

# Acquisition of Sutton and East Surrey Water and Equity Capital Raise

10 January 2024

# Transaction overview

## Proposed transaction

- Pennon is acquiring 100% of the issued capital of Sumisho Osaka Gas Water UK Limited (SOGWUK), the holding company of Sutton and East Surrey Water plc and certain other ancillary businesses for £89m, with a total enterprise value of £380m and a RCV of £351m<sup>(1)</sup>
- Enterprise value equates to a premium to SES Water 2023 RCV of c.6%<sup>(2)</sup>
- Acquisition expected to increase the Group's RCV by c.7% on acquisition, resulting in a total expected Group RCV of c.£5.8bn by 2025
- A placing to raise up to £180m of equity will be launched in connection with the acquisition. This will be conducted by way of an accelerated bookbuild on a non-pre-emptive basis

## Use of proceeds

- Proceeds from the equity capital raise will be used in connection with the acquisition to ensure that the enlarged Pennon Group remains within our well-established water business gearing range of 55-65%<sup>(3)</sup> following completion

## Strategic rationale

- Consistent with Pennon's successful track record of value creation through the realisation of synergies, a run rate of £11m<sup>(4)</sup> p.a. is anticipated, enabling enhanced shareholder returns, driven by operational efficiency initiatives, lower financing costs and economies of scale
- Builds on Pennon's existing water operations with another high-quality, water-only business, along with access to an experienced and talented management team, and follows the successful previous acquisitions of two water-only companies

## Completion and integration

- Completion of the acquisition, which is not subject to any conditions, has already occurred
- The acquisition will now be subject to review by the CMA, with input from Ofwat
- There is not expected to be any funding impact on South West Water's plans to otherwise deliver a compelling AMP8 investment plan; nor will it impact SES Water's ability to deliver the same

Note: All £m numbers shown to 0 decimal places. Potential differences due to rounding

(1) Based on management forecast of RCV as at 31 March 2024

(2) Premium stated before £14 million of vendor equity contributions since 31 March 2023 and reflects adjustments including pensions and Pennon's view on the value of unregulated assets

(3) Gearing at the regulated water business level, defined as net debt / RCV

(4) Anticipated run rate of targeted efficiency savings (on a net basis)



# Key investment highlights

Acquisition of SES Water and other ancillary businesses, adding a high-quality business with over 750k customers and a RCV of £351m<sup>(1)</sup>

Purchase price of £89m for the equity, including repayment to the vendors of £14m of equity invested into SOGWUK since 31 March 2023, with net debt of £291m<sup>(2)</sup> (book value, as of 31 March 2023), equating to an enterprise value of £380m

Enterprise value equates to a premium to 2023 RCV of c.6%<sup>(3)</sup>. The transaction is expected to increase the Group's RCV by c.7% on acquisition

SES Water's 2025-2030 regulatory period (K8) RCV is forecast to grow at an attractive average annual rate of c.5%<sup>(4)</sup>

Builds on Pennon's existing water operations by acquiring another high-quality, water-only business, along with access to an experienced and talented management team, and follows the successful previous acquisitions of two water-only companies

Acquisition will benefit SES Water's customers and other stakeholders – SES Water's customers will be offered the opportunity to participate in Pennon's unique WaterShare+ customer shareholding scheme

Expected to be earnings accretive from the first year of full ownership (2024/25), and to generate attractive returns whilst supporting further RCV growth in the 2020-2025 regulatory period (K7), bringing total expected increase over K7 for Pennon to 71%

Complementary ethos focused on customer affordability and delivering better outcomes for customers and the environment with SES Water's digital capabilities and smart technologies complementing Pennon's current offering

Consistent with Pennon's successful track record of value creation through the realisation of synergies, a run rate of £11m<sup>(5)</sup> p.a. is anticipated, enabling enhanced shareholder returns, driven by operational efficiency initiatives, lower financing costs and economies of scale

Note: All £m numbers shown to 0 decimal places. Potential differences due to rounding

(1) Based on management forecast of RCV as at 31 March 2024

(2) Reported net debt adjusted to include unamortised issuance costs and short term debt, before fair value uplift, rounded down from actual figure of £291.52m

(3) Premium stated before £14 million of vendor equity contributions since 31 March 2023 and reflects adjustments including pensions and Pennon's view on the value of unregulated assets

(4) K8 total nominal growth rate of 25%, based on SES Draft Business Plan for AMP8

(5) Anticipated run rate of targeted efficiency savings (on a net basis)

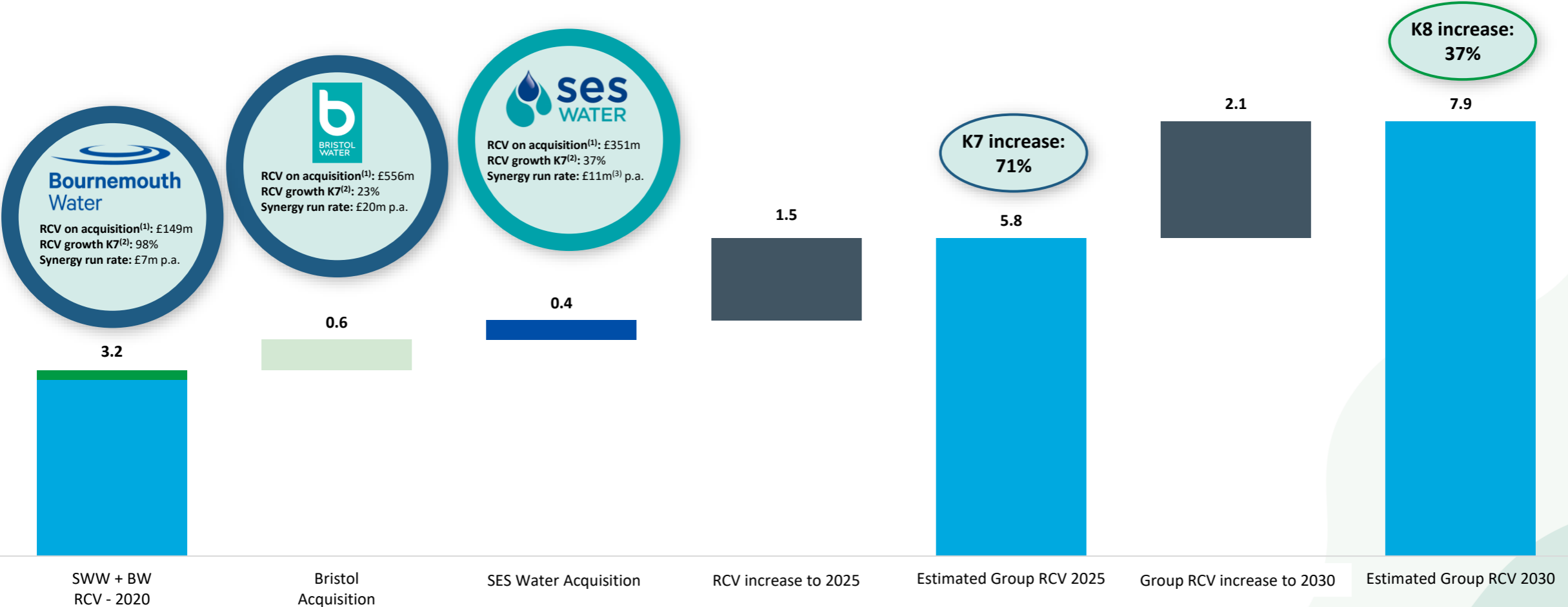


# Proven track-record of acquisitive growth and value creation

Demonstrated ability to integrate acquired businesses, realise synergies and drive shareholder value

£bn

## Shareholder value – Increase in Total RCV

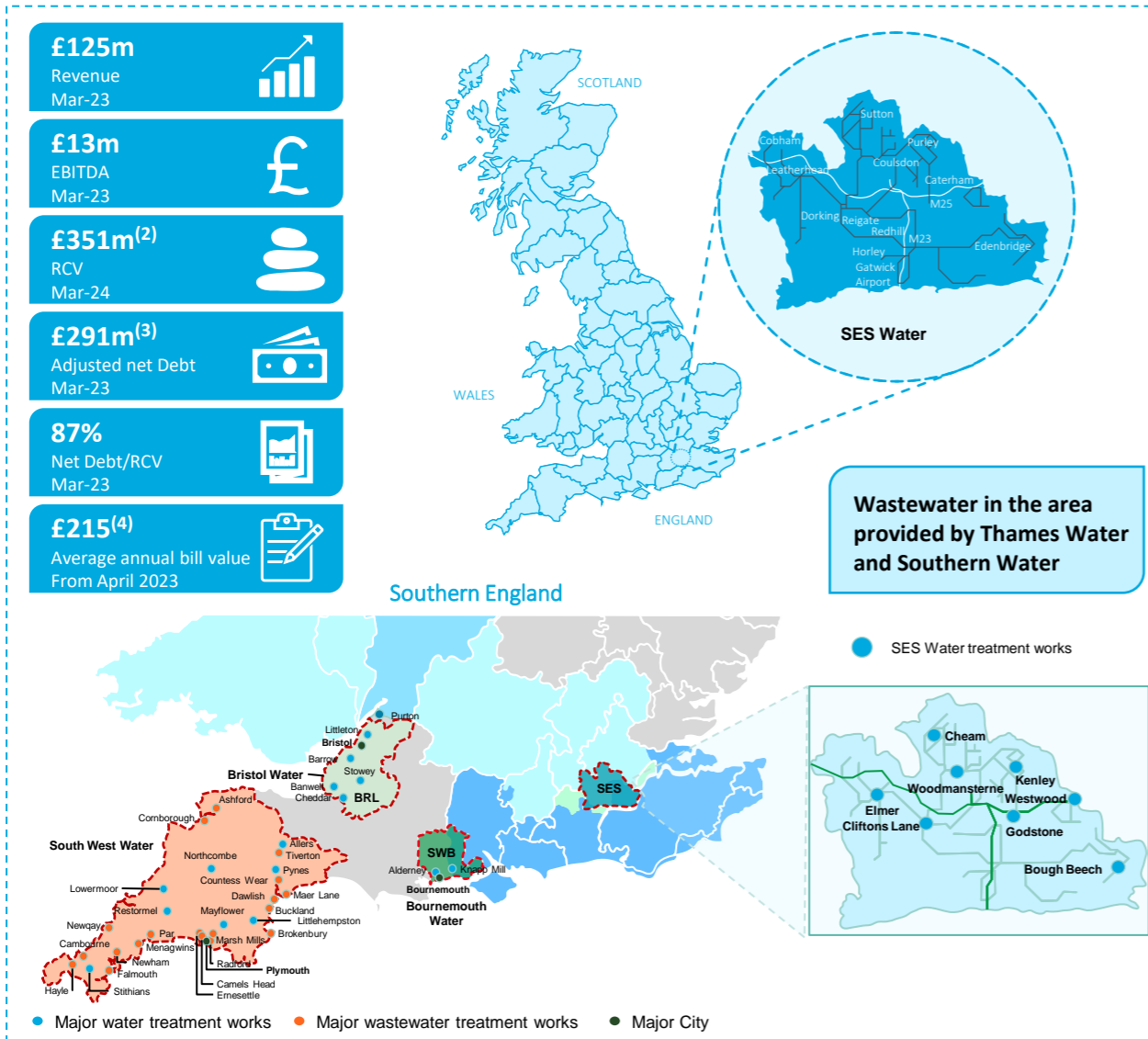


**Building a high-quality UK water company focused on growing the water-only proportion of the Group and generating attractive shareholder returns**

Note: All £m numbers shown to 0 decimal places. Potential differences due to rounding. Shadow RCV figures shown on nominal basis.  
 (1) Group RCV increase on acquisition in % terms as follows: Bournemouth Water: c.5%; Bristol Water: c.16%; SES Water: c.7%  
 (2) RCV growth for K7 represents the period from 2020-2025  
 (3) Anticipated run rate of targeted efficiency savings (on a net basis)

# SES Water overview

A high-quality, water-only business to further expand Pennon's reach in southern England



## SES Water highlights

- Water supplier serving >750,000 customers in the South East of England
- Over 150 years of operating history
- Key population demographics are forecast to grow by c.3% over the next 10 years<sup>(1)</sup>
- Purpose-led, using water and the environment to enhance nature and lives
- Industry leader in smart networks

## Non-regulated businesses

- SOGWUK is the holding company for SES Water and certain other ancillary businesses including SES Home Services, SES Business Water, Allmat Limited, Advanced Minerals Limited and Surrey Downs Property Investments Limited, however these are very small in size in the context of SES Water

# SES Water is a high-quality, water-only business

## "Top performer" in 2022-2023 for minimising interruptions to customers' supply<sup>(1)</sup>

One of only three companies in the industry to achieve Leakage, Supply Interruptions, Water Quality and Unplanned Outage targets for its customers.

Company	Customer Satisfaction	Priority Services	Leakage	Per Capita Consumption	Supply Interruption	Drinking Water Quality	Mains Repairs	Unplanned Outage
<b>Leading</b>								
<b>Average</b>								
Hafren Dyfrdwy	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Northumbrian Water	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Seven Trent Water	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
South West Water	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
United Utilities	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Wessex Water	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●
Affinity Water	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Portsmouth Water	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●
South Staffs Water	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●
<b>SES Water</b>	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●
<b>Lagging Behind</b>								
Anglian Water	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Dwr Cymru	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Southern Water	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Thames Water	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Yorkshire Water	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Bristol Water	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
South East Water	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Categorisation of Performance	
●	Top performer
○	At or better than performance commitment level
■	Poor than performance commitment level
.	N/A for water only companies

## Sustained strong performance throughout AMP7<sup>(2)</sup>

SES Water has outperformed the industry average on 100% of common quality, resilience and environment outcomes over AMP7, currently holding upper quartile performance in these, and is driving an upward trajectory in the customer service and consumption metrics.

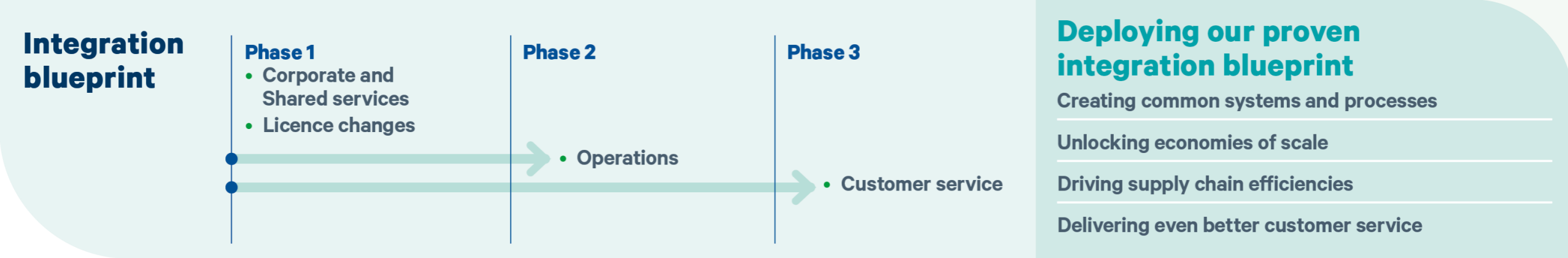
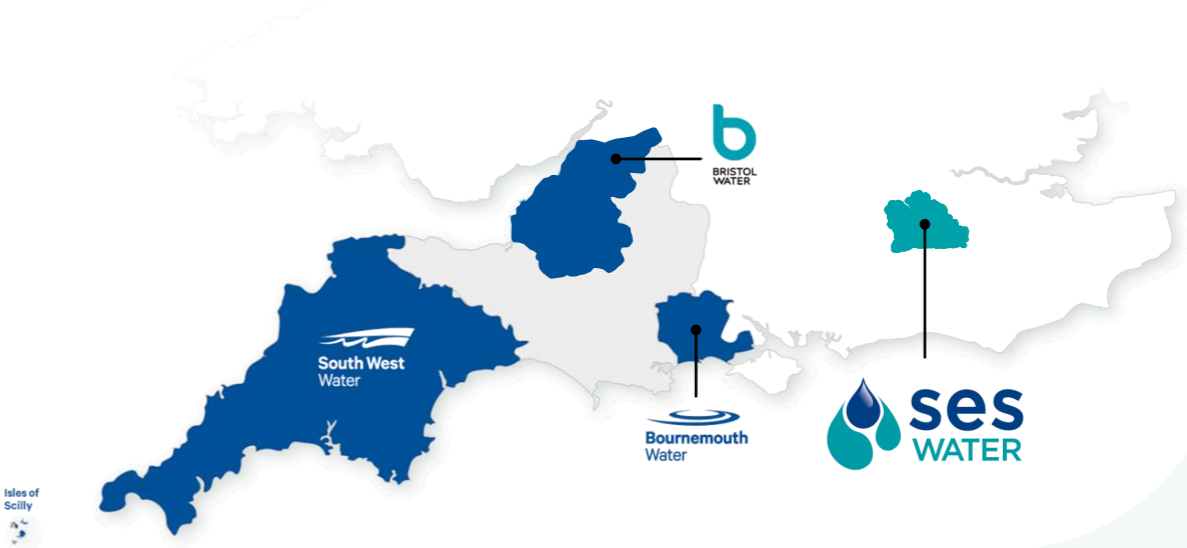
Performance against PR24 Common PCs & EPA metrics (based on 2022/2023 published performance)



# Deploying our proven integration blueprint

## 24-month programme to integrate the business

- Acquisition completes immediately without conditions, but requires CMA review
- Bristol Water acquisition indicates potential framework for potential undertakings
- Licence change and statutory transfer anticipated in 2025
- Anticipated synergies expected to reach £11m<sup>(1)</sup> p.a.



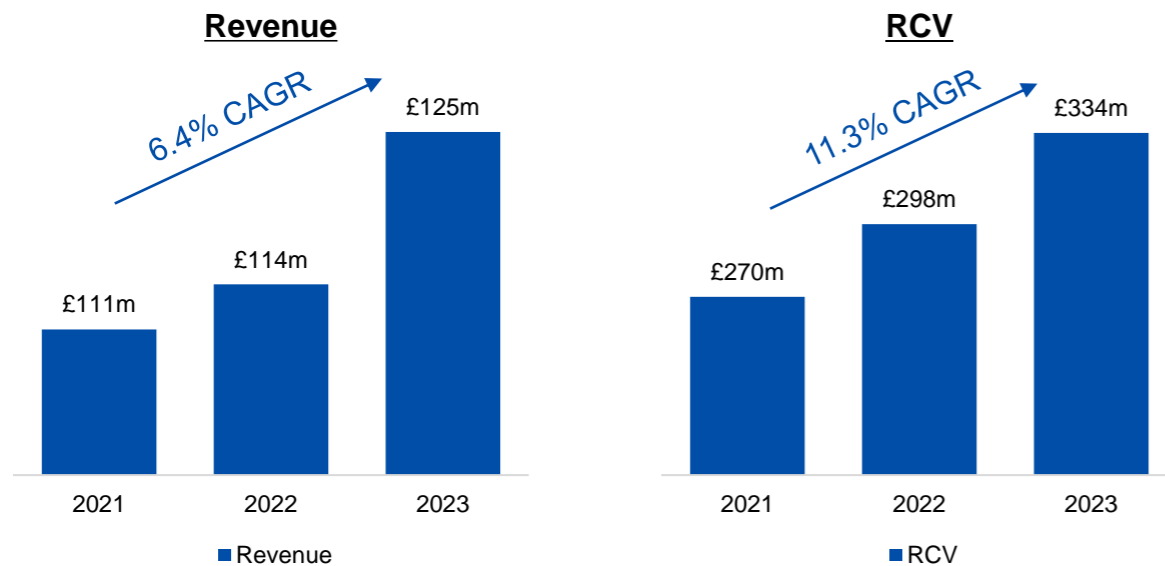
Note: All £m numbers shown to 0 decimal places. Potential differences due to rounding  
 (1) Anticipated run rate of targeted efficiency savings (on a net basis)

# Acquisition offers scale benefits and returns opportunities

## Transaction highlights

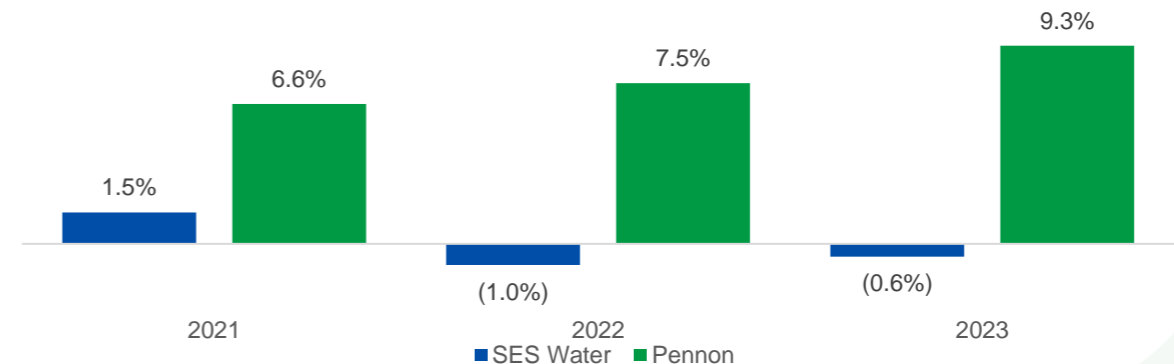
- Synergies expected to reach £11m<sup>(1)</sup> p.a., resulting in value creation
- No material impact on gearing (post equity placing) is expected, with water business gearing expected to be maintained within targeted range of 55-65%<sup>(2)</sup>
- No change in commitment to current dividend policy – Pennon policy for 2025-30 to be announced post-final determinations, in line with previous announcements

## Standalone SES Water financials



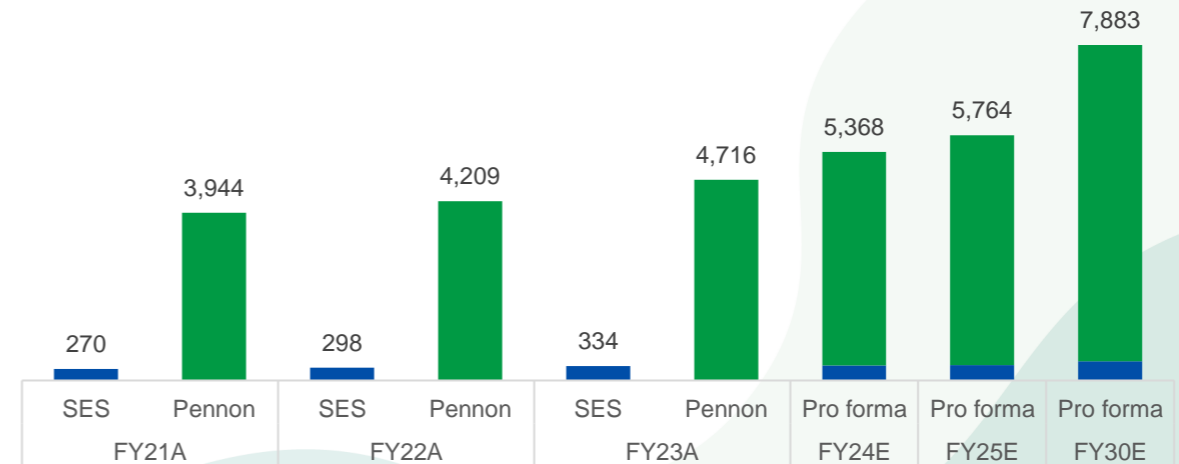
## Upside potential from improving SES Water returns

### Historic AMP7 Average Rolling RoRE Comparison between PNN<sup>(3)</sup> & SESW



## Attractive RCV growth profile

### Combined RCV<sup>(4)</sup> Progression, £m Nominal



# Equity placing and pro forma gearing

£m, March 2023	Net Debt	RCV	PF Net Debt / RCV
Pennon Group standalone pre transaction	2,965	4,716	<b>62.9%</b>
<b>Adjustments<sup>(1)</sup></b>			
SES Water (SOGWUK)	291 <sup>(1)</sup>	334	<b>87.3%</b>
Equity consideration	89	-	-
Net placing proceeds to reduce debt	(176)	-	-
<b>Pro Forma Combined Pennon Group<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>3,170</b>	<b>5,050</b>	<b>62.8%</b>

**Equity placing ensures gearing remains within target gearing range**

# Summary

- Attractive opportunity to acquire a high-quality, water-only UK asset
  - Complements Pennon's existing portfolio across southern England
  - Fits our execution and asset integration experience – proven acquisition and integration blueprint
- Will deliver an estimated c.7% increase in RCV on acquisition, bringing total expected RCV growth for Pennon to 71% over K7
- Increases water-only proportion of the Group
  - Prior to inclusion of SES Water's RCV – water c.54%, wastewater c.46%<sup>(1)</sup>
  - Post inclusion of SES Water's RCV – water c.57%, wastewater c.43%<sup>(1)</sup>
- Benefiting from an engaged and experienced high-calibre management team
- Synergies expected to reach £11m<sup>(2)</sup> p.a., resulting in value creation
- No material impact to Group gearing (post equity placing)
- Pennon's current sector-leading dividend policy will remain unchanged



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