

# B4SI Assurance Statement 2024

## Overview

Corporate Citizenship (part of SLR) has been asked by Pennon Group to review its use of the Business for Societal Impact (B4SI) Framework for measuring corporate community investment (CCI) programmes between April 2023 and March 2024.

The B4SI Frameworks help businesses to improve the management, measurement, and reporting of their social impact. A combination of three Frameworks covers Community Investment, Social Innovation & Procurement for Social Impact (see <https://b4si.net> for more information).

Pennon Group has been an active member of the B4SI global network for over three years. Corporate Citizenship (part of SLR), as global managers of B4SI, have worked with Pennon Group to provide limited assurance of its community investment data gathered over the period from April 2023 and March 2024 and the application of the B4SI Community Investment Framework, in accordance with current Guidance. The scope of assurance covers inputs contributed through the company's Community Investment and the outputs and impacts of these activities, where measured. Having conducted our assessment nothing has come to our attention which causes us to believe that the reported data, as stated in the Appendix for this document, does not accurately reflect the B4SI principles. Our work has not extended to an independent audit of the data.

In our commentary we identify the main findings of the Assurance process, including the strengths to Pennon Group's embedding of the Framework in project operations as well as areas for development where the company can build on learnings from the past three years. We have further explained our observations in a separate management report to Pennon Group, including considerations on community investment outputs and impacts.

# Commentary

As part of its efforts to ensure a robust application of the Framework, Pennon Group has had its CCI data assured by B4SI for its third year in a row. Pennon Group has demonstrated a strong commitment to rigorous measurement and reporting and continuous improvement in collecting its CCI data according to the principles of the B4SI Framework.

The data shows community contributions in 2023-24 totalled £707,072 increasing by 0.19% compared to the previous year. Time contributions increased 43%, partly driven by the addition of Social Mobility Business Partnership activities, although still representing only 5% of Pennon's total contributions. At the same time, cash contributions decreased by 3% compared to the previous year. Of its total contributions, Pennon Group donated 54% as charitable gifts, and 46% through strategic community investments, keeping the same distribution as of last year.

Pennon Group measures its activity inputs, outputs and impacts. These definitions, backed by the B4SI Framework, are used to gather data from its partners, grantees and operations. Project managers have responsibility for collecting data that the sustainability team then collates twice a year and reviews progress year on year.

The sustainability team is also responsible for personally training project managers continuously and ensure they have access to guidance material which is based on B4SI Guidance.

Our review of Pennon Group's 2023-2024 CCI data showed an overall consistent application of the B4SI framework. There is well established measurement of organisational impact for grant recipients, which could be expanded to other programmes.

Pennon Group has demonstrated commitment to continuous improvement in its embedding of the B4SI Framework in their operations and making efforts to work with partners to collect output and impact data where relevant.



**Clodagh Connolly**  
**Global B4SI Director**

**Corporate Citizenship**  
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The scope of the statement is limited to the reporting period  
23rd May 2024

# Appendix

## Pennon Group's 2023-2024 Community Investment

### INPUTS

<b>Total value of contributions (including management costs)</b>		<b>£707,072</b>
Total value of contributions (excl. management costs)		£576,750
<b>HOW - Type of contributions</b>		
Cash	£544,796	77%
Time	£31,954	5%
In-kind: contributions of product, equipment, rooms etc.	£ -	0%
Management costs	£130,322	18%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£707,072</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>WHY - Motivation</b>		
Charitable gifts	£311,556	54%
Community investment	£265,193	46%
Commercial initiatives in the community	£ -	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£576,750</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>WHAT - Subject focus</b>		
Education	£116,749	20%
Health	£27,250	5%
Economic development	£ -	0%
Environment	£223,594	39%
Arts/Culture	£66,000	11%
Social welfare	£143,156	25%
Emergency relief	£ -	0%
Other Support	£ -	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£576,750</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>WHERE - Global breakdown</b>		
UK	£576,750	100%
Rest of Europe	£ -	0.0%
Middle East and Africa	£ -	0.0%
Asia-Pacific	£ -	0.0%
North America	£ -	0.0%
South America	£ -	0.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£576,750</b>	<b>100%</b>

## OUTPUTS

<b>Total number of activities reported</b>		<b>35</b>
<b>COMMUNITY OUTPUTS</b>		
Total number of direct beneficiaries		4,311
Total number of beneficiary organisations		129
Number of individual beneficiaries resulting from leverage		25,776
<b>BUSINESS OUTPUTS</b>		
Number of staff involved in company time		58
Number of hours contributed in company time		1,302
<b>LEVERAGE</b>		
Employees – other	16,640	23%
Customers	568,765	97%
<b>Total Leverage</b>	<b>585,405</b>	<b>100%</b>

## IMPACTS

### COMMUNITY IMPACTS

<b>Total number of beneficiary organisations where results were measured</b>		<b>28</b>
Number of partner/beneficiary organisations that:		
Were able to improve existing or provide new services / products		28
Improved their management systems (e.g. IT, HR, finance)		23
Were able to spend more time with clients		27
Could employ more staff / take on more volunteers		17
Increased their profile		28