



P.21-15 Rail To River - Public Realm Project Highlight Report

Project Name:	Rail To River - Public Realm	Project Manager:	Abigail Rawlings	Project Sponsor:	Duncan Hall	Report covers period of:	February 2026
Capital Code:	C9064	Client Dept:		Regeneration	Lead Designer:	-	
					Cost Consultant:	-	
Project Code:	P-21.15	End User (if applicable):	n/a	Contractor on Site:	-		

Management Summary

	1.Overall Status	2.1 Risks	2.2. Issues	3.Financials	4.Timelines	5.Resources
This Report	G	A	A	G	A	G
Last Report	G	A	A	G	A	G

Project Definition

Project Stage: RIBA stage 6 handover.

RIBA stage 5 – manufacturing and construction (arch only)

Objectives: Improve public realm in the town centre to improve the pedestrian experience, removing clutter, creating consistent public realm experience

Scope: Rail to River route works include providing interventions such as pop-up facilities, art trail, fingerpost wayfinding, lighting, seating and planting.

1. Overall Status (high-level summary)

Overall RAG Status remains GREEN.

- Whilst Pop Up spaces became available for hire in March 2025, promotion was paused due to street-level scaffold works that limited access. Interim uses continue in the meantime; a relaunch is planned for spring 2026.
- Artwork, seating, fingerposts and a digital wayfinding sign have all been successfully installed.
- Fourteen trees and custom planters have been placed along Purfleet Street, New Conduit Street, and Broad Street.
- Management of the Pop Ups has now moved to the Operations Team, while responsibility for the digital signage sits with the Marketing and Communications Team.
- The Purfleet Street Arch is the only outstanding element. Progression was paused due to fire damage of the building where installation was planned alongside issues getting the licence signed for its installation. A discussion is required regarding pursuing the arch install or exploring alternatives.

1.1 Decisions required by the Neighbourhood Board

- None

1.2 Achievements during this period

- Scaffold on Purfleet Street has been removed
- The site compound and hoarding remain but should be removed in the coming weeks.
- Meeting held with Public Open Space, Business Operations and Communications teams to plan re-launch of hire of Pop Ups.
- Work continues regarding the Post Project Evaluation for the Rail to River Public Realm Project with input from the wider

Priorities for next period ahead of relaunch of the Pop Ups:

- Tidy up of the surfacing on Purfleet Street – jet washing and weeding.
- Relocating trees back to original location on Purfleet Street.
- Planting up of the planter/containers.
- Repairs to containers and moving tables and chairs from storage.
- Review T&Cs for hirers and feedback from hirers survey to incorporate changes into new Terms and Conditions.
- Plan communication strategy for relaunch approach once timescales are agreed.
- Update marketing materials (web site, adverts, leaflets etc)



2. Risks and Issues

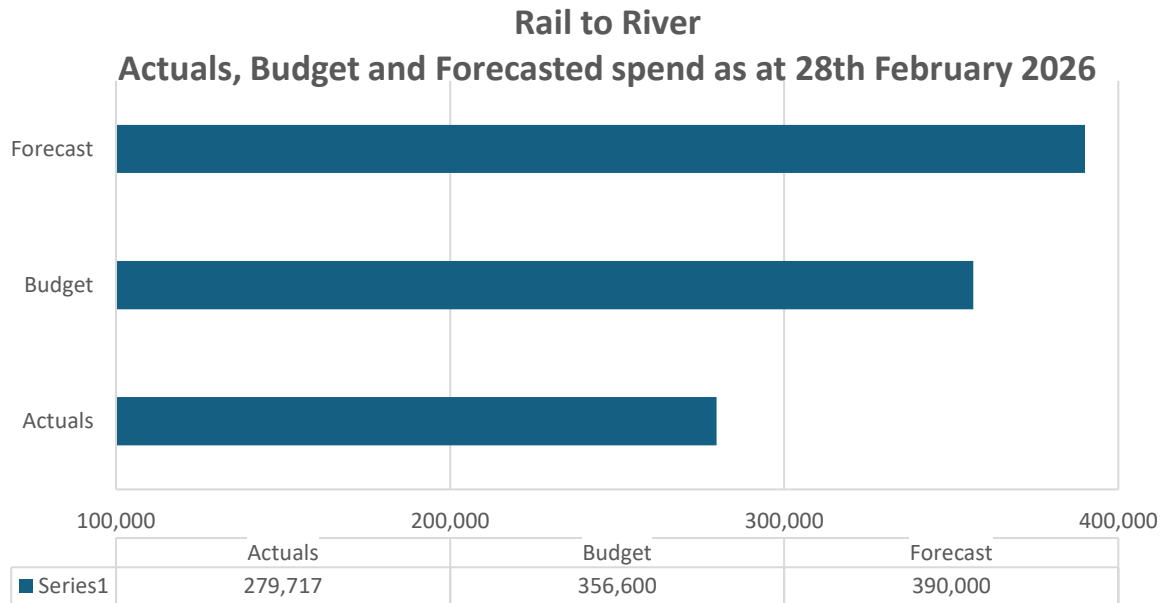
2.1 Key Risks [all red and increasing amber] A risk is something that may happen

Risk ID (1/23)	Risk Title	Description	RAG Status	Risk Category	Mitigation	Dated Comments
23	No response or suitable responses to RfQ for Purfleet Street Arch	Failure to get suitable responses to RfQ for the Purfleet Street arch would result in this element of the project not taking place.	A	Low	<p>Previous RfQ received sufficient responses suggesting artists are willing to quote for the work. Requirement for the arch to be hand forged is removed, widening the options for craftspeople to quote.</p> <p><i>Procurement of arch halted until permissions are sorted, therefore remains a possible project risk.</i></p>	26.02.2026

2.2 Key Issues [all red and increasing amber] – An issue is something that has happened

Issue ID (1/6)	Issue Title	Description	RAG Status	Issue Type	Resolution Plan	Dated Comments
5	Licence with Boots for Purfleet Street Arch	Licence still not being completed by Boots's solicitor.	A	Delay to programme	<p>Issue remains as yet to be resolved.</p> <p>Formal request to recover the legal fees from Boots has been sent and a holding response has been received. Explore potential alternatives in place of the arch.</p>	26.02.2026

3.1 Project Financials



3.2 Financial Commentary

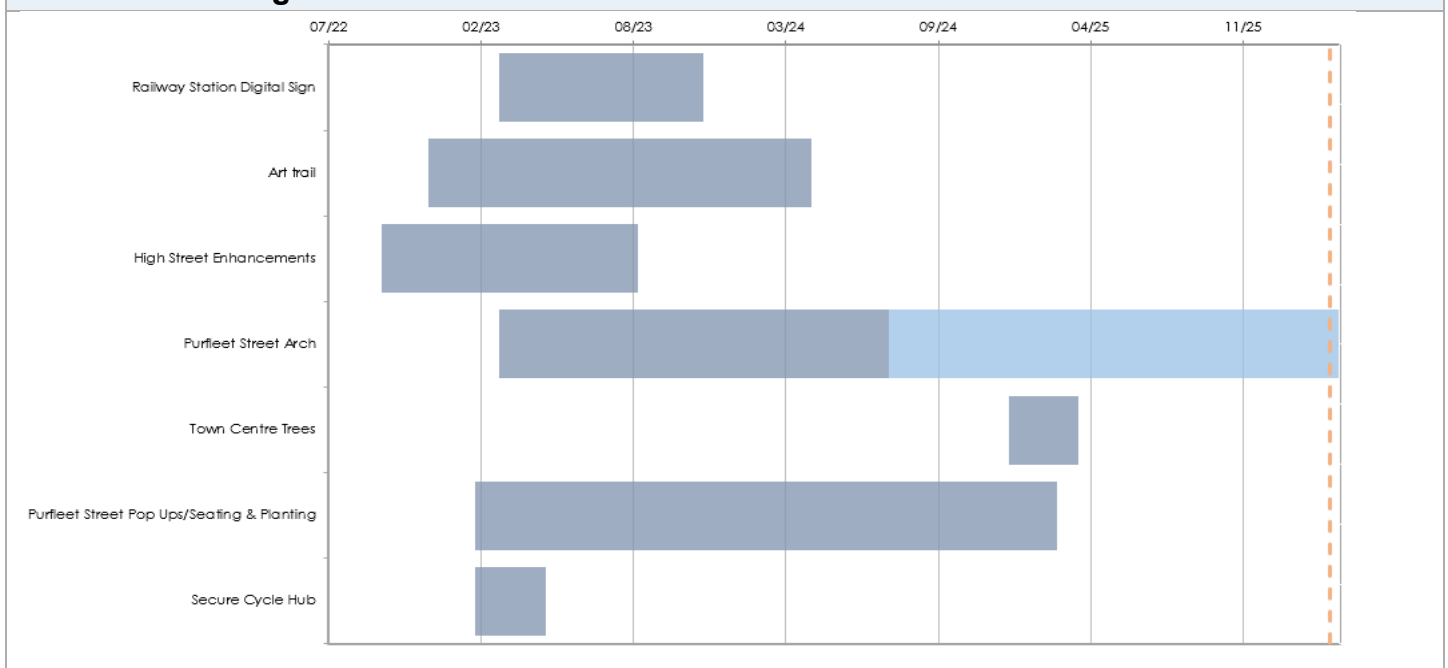
Financials RAG Status maintained at GREEN.

- As of 28th February 2026, project costs are £0.28m against a budget of £0.35, forecasted costs are £0.4m, additional is being reviewed to cover the funding deficit.

3.3 Project Contingency and Change Control

Change Ref	Description	Cost Impact	Programme Impact	Other Impact	RAG Status	Approval given by	Date of change

4. Timelines – High Level Milestones





4.1 Timelines Commentary

Timelines currently RAG rated AMBER.

- The proposed Arch at Purfleet Street remains the only outstanding item.
- Procurement of the arch was paused due to the scaffold and ongoing issue with Boots not completing the licence for attachment. This delay does not affect funding timescales.
- All other items have been installed/completed.

5. Resources Commentary

The RAG Status for Resources currently rated GREEN.

6. Communications and Engagement

- The Margery Kempe Trust continues to post on social media about the cultural event being held in one of the Purfleet Street Pop Ups in January and February. They have credited BCKLWN for supporting the project.
- Communication and engagement plan to be created ahead of Pop-Up relaunch.

7. Outputs and Outcomes

7.1 Outputs

Description	Target	Notes
Increased footfall in the town centre	5%	
Footfall counts	1	
Number of transport nodes with new multimodal connection points (cycle storage)	1350m2	
Amount of public realm improved m ²	5	
No of businesses supported	5+	4 pop up units supporting a number of businesses throughout the project.
No of trees planted	5	14 trees planted
Number of Finger post installations	30	29, last one to be installed in Jan 2025.
Number of artwork installations	3	Including archway, 2 currently installed.

7.2 Outcomes

Description	Notes
Increased footfall in the town centre	
Improve the accessibility and attractiveness of key routes	
Improve the perception of the place by residents, visitors and businesses	

8. Other Matters

Item	Comment
General stage progress	Design and installation: Railway Station Benches and planting – complete Digital Sign – complete Artwork x 2 – complete. Purfleet Street Arch – delayed. All planning and NCC licenses in place. Purfleet Street Pop Ups and street furniture installed. Utilities – water and electricity connections installed, issue with drainage resolved. Installed Cycle hub – complete. Purfleet Street planters- complete.
Procurement progress	Individual project elements; with in house co-ordination. Remaining orders to place – new Purfleet Street arch order.
Proposed form of contract (e.g., JCT, NEC, Traditional, D&B)	A variety of contracts will be used. In some cases, they are suppliers T&C's, in other they are on standard council terms. As we do not have a one stop shop approach, each element is procured independently, and the council is acting as the contractor.
Proposed route to market (e.g., IOTT, Framework i.e. DPS, HPCS, LCP)	Single source supply for digital sign, containers, steelwork cladding, and archway. Other - Invitations to Quote, Locally Advertised, and approved local contractors as per standing orders.



Legal progress	License to fix arch to Boots and Cashino buildings with legal. Flyover licenses with NCC for archway. Pitch licenses with NCC and Street trading licences for pop ups. Application for tables and seating required by NCC - complete. Application for planters on highway required by NCC complete.
Local schemes / dependencies	Licensing process for digital signage with Network Rail has conditional approval. Final information of as fitted drawing and fire stopping report needed from Hollywell to complete sign off- being sought from Hollywell.

9. Approved Documents

	OBC [RIBA 0 Approval]	Client Brief [RIBA 1 Initiation]	Resource Brief	PID [RIBA 1 Gateway]	PID Update [RIBA 2 Gateway]	PID Update [RIBA 3 Gateway]	PID Update [RIBA 4 Design)	Final PID [pre-post tender]
Status:	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Date Approved:	Jan 2022					Feb 2023		
Approved by:	KLTB					KLTB		

Latest approved document: PID November 2023

Spend – Budget variance (Inc. Contingency)	Milestone Delivery RAG Status	Risk & Issue RAG status
R More than 10% over or under budget	R 13 weeks or more behind the critical path	R Need immediate attention
A Between 5% & 10% over or under budget	A 4 to 12 weeks behind the critical path	A Needs attention before next project review
G Within 5% of budget or less than £10k	G 4 to 12 weeks less behind the critical path	G Can be managed