

Gate two query process

Strategic solution(s)	Grand Union Canal
Query number	GUC008
Date sent to company	14/12/2022
Response due by	16/12/2022

Query

- It is stated in Table 11.2 in your Gate 2 submission that the following activities are early gate 3 spend: "Ecological monitoring – Summer 22", "Water Quality – Summer 22 monitoring", and "Emerging substances monitoring". The total expenditure of these three activities together is equal to £247,149 whereas it is stated in the table that "Early gate 3 spend" is equal to £305,000. Can you provide information as to whether the remaining early gate 3 spend has been spent on any other activities?
- Can you provide clarification of what the activity "The Trust" represents.

Solution owner response

A1: Our gate two allowance (including transferred saving from gate one) was £3.010million. This was increased as we requested early spend of Gate 3 budget. As shown in Table 11.1 of the GUC gate 2 submission, RAPID approved our request on 25/05/22, which increased our budget to £3.315 million. The early spend of these Gate 3 funds was allowed to enable our ecological and water quality monitoring projects to continue and avoid missing key seasonal periods.

However, we were efficient in our procurement of these activities and have not required the full amount of the early Gate 3 funding initially requested. This is



the difference between the total expenditure of the three activities listed in the question, and the amount we initially requested.

We are in the process of reconciling gate two spend and the final outturn is therefore likely to reduce further.

A2: 'The Trust' refers to The Canal & River Trust (The Trust), a partner in the SRO. Given GUC involves the use and repurpose of an existing asset which is owned by The Trust, having their staff involved in every aspect of the scheme development is essential.

The Trust have been involved heavily in the development of the modelling workstream, the environmental workstream (including advising on locations for surveys and fixed sondes to collect data) and in the scheme design and operation, as it affects their asset, the Grand Union Canal.

The Trust are a major part of the scheme's governance structure and attend weekly progress calls, monthly Programme Management Board and quarterly Programme Steering Group sessions at the director level. The attendance at these sessions is one of the key inputs and is represented by 'The Trust' in our budget figures shown in table 11.2 in our Gate 2 submission.

Date of response to RAPID	16/12/22
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