

Gate three query process

Strategic solution(s)	SESRO
Query number	SER010
Date sent to company	23/09/2025
Response due by	25/09/2025

Query

1. In your Gate 3 Efficiency of Spend Template, there are multiple activities labelled with 'Early Gate 4'. Can you confirm whether these Early Gate 4 activities are using expenditure from your Gate 3 allowance or Gate 4 allowance? If this is Gate 4, please can you resubmit your Efficiency of Expenditure data template, clearly deliniating this as requested in the gudiance.
2. In your Gate 3 Efficiency of Spend Template, we note that many of the activities have been broken down further in Supporting Document D. In these breakdowns you have only provided the expenditure values in 17-18 prices, whereas in your Gate 3 Efficiency of Spend Template you have provided expenditure values in both 17-18 prices and current prices. Can you please confirm current prices are in a 2022/23 price base and provide 'Appendix A – Gate 3 Cost Breakdown' in current prices as well?
3. In 'Appendix A – Gate 3 Cost Breakdown', you state that you have broken down all activities that are over 500k, however we cannot locate a breakdown for the following activities:
 - o Environment Agency – NAU and local costs and pre-app. advice from planning team with an expenditure of £629,507
 - o Survey management and technical oversight with an expenditure of £567,602

Please provide a more granular breakdown in line with the guidance.

4. In 'Appendix A – Gate 3 Cost Breakdown' in Table A4 – WBS5, the expenditure total under 'Aquatic Environmental Surveys' is noted as £2,040,110, however the expenditure total for this same activity in your Gate 3 Efficiency of Spend Template is equal to £1,865,259. Can you please explain why there is a discrepancy between these two values and confirm the correct total?
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Solution owner response

Please see our reply below using the same notation:

1. Early Gate 4 activities utilise expenditure from Gate 3. Enclosed is the supporting updated Gate 3 Efficiency of Spend Template. Please refer to tab ref “Gate 3 EoE” to see the revised Gate 3 table, and filter on the Early Gate 4 activities included in the Gate 3 expenditure.
2. The costs were reported as “current prices”, based upon actual spend / invoices at the time costs were incurred, throughout the period that Gate 3 started and finished. Enclosed is an updated Gate 3 Efficiency of Spend Template with costs in both current prices and 2017/18 prices.
3. The updated documents provide a more granular breakdown for each item:
 - Environment Agency; Within the attached excel spreadsheet titled “Gate 3 Efficiency of Expenditure Update”, cell G40 and H40 within tab ref “Gate 3 EoE” captures the associated NAU and pre-app costs in both 17-18 prices and current prices. To locate a breakdown of this value, please select tab ref “Cost Model Extract”, and click on the drop down filter in L6. Please select drop down option “4-1”, and this will provide the granular breakdown required.
 - Survey management and technical oversight; A more granular breakdown for this service has been provided within 'Appendix A – Gate 3 Cost Breakdown' in Table A4”, ref page [34 of 41].
4. Enclosed is the updated Gate 3 Efficiency of Spend Template which addresses this discrepancy.

Date of response to RAPID	25/09/2025
Strategic solution contact / responsible person	