

# PENNON GROUP PLC (the "Company")

# ENVIRONMENT SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (the "Committee") TERMS OF REFERENCE

## 1. COMPOSITION

## 1.1 Membership

- Members will be appointed by the Board, on the recommendation of the Nomination Committee, in accordance with the Company's articles of association.
- The Committee will comprise of at least three members.

## 1.2 Committee Chair

- Appointed by the Board.
- In the absence of the Committee Chair and/or an appointed deputy, the remaining members present shall elect one of themselves to chair the meeting.

## 1.3. Secretary

The Company Secretary or nominee shall act as the Secretary of the Committee.

## 2. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Committee shall:

- 2.1 In the context of the requirement for companies to conduct their business in a responsible manner (including performance against the Group sustainability strategy and in relation to environmental, social and governance (ESG) matters) and manage their non-financial risks, whilst at the same time delivering strong financial performance and lasting value for shareholders and other stakeholders, the duties of the Committee are to review the policies, management, initiatives and performance of Pennon Group plc, its major subsidiary companies and the Group as a whole, in the following areas:
  - Environment: Including: emissions to air, water and land; energy management; climate change and carbon management; waste, recycling and resource productivity; natural capital stewardship; biodiversity; and compliance with environmental regulation.
  - Workplace policies: Including skills and development; equality of treatment; employee engagement and satisfaction; and human rights.
  - Group governance and corporate policies relating to responsible and ethical business practice (except policies relating to whistleblowing, fraud, anti-bribery and the acceptance of gifts, hospitality and other benefits, which are considered by the Audit Committee).
  - Role of the Group in society: Including community engagement policies; community investment and benefits; education; volunteering; and partnerships.
  - Customer service and engagement: Including identifying and responding to customers' priorities for services and investment; customer satisfaction; and support for vulnerable customers.



- 2.2 The Committee has the duty to review the actions taken by the Company and each major subsidiary company to determine the suitability of the workplace, and environmental policies and practices of their respective key suppliers and contractors.
- 2.3 The Committee also has a duty to review and track the performance of the Company against net zero measures and targets.
- 2.4 The Committee shall keep under review the extent and effectiveness of the Company's external reporting of sustainability performance, and its participation in relevant external benchmarking indices.
- 2.5 The Committee shall keep under review and assess the Group's environmental performance, including ESG targets performance, external ESG assessment scores and progress with the Group's ESG improvement programme.
- 2.6 In assessing the Group's environmental performance, the Committee shall keep under review the Group's compliance and assurance activities.

## 3. REPORTING

#### 3.1 To the Board

- The Committee Chair shall report formally to the Board on the Committee's proceedings after each meeting on all matters within its duties and responsibilities.
- The Committee will advise the Audit Committee of any material non-financial risks identified and any business ethics issues identified which are relevant to the role of the Audit Committee.
- The Committee shall make whatever recommendations to the Board it deems appropriate on any area within its remit where action or improvement is needed.

## 3.2 Annual Report

 The Committee shall compile a report to shareholders on its activities to be included in the Company's Annual Report.

### 4. OTHER MATTERS

The Committee shall:

## 4.1 Evaluation

The Committee shall, at least once a year, review its own performance, constitution, and terms of reference to ensure it is operating at maximum effectiveness, and recommend any changes it considers necessary to the Board for approval.

# 4.2 Training

Be provided with appropriate and timely training, both in the form of an induction programme for new members and on an ongoing basis for all members.

## 4.3 Investigations

Oversee any investigation of activities which are within its terms of reference and act as a court of the last resort.



## 4.4 Best practice

Give due consideration to laws, regulations and any published guidelines or recommendations including but not limited to the provisions of the UK Corporate Governance Code, the requirements of the FCA Listing, Prospectus and Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules as well as guidelines published by relevant institutional investors and representative bodies, and any other applicable rules as appropriate.

## 4.5 Committees

Work and liaise as necessary with all other Board Committees.

## 4.6 **Projects**

Undertake any other projects relating to its remit which it considers appropriate or as requested by the Board.

## 4.7 **Authority**

The Committee is authorised by the Board to:

- seek any information it requires from any employee of the Company in order to perform its duties;
- obtain, at the Company's expense, any outside legal or other professional advice on any matter within its terms of reference;
- call any employee to be questioned at a meeting of the Committee as and when required; and
- gain unrestricted access to all books and records of the Company.

## 5. MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

## 5.1 Attendance

- Only members of the Committee have the right to attend meetings.
- Other individuals may be invited to attend from time to time, together with other executives
  responsible for the Company's sustainability strategy, in particular around the nine focus
  areas, including environmental, health and safety, community, HR, governance, supply
  chain, customers, resource efficiency and healthy places, and habitats, for all or part of
  any meeting, as and when appropriate.
- Any other member of the Board may attend all of part of a meeting with the prior approval of the Committee Chair.

# 5.2 **Meetings**

- 5.2.1 The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business shall be two members, provided at least one is an independent non-executive director. A duly convened meeting of the Committee at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all or any of the authorities, powers and discretions vested in or exercisable by the Committee.
- 5.2.2 The Committee shall meet at least four times a year in person or by telephone or video conference and at such other times as the Chair of the Committee shall require.
- 5.2.3 Meetings of the Committee shall be called by the Secretary of the Committee at the request



of the Chair of the Committee.

- 5.2.4 Unless otherwise agreed, notice of each meeting confirming the venue, time and date, together with an agenda of items to be discussed, shall be forwarded to each member of the Committee, any other person required to attend and all other non executive directors, no later than five working days before the date of the meeting unless agreed otherwise in advance. Supporting papers shall be sent to Committee members and to other attendees as appropriate, at the same time and in a timely manner to enable full and proper consideration to be given to the issues.
- 5.2.5 The Secretary will minute the proceedings of each meeting, which shall be circulated promptly to all members of the Committee and, once agreed, to all other members of the Board, unless it would be inappropriate to do so.
- 5.2.6 Conflicts of interest must be declared by members at the beginning of meetings and the Secretary shall record any such declaration in the minutes. If a matter that is considered by the Committee is one where a Committee member, either directly or indirectly, has a conflict of interest, that member shall not be permitted to vote at the meeting.

## 5.3 Resolutions and approvals

- 5.3.1 Committee resolutions shall be passed by the absolute majority of votes cast. In the event of equality of votes, the Committee Chair shall have the casting vote (except where he/she is not permitted to vote).
- 5.3.2 Approvals may be taken in written form (including email), or via telephone or video conference.
- 5.3.3 Approvals by email must be included in the minutes of the next meeting of the Committee.
- 5.3.4 The Committee has the delegated authority of the Board in respect of the functions and powers set out in these terms of reference. The Committee may sub-delegate any or all of its powers as it thinks fit to the Committee Chair or, if it considers it to be appropriate, to the Company Secretary.

# 5.4 Annual General Meeting

The Committee Chair shall attend the Annual General Meeting prepared to respond to any shareholder questions on the Committee's activities. In addition, the Committee Chair should seek engagement with shareholders on significant matters related to the Committee's area of responsibility.

These terms of reference were approved by the Board of Pennon Group plc on 16th November 2023