out in Table 4.1 below. Milestone definitions will be agreed and will be supported by a series of activities and an associated forecast. These will be robustly reviewed and reported on utilising NEC (Option E) contract tools.

Table 4.1 – Key Milestones for Gate 4

Milestone	Date
Gate 3 Checkpoint	February 2025
PEI Report Design Freeze (Control Point 1)	May 2025
Gate 3 Submission	August 2025
PEIR Complete	October 2025
SoCC Published	October 2025
Statutory Consultation complete	January 2025
DCO Design Freeze (Control Point 2)	May 2026
Book of Reference and Land Plans complete	July 2026
Environment Statement complete	November 2026
DCO Submission	November 2026
Gate 4 Submission	February 2027

As reported in the Main Gate 3 report, a strategy for the development of a Digital Twin is in progress, which will be launched within the Gate 4 period.

The future procurement of contractors is currently being discussed with OFWAT – information can be found within the Stage 2 submission. The preferred strategy is to procure an Early Contractor Involvement contract (ECI) just after the DCO submission (just before the Gate 4 submission).

## 4.3 Programme and Resource

The programme and resources have been developed against a sequential set of activities which can also be reported against the RAPID work breakdown structure.

As per NEC4 requirements, a Clause 31 programme and associated cost and resource forecast setting the Baseline for Gate 4 has been developed by the Technical Partner and accepted by Thames Water (for the scope being delivered by the Technical Partner). The programme (in accordance with Clause 32 of the NEC4 contract), forecast and application for payment are submitted on a monthly basis for acceptance by Thames Water.

Resources are reviewed on a regular basis with a dedicated Resource Manager ensuring availability of staff.

Figure 4.1 sets out a summary of the Gate 4 programme. Activities are managed on a weekly basis through schedule lookahead and contract meetings.

The critical path has been identified through the environmental assessment of the design; development of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR); Statutory Consultation; development of the Environment Statement; and the development and

submission of DCO products.

A secondary critical path exists through the development of materials of the Main Works Contract tender in Spring / Summer 2026.

The above critical paths and any other 'near critical paths' will be assessed on a regular basis, noting that the key milestones are key to ensuring the scheme is construction ready by 2029.

The key risks against the Gate 4 programme are provided in Section 4.5 and Section 5.



Figure 4.1 – Gate 4 Programme Summary (DCO)

A summary of the current forecast for Gate 4 is provided in Table 4.2 and 4.3 below. The target submission date for Gate 4 is February 2027.

The SESRO Technical Partner was mobilised during Gate 3 to ensure an effective handover of information and also to provide level 3 assurance on critical activities.

RAPID will be updated on progress at Checkpoint Meetings on a quarterly basis by the Project Team. These updates will focus on progress in period and highlight any key risks and opportunities for discussion.

Table 4.2 – Gate 4 Forecast by RAPID Control Account (22/23 prices)

WBS	Description	AMP7 Early Gate 4	AMP8 Gate 4	Total
1	Programme & Project Management	-	31,584,886	31,584,886
2	Feasibility Assessment and Concept Design	975,567	35,159,289	36,134,856
3	Option benefits development and appraisal	-	-	-
4	Environmental Assessment	455,265	29,520,306	29,975,571
5	Data Collection, Sampling and Pilot Trials	830,303	23,542,717	24,373,020
6	Procurement Strategy	_	29,622,269	29,622,269
7	Planning Strategy and Land Acquisition	162,595	109,855,119	110,017,714
8	Stakeholder Engagement	16,260	14,573,865	14,590,124
9	Legal		4,582,981	4,582,981
10	Other – Land Acquisition	367,183	-	367,183
	Total	2,807,173	278,441,432	281,248,604
	Contingency		10,873,454	10,873,454
	Total	2,807,173	289,314,885	292,122,058

Table 4.3 – Gate 4 Forecast (FY25/26 & 26/27) by core workstream (22/23 prices)

Description	FY25/26	FY26/27	AMP8 Gate 4
Core Development	99,287,181	78,935,893	178,223,074
SIPR (Specified Infrastructure Project Regulations)	4,205,549	13,460,536	17,666,085
Land Acquisition & Options	34,233,327	59,192,399	93,425,726
Total	137,726,057	151,588,828	289,314,885

#### 4.4 Scope of works

The Gate 3 design (as recorded elsewhere in this submission) provided an excellent basis for the development of Gate 4, the DCO submission and the tender documentation for main works. Since being mobilised in June 2024 the SESRO Technical Partner has supported Gate 3 assurance (including a review of the EIA Scoping) and identified and assessed key risks and opportunities within the current design to set out the scope of works for Gate 4.

The scope of works for the PEIR Design Stage (Control Point 1) has been developed through known key programme activities and products, a Feasibility Data Review and feedback from Non-Statutory Consultation. This comprises a set of studies and design development activities. Table 4.4 below outlines the key activities against each design development milestone within Gate 4.

Table 4.4 – Key Activities

Milestone	Date	Key Activities
PEIR Design Freeze (Control Point 1)	Jan 2025 - May 2025	<ul> <li>Optioneering studies, including Renewable Energy Feasibility Study</li> <li>A configured draft DCO engineering design (including Masterplan and interim design and access statement) which includes utilities design.</li> <li>Updated Cost Estimate, risk assessment and Construction Schedule.</li> <li>Development of Carbon Management Plan</li> <li>Planning, consent for, and undertaking of winter surveys.</li> <li>Delivery of Winter Surveys (2024) and development of schedule for summer surveys (2025)</li> <li>Digital Twin Scoping Report</li> <li>Develop outline of PEIR chapters</li> <li>Support DCO Planning, including updated deliverables list and consultee database</li> <li>Statement of Response for Non-Statutory Consultation, and preparation for Statutory Consultation.</li> <li>Continuation, and interpretation, of Ground Investigation, Clay Compaction Trial and environmental surveys.</li> <li>Traffic Surveys</li> <li>Market engagement for Infrastructure Provider</li> </ul>

Milestone	Date	Key Activities
		Support to Main Works Contractor procurement activities
Engagement Update	Jan 2025 – July 2025	<ul> <li>Scheduling and organisation of information events for late Spring 2025.</li> <li>Development and assurance of products for engagement.</li> </ul>
PEIR complete	May 2025 - Nov 2025	<ul> <li>Assessment of PEIR Design (frozen in March 2025)</li> <li>Completion and assurance of the PEIR</li> <li>Development of draft Land Plans and Book of Reference.</li> </ul>
Statutory Consultation	Nov 2025	<ul><li>Statement of Community Consultation</li><li>Preparation for Statutory Consultation</li></ul>
DCO Design Freeze (Control Point 2)	Jun 2025 - May 2026	<ul> <li>Additional traffic surveys and Public Rights of Way Survey</li> <li>Summer 2025 Environmental Surveys</li> <li>A configured DCO engineering design (including Masterplan and interim design and access statement).</li> <li>Updated Cost Estimate and QRA</li> <li>Provision of Construction Methodology Report and 4D animations for DCO.</li> </ul>
MWC Tender and SIPR submission	Jun 2025 – April 2026	<ul> <li>A configured reference design for main works tender.</li> <li>Development of tender specifications and drawings.</li> <li>Development of the SIPR specification</li> </ul>
DCO Submission	Nov 2025 – Nov 2026	<ul> <li>Winter Surveys 2025/26</li> <li>Development and completion of DCO products</li> <li>Development and completion of the Environmental Statement</li> <li>Statements of Common Ground</li> <li>Finalise Book of Reference and associated plans</li> </ul>

Milestone	Date	Key Activities
Gate 4 Submission	May 2026 - Feb 2027	<ul> <li>Develop and execute a Gate 4 Delivery Plan</li> <li>reporting and assurance</li> </ul>
		Support ongoing engagement with RAPID – technical advice, meetings, studies etc.
		<ul> <li>Update the Digital Twin Report, scoping of which was provided in Sub-Phase 2</li> </ul>
		Support response to RAPID queries
Land Acquisition	Mar 2025 – Feb 2027	<ul> <li>Early acquisition of strategic land parcels to reduce future programme risks and seize opportunities.</li> </ul>

## 4.5 Key Risks and Opportunities for Gate 4

The risks and opportunities across the programme are set out in Section 5 below. This section provides further qualitative narrative to explain the key risks and opportunities for Gate 4, alongside mitigations.

Land Access for fieldwork surveys – Land access has improved through the Gate 3 period and powers under Section 172 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 have been sought from DEFRA to support this. Further access to land is required to enable the appropriate level of environmental and heritage surveys in order to form a robust Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and de-risk the DCO submission. Negotiation with landowners and agents continues with the potential to utilise Section 172 powers, if required.

Network Rail agreement for construction rail siding – The construction of the rail siding is currently a fundamental part of the construction strategy, reducing traffic on local roads. We continue to work with Network Rail within its Project Accelerated in a Controlled Environment (PACE) regime. A preferred option has been agreed at the ES2 stage and we will continue to work with NR to develop a Single Option (ES3) prior to Gate 4 submission.

Reservoir embankment design amendments – Outputs from ongoing ground investigations, including the clay compaction trial may impact the DCO design and schedule.

Environmental surveys requiring further land for mitigation – Outputs from ongoing environmental surveys may reveal the requirement for additional land to ensure efficient relocation of species. There is an opportunity to use any additional land for Biodiversity Net Gain purposes.

Additional highway improvement works – Outputs from new traffic surveys and more detailed traffic modelling may lead to requirements to upgrade local highways.

## 5 Key Risks and Mitigations

#### 5.1 Overview

This section of the Project Management Plan focuses on the key aspects of the project level RAIDO (Risks, Assumptions, Issues, Dependencies and Opportunities), discussing several key risks and what activity is being undertaken to mitigate immediate cost and programme risks. The costed risks are further discussed in Technical Supporting Document A3, Cost and Risk Report.

Since Gate 2, with an increased understanding of the design and detail of the programme, risk management has become more mature. The team has developed a project level RAIDO Log, to establish a baseline for quantification, management, mitigation and escalation. The RAIDO Log is a project management tool to identify, record and manage potential risks and issues that may arise during the development, delivery and operation of the project and it provides the team with a single point of reference for key sources of project uncertainty through each of the five sections.

The RAIDO log is a primary input in the assessment of the Gate 3 Risk Forecast.

#### 5.2 Risk Register (Extract)

A summary of the key risks for the project are shown below in Table 5.1. This is consistent with the information presented to RAPID through the quarterly dashboards. The Cost and Risk Report (A3 Cost Report) provides further detail of the major drivers of risk across the development, enabling works, main works and commissioning of the project, based on our latest assessment following completion of the above RAIDO development.

The RAG ratings applied are based upon scoring criteria (cost, impacts and likelihood)

Table 5.1 – Risk Register (Key Risks)

Risk Description	Current Risk	Proposed Mitigation Plan	Residual Risk
Risk of delays in obtaining discharge and abstraction licences from the EA impacting reservoir's operability.		Continuation of hydrological studies and proactive engagement with the EA.  The EIA scope post Gate 3 will include all required analysis to support Abstraction and Discharge licence applications.  A strategic approach is being developed to address abstraction and discharge licence risks, including senior engagement with the EA and relevant government departments.	

Risk Description	Current Risk	Proposed Mitigation Plan	Residual Risk
Reservoir embankment design amendments required resulting from geological conditions increasing construction schedule and costs		Mitigated via use conservative assumptions within the DCO utilising results from historic and ongoing ground investigations, including a Clay Compaction Trial (currently being undertaken).  A full trial embankment will be undertaken prior to the main works construction to provide greater design certainty and construction methodology.	
Risk that challenges from local communities and stakeholders impact the DCO schedule		Public consultation on emerging proposals for SESRO was held during summer 2024. Feedback is being collated and where relevant will shape the emerging design. Further engagement and public consultation planned during Gate 4, including Statutory Consultation in late 2025.	
Risk that access to site is not obtained in a timely manner to support the project's timescales, resulting in delays to DCO submission (quality of Environment Assessment) and/or construction start		Engagement with landowners has been established with the project seeking to obtain access primarily via negotiations however Statutory Powers of Entry have and will be sought, if required.  A Land & Property acquisition strategy has been developed to support the delivery programme, which will take account of prioritisation in terms of construction sequencing (early works).	
Current site boundaries established to deliver the SESRO Masterplan may prove inadequate following further design development (including logistical, traffic management, geology, Biodiversity Net Gain and sustainability / renewable strategies).		Continued development of a robust design together with a delivery strategy considering site access and land needs.  Monitoring and responding to changes in policy such BNG and Environmental Net Gain.	
Delays in lengthy enabling works (such as environmental translocation, archaeological trenching, utilities diversions, power supplies) impact water available for use date		The project is developing a detailed schedule of enabling works (with key expertise) to establish activities needing to start as soon as DCO is awarded alongside consideration of opportunities within design / planning process to potentially reduce scope of works.	
Delays in earthworks due to weather.		The construction schedule is being development with consideration of seasonality, with learning from other major projects.  Opportunities and innovations will be considered to aid schedule and reduce impact of seasonality factors.	
Risk that the National Policy Statement broadens existing, or introduces new, policies and targets resulting in increased project's requirements which may lead to delay and / or cost pressures.		Monitoring and responding to changes in policy such BNG and Environmental Net Gain and continued engagement with government departments.	

Risk Description	Current Risk	Proposed Mitigation Plan	Residual Risk
Risk of delays in appointing a Main Works Contractor and/or increased target price pricing - Industry and market capacity, supply chain resource constraints, attractiveness of project proposal		Market engagement continues (events in 2024 and 2025) through Gate 4 ahead of the appointment of a Main Works contractor.  Procurement strategy with Early Contractor Involvement being progressed with the aim to provide increased certainty in the delivery of the programme and de-risk the procurement programme and supply chain constraints.	
Challenges in the approval of the project's commercial model leading to delays.		We are continuing to engage with OFWAT and cosponsors on commercial and procurement strategies with positive feedback on Stage 2 received in Spring 2025.	
Risk of Judicial Review being called impacting DCO decision by the Secretary of State, with consequential impact on the start of the delivery activities.		Programme of stakeholder engagement being undertaken in order to understand issues and opportunities associated with the design.	

## 5.3 Next Steps for Gate 4

Throughout Gate 4 the understanding of the design and construction programme will become more mature which will be reflected in a more robust risk profile upon that submission.

A risk management process has been developed which sets out the method to develop, manage, control and assure risk and opportunities through project development. This includes monthly risk review meetings to review changes and check progression of actions, with the updates being recorded in the RAIDO log. Key risks will continue to be presented to RAPID in quarterly updates to ensure there are no surprises at Gate 4.

Collaborative risk sessions will continue with our partners (Southern Water and Affinity Water) on shared risks to ensure mitigation plans are robust and efficient.

## Appendix A – Gate 3 Cost Breakdown

## Work Breakdown 1: Programme & Project Management.

A breakdown is provided in Table A1 below for the breakdown of the Programme management Office and project controls support.

Table A1 - WBS1, cost breakdown for items over £500k

PMO, project controls support		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Change Control Management	211,457	3%
Cost Management	428,828	7%
Estimating/Scheme Development	449,135	7%
Governance & Assurance	442,416	7%
PMO Leadership	446,677	7%
PMO Support	340,393	5%
Programming & Scheduling	298,400	5%
Project Controls	439,822	7%
Risk Management	231,824	4%
SRO Sponsor	127,184	2%
Reporting	483,962	8%
Cost Assurance	193,655	3%
Planning Consultant	340,909	5%
Project Office Costs	354,082	6%
Programme Manager	173,878	3%
Digital Management	260,235	4%
PP Digital PMO Reporting, Processes and systems	451,578	7%
Project Management	14,663	0%
Programme Director	420,249	7%
Estimating & Risk	180,174	3%
TOTAL	£6,289,519	

Technical partner, project controls support – G3

Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Expenses	30,854	1%
Project Management, Project Controls	280,561	13%
Project Control - mobilisation stage	205,597	9%
Project Management	185,624	8%
Senior Leadership Team	106,071	5%
Digital - GIS	336,656	15%
Digital - BIM	416,657	19%
Digital - Leadership & Co-ordination	410,986	19%
Health Safety & Wellbeing	115,873	5%
Knowledge Exchange	106,071	5%
TOTAL	£2,194,949	

Technical partner, project controls support – early G4

Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Expenses	30,898	2%
Project Management, Project Controls	294,600	15%
Project Control - mobilisation stage	152,023	8%
Project Management	171,863	9%
Senior Leadership Team	100,627	5%
Digital - GIS	359,150	19%
Digital - BIM	336,346	17%
Digital - Leadership & Co-ordination	290,915	15%
Health Safety & Wellbeing	105,452	5%
Knowledge Exchange	94,981	5%
TOTAL	£1,936,856	

## Work Breakdown 2: Finalised Feasibility and Developed Design.

A breakdown is provided in Table A2 below for the breakdown of the engineering design services and for the technical oversight, management and governance activities.

Table A2 - WBS2, cost breakdown for items over £500k

Engineering Design Services		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
SESRO Gate 3 - SESRO Initial Gate 3 - Engineering Design Advisory Services - 2023		
Lead Engineering Consultant	270,401	4.48%
Ground Investigation and Survey	290,888	4.51%
Groundwater Modelling	52,574	0.56%
Rail Options Appraisal	62,941	0.74%
Road Alignment Options Appraisal	84,037	1.09%
Masterplan for SESRO Site	69,790	0.85%
Reservoir and Structure Review	69,317	1.15%
Study of Components in the River Thames Floodplain	96,475	2.00%
Cost Estimate and WRSE Regional Plan	50,819	0.84%
Stakeholder Engagement Support	8,314	0.14%
SESRO Gate 3 - SESRO Extension to Gate 3 Submission - Engineering Design Advisory Services - 2024 Gate 3, SO01, Work Package 1: Ground Investigation (GI) supervision and reporting		
Ground Investigation	294,864	4.89%
Clay Compaction Trial	187,160	3.10%
Other Surveys	56,706	0.94%
Gate 3, SO01, Work Package 2: Modelling and Assessment Services		
Modelling	290,810	4.82%
Assessment	210,367	3.49%
Gate 3, SO01, Work Package 3: Engineering Design		
Engineering and investigation	297,576	4.93%
Earthworks - Design	306,672	5.08%
Earthworks - Reporting	96,942	1.61%
Conveyance - Tunnel and Shafts		0.00%
Design	351,383	5.83%
Reporting	60,360	1.00%
Conveyance - Pump Station - Design		
Design	329,113	5.46%
Reporting	87,121	1.44%
Conveyance - Other structures	330,325	5.48%
Road, Rail, Utilities and Drainage	370,700	6.15%

Engineering Design Services		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Watercourse and Wetland Design	144,911	2.40%
Gate 3, SO01, Work Package 4: Architectural and		
Landscape Design Services		
Architectural Design Services	157,918	2.62%
Gate 3, SO01, Work Package 5: Risk and Cost Analysis and reporting		
Cost Estimation Services	314,062	5.19%
Risk Management Services	87,165	1.44%
Gate 3, S001, Work Package 6: Lead Engineer, including liaison with and handover to the new Technical Partner for SESRO, when appointed in June 2024		
Engineering Leadership	274,610	4.54%
Project Management	319,611	5.28%
Technical Coordination, Assurance and Handover	305,550	5.05%
Options Appraisal	139,439	2.30%
Gate 3, SO01, WP7: Principal Designer (CDM regs)		
7-01: Principal Designer	36,790	0.61%
TOTAL	£6,105,710	

Technical oversight, governance and
direction

Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Digital	128,508	6%
Engineering/Scheme Development	367,378	19%
Environment Manager	63,731	3%
HSW Manager	109,996	6%
Information Management	344,484	17%
Project Definition Manager	302,860	15%
SRO Sponsors	212,214	11%
Sustainable Design Services	79,674	4%
Technical oversight and delivery	370,482	19%
TOTAL	£1,979,328	

## Technical partner engineering services – G3

TOTAL	£4,462,803	
Safety	25,280	1%
Expenses	47,072	1%
Eastern Rivers & Wetlands	333,693	7%
Engineering & Assurance	228,419	5%
Masterplan oversite mobilisation/knowledge transfer	71,613	Z 70
Masterplan oversite design development	542,811	2%
Southern Water Treatment	70,183	2%
Tunnels, Transmission & Treatment	544,241	12%
Western Rivers & Wetlands	509,927	11%
mobilisation/knowledge transfer		
Entrance, Operation & Recreation	71,613	2%
Entrance, Operation & Recreation design development	542,811	12%
Southern Access	368,785	8%
Reservoirs mobilisation/knowledge transfer	228,816	5%
Reservoirs design development	481,550	11%
Reservoirs assessment & options	395,988	9%
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure

Technical partner engineering services –	
early G4	

Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Reservoirs assessment & options	222,655	11%
Reservoirs design development	111,819	6%
Reservoirs mobilisation/knowledge transfer	129,798	7%
Southern Access	154,758	8%
Entrance, Operation & Recreation design development	236,392	12%
Entrance, Operation & Recreation mobilisation/knowledge transfer	53,778	3%
Western Rivers & Wetlands	232,136	12%
Tunnels, Transmission & Treatment	251,481	13%
Southern Water Treatment	38,689	2%
Masterplan oversite design development	236,392	12%
Masterplan oversite mobilisation/knowledge transfer	53,778	3%
Engineering & Assurance	77,379	4%
Eastern Rivers & Wetlands	135,413	7%
Expenses	17,033	1%
Safety	19,713	1%
TOTAL	£1,971,217	

#### Work Breakdown 4: Environmental Assessment.

A breakdown is provided in Table A3 below for the breakdown of the terrestrial and aquatic environmental assessment items. No further breakdown of activity for the Environment Agency cost line is available as no detailed breakdown is provided with invoices. The scope of this funding was agreed and documented via the All Company Working Group (ACWG).

Table A3 - WBS4, cost breakdown for items over £500k

Terrestrial Environmental Assessment		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
EIA Scoping Assessment	247,427	24%

Terrestrial Environmental Assessment		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
EIA Coordination including Project Management	451,435	45%
Biodiversity Net Gain and Habitats Regulations	48,580	5%
Assessment		
Early Optioneering and Scoping	161,016	16%
Environmental appraisal to support planning	90,750	9%
application for Clay Compaction Trial		
TOTAL	£999,208	

Aquatic Environmental Assessment		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Aquatic assessment management and coordination	148,430	8%
Aquatic Environmental Assessment Technical Lead	388,252	22%
Options Appraisal & Mitigation Optioneering	169,811	10%
Geomorphological and Hydrological Assessments	329,031	19%
WFD, BNG & EIA	244,711	14%
Water quality, reservoir and river modelling	475,738	27%
TOTAL	£1,755,972	

Technical Partner Environmental Works		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Sustainability	339,519	13%
PEIR coordination	339,519	13%
PEIR land based topics baseline	479,858	19%
PEIR water based topics baseline	479,858	19%
PEIR human based topics baseline	359,567	14%
PEIR up-front chapters	239,276	9%
Mobilisation & Scoping Report Critical Friend	297,203	12%
Expenses	30,545	1%

TOTAL	£2,565,346	

Technical Partner Environmental Works – early G4		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Sustainability	176,155	12%
PEIR coordination	176,155	12%
PEIR land based topics baseline	282,194	20%
PEIR water based topics baseline	282,194	20%
PEIR human based topics baseline	191,304	13%
PEIR up-front chapters	100,413	7%
Mobilisation & EIA Scoping Report Critical Friend	199,712	14%
Review		
Expenses	37,537	3%
TOTAL	£1,445,665	

## Work Breakdown 5: Data Collection, Sampling, and Pilot Trials.

A breakdown is provided in Table A4Error! Reference source not found. below for the b reakdown of the items associated with terrestrial environmental survey, aquatic and watercourse surveys, ground investigations, the clay compaction trial and the subcontracting of archaeological intrusive surveys alongside the management and supervision of all site works by a Principal Contractor.

Table A4 - WBS5, cost breakdown for items over £500k

Terrestrial Environmental Survey		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Ground Investigations: Ecological Clerk of Works (fees + expenses)	27,882	3%
Habitat Suitability Modelling (scoping protected species surveys)	39,770	4%
Preliminary ecological surveys	144,593	14%
Bat surveys	191,988	19%
Other survey expenses - survey equipment (bat detectors) and consumables	102,169	10%

Terrestrial Environmental Survey		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Phase 1 Surveys (PEA, Hedgerow Assessment, UKHabs, Habitat Suitability for GCN, Over-Wintering Birds) and Phase 2 Surveys (other protected species for example badgers, dormice, barn owl, riparian mammals)	219,900	22%
Other EIA Baseline Surveys (for example Arboricultural, Traffic, Noise, Air, LVIA, Soils)	141,947	14%
Geophysical surveys	131,241	13%
TOTAL	£999,490	

Aquatic Environmental Surveys		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
WQ surveys:		
Programme management and coordination	112,237	6%
Data reporting and quality assurance	33,714	2%
Water quality sampling field survey	91,727	4%
Water quality laboratory analysis	351,517	17%
Purchase of continuous monitoring sondes	79,109	4%
Algae sampling field survey	82,628	4%
Health & safety training	8,866	0%
Other watercourse surveys		
Aquatic invertebrate and INNS surveys	211,466	10%
Algal sampling	168,414	8%
Topographical survey of watercourses and structures	40,963	2%
Aquatic ecological surveys		
Fish Surveys	342,455	17%
Macrophyte & Zooplankton Surveys	72,677	4%
Hydrometric Surveys	115,344	6%
Multi-Disciplinary Surveys	255,637	13%
Survey Specifications and Coordination	73,356	4%
TOTAL	£2,040,110	

Ground Investigations		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
GENERAL ITEMS, PROVISIONAL SERVICES AND ADDITIONAL ITEMS		
Temporary accommodation, welfare and PPE, site set-up and mobilisation	187,076	7%
Protective track matting installation and recovery	94,691	4%
Protective track matting maintenance and relocation	425,547	14%
Reporting	79,660	3%
Inflationary adjustment to staff costs	11,498	0%
Site security	54,093	2%
PERCUSSION BORING	60,676	3%
ROTARY DRILLING	426,660	14%
PITTING AND TRENCHING	95,008	4%
SAMPLING	49,697	2%
PROBING AND CONE PENETRATION TESTING	47,263	2%
GEOPHYSICAL TESTING	137,120	5%
IN SITU TESTING	217,163	8%
INSTRUMENTATION	56,363	2%
INSTALLATION MONITORING AND SAMPLING (DURING FIELDWORK PERIOD)		0%
GEOTECHNICAL LABORATORY TESTING	89,612	4%
GEOENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY TESTING	20,575	1%
SUPERVISION		
Technician	16,144	1%
Ground Engineering lead	400,533	14%
Other Ground engineering staff	219,940	8%

Ground Investigations		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Other Specialists (UXO clearance, archaeologist etc)	158,853	6%
ADDITIONAL ITEMS	1,090	0%
TOTAL	£2,849,260	

Clay Compaction Trial		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Earthworks: Mobilisation, site set-up	86,023	4%
Earthworks: Temporary works	186,126	10%
Earthworks: Reinstatement works	77,961	4%
Earthworks: Trial pits and general excavations (incl. stockpiling)	202,193	11%
Earthworks: Embankment creation	42,008	2%
Earthworks: Borrow pit backfilling	174,488	9%
Earthworks: Embankment creation contingency	100,441	5%
Compaction testing	119,510	6%
Principal Contractor Staff (Management)	34,992	2%
Principal Contractor Staff (Agents, engineering and QS)	114,695	6%
Principal Contractor Staff (H&S and environment)	19,616	1%
Principal Contractor Staff (labourers, traffic and security)	151,311	8%
Principal Contractor: Site establishment	166,676	9%
Principal Contractor: Plant / Transport	22,141	1%

TOTAL	£1,911,793	
Management Fee	215,589	11%
Principal Contractor: Temporary works (design support)	75,274	4%
Principal Contractor: Temporary works (drainage, fencing)	122,750	6%
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Clay Compaction Trial		

# Supervision and safety management of all site works (Principal Contractor)

TOTAL	£1,177,795	
Management Fees (standard % uplift to base costs)	215,301	18%
General Items - Site Based	67,488	6%
Construction Management - Site Based staff	332,845	28%
Subcontractor Costs (Excluding labour)	72,788	6%
Site Materials	75,850	6%
Contractors Equipment (Hired)	368,768	31%
Sub-contract staff (including specialists for archaeological trenching)	44,756	4%
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure

Technical Partner Data Sampling and pilot trials – G3		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Fieldwork supervision and reporting	263,110	30%

TOTAL	£877,812	
Expenses	19,749	2%
Environmental Survey - mobilisation/training	145,806	17%
Environmental Survey - other topics	87,013	10%
Environmental Survey - ecology topic	362,134	41%

Technical Partner - Environmental Surveys – early G4		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Fieldwork supervision and reporting	361,298	30%
Environmental Survey - ecology topic	498,921	42%
Environmental Survey - other topics	87,966	7%
Environmental Survey - mobilisation/training	221,051	18%
Expenses	32,134	3%
TOTAL	£1,201,370	

## Work Breakdown 6: Commercial and Procurement Strategy.

A breakdown is provided in in Table A5 below for the breakdown of the items associated with the technical analysis, including oversight and direction, required to support the Ofwat Stage 2 submission.

Table A5 - WBS6, cost breakdown for items over £500k

Technical analysis, oversight and direction		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Commerical Strategy and Engagement	302,980	8%
Estimating/Scheme Development	60,354	2%
Information Management	88,819	2%
Procurement Management	437,566	11%
Procurement of Technical Partner	469,014	12%
Supply Chain Management	313,757	8%
Procurement Advisory	379,873	10%
Procurement and Supply Chain Management	154,111	4%
Strategic Procurement Management	476,463	12%

Technical analysis, oversight and	
direction	

Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Main Works Procurement	15,205	0%
Regulatory Policy and PR24 Support	630,909	16%
IP Procurement	7,512	0%
Commercial & Procurement Management	138,311	3%
Contract Management	428,053	11%
Training and Development	13,641	0%
Assurance	25,529	1%
Team Management	18,080	0%
Market Engagement	23,090	1%
TOTAL	£3,983,267	

## Work Breakdown 7: Planning and Land.

A breakdown is provided in Table A6 below for the breakdown of the items associated with the provision of strategic planning and land advisory consultancy services.

Table A6 - WBS7, cost breakdown for items over £500k

Planning consultancy and land advisory	
services	

Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
DCO and strategic planning advisory	88,544	11%
Planning advisory services for options appraisal and masterplanning	107,980	13%
Planning advisory services for stakeholder engagement events	31,558	4%
EIA Scoping Report	33,370	4%
Town and Country Planning applications and local planning authority engagement	49,243	6%
Land referencing	176,051	22%

Planning consultancy and land advisory services

TOTAL	£806,493	
Disbursements and expenses	16,155	2%
PV Installations Report	7,083	1%
Property Value Research Work	15,135	2%
DCO and strategic land advisory	7,856	1%
Land advisory services into options appraisal and master planning	25,403	3%
Land advisory services for stakeholder engagement events	16,098	2%
Land cost estimation	7,529	1%
Survey access	200,408	25%
Landowner engagement	24,081	3%
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure

Technical Partner – early G4 Planning services

Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Planning Strategy - Land	278,376	44%
DCO Planning / Application	279,154	45%
Land analysis - interface with Southern Water	23,954	4%
DCO strategy - interface with Southern Water	36,267	6%
Planning Strategy - Expenses	8,324	1%
TOTAL	£626,075	

Technical Partner – G3 Planning services

Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Planning Strategy - Land	301,249	48%
DCO Planning / Application	302,092	48%
Land analysis - interface with Southern Water	25,922	4%
DCO strategy - interface with Southern Water	39,247	6%
Planning Strategy - Expenses	9,008	1%
TOTAL	£677,518	

## Work Breakdown 8: Stakeholder Engagement.

A breakdown is provided in Table A7 below for the breakdown of the items associated with the provision of technical oversight, governance and direction on all matters associated with stakeholder engagement and consultation services.

Table A7 - WBS8, cost breakdown for items over £500k

Technical oversight, governance and direction		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Consents Management	169,265	5%
Engagement Consultations	355,880	11%
Information Management	275,004	9%
Land Management	370,992	12%
Procurement of Technical Partner	39,205	1%
Regulations Management	440,806	14%
Strategic Engagement	401,226	13%
Leadership of Engagement, Land & Consents	227,107	7%
Public Liaison and Relations	275,269	9%
Regulation Policy Lead & Management	236,966	8%
Engagement Lead	289,698	9%
Education Management	75,571	2%
TOTAL	£3,156,990	

Technical Partner - Engagement, Land and Consultations

Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Engagement & Consultation	239,294	84%
Southern Water Engagement & Consultation	28,131	10%
Stakeholder Engagement - expenses	16,383	6%
TOTAL	£283,808	

Technical Partner - Early Gate 4 - Engagement, Land and Consultations		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Engagement & Consultation	319,783	89%
Southern Water Engagement & Consultation	34,759	10%
Stakeholder Engagement - expenses	4,002	1%
TOTAL	£358,543	

## Work Breakdown 9: Legal.

A breakdown is provided in Table A8 below for the breakdown of legal support and advisory services.

Table A8 - WBS9, cost breakdown for items over £500k

Legal support and advisory services		
Activity	Expenditure (£, 17-18 prices)	% of Total Expenditure
Legal oversight and leadership	167,087	10%
Legal support and advisory services	280,320	17%
SRO SIPR & Regulatory Legal Advice	132,547	8%
Consenting and legal advisory	304,517	18%
Legal counsel and engagements	384,885	23%
Review of draft redaction documents & associated statutory assessment documents	13,235	1%
Judicial Review	394,155	24%
TOTAL	£1,676,746	

## Appendix B – Gate 3 Efficiency of Spend (RAPID Template)

See separate template in Supporting Document D: Appendix B



Affinity Water
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