

B4SI Assurance Statement 2025

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 2024 and March 2025.

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 2024 and March 2025 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 four 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 fourth 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 that, overall, community contributions increased in 2024–25 compared to the previous year. This rise was influenced by several factors, with the ongoing Group restructure being a key driver. As of 2024–25, the restructure means that Bristol Water, South West Water, and SES Water are now treated as business units rather than separate companies. Accordingly, this is the first year that Pennon Group has included SES Water's community investment data within the B4SI Assurance. The 2024–25 data also provides a more accurate representation of management costs, incorporating SES Water's management costs.

The total value of the contributions equalled to £1,012,707 increasing by 43% compared to the previous year. Time contributions increased 138%, although still representing the smallest type of contribution at 8% of Pennon's total contributions. At the same time, cash contributions increased by 24% compared to the previous year. Of its total contributions, Pennon Group donated 56% as charitable gifts, and 44% through strategic community investments, keeping a similar 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 2024-2025 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

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The scope of the statement is limited to the reporting period
20th May 2025

Appendix

Pennon Group's 2024-2025 Community Investment

INPUTS

Total value of contributions (including management costs)		£1,012, 707
Total value of contributions (excl. management costs)		£751,753
HOW - Type of contributions		
Cash	675,578	67%
Time	76,175	8%
In-kind: contributions of product, equipment, rooms etc.	0	0%
Management costs	260,954	26%
TOTAL	1,012,707	100%
WHY - Motivation		
Charitable gifts	419,375	56%
Community investment	332,378	44%
Commercial initiatives in the community	0	0%
TOTAL	751,753	100%
WHAT - Subject focus		
Education	81,074	11%
Health	80,134	11%
Economic development	78,580	10%
Environment	186,511	25%
Arts/Culture	92,181	12%
Social welfare	57,692	8%
Emergency relief	0	0%
Other Support	175,580	23%
TOTAL	751,753	100%
WHERE - Global breakdown		
UK	751,753	100.0%
Rest of Europe	0	0.0%
Middle East and Africa	0	0.0%
Asia-Pacific	0	0.0%
North America	0	0.0%
South America	0	0.0%
TOTAL	751,753	100%

OUTPUTS

Total number of activities reported **48**

COMMUNITY OUTPUTS

Total number of direct beneficiaries	13,353
Beneficiaries resulting from leverage	28,497
Total number of beneficiary organisations	412

BUSINESS OUTPUTS

Number of staff involved in company time	175
Number of hours contributed in company time	3,104

LEVERAGE

Employees - payroll giving	0	0%
Employees – other	20,320	3%
Customer	606,426	97%
Total Leverage	626,746	100.0%

IMPACTS

COMMUNITY IMPACTS

Total number of beneficiary organisations where results were measured **24**

Number of partner/beneficiary organisations that:	
Were able to improve existing or provide new services / products	24
Improved their management systems (e.g. IT, HR, finance)	20
Were able to spend more time with clients	24
Could employ more staff / take on more volunteers	19
Increased their profile	22