



Pennon's UK Plastics Programme

Pennon brings resources to life, providing essential recycling, waste management and water and waste water services for the UK.



We are one of the UK's leading recyclers of plastics. Every year we transform more than 1.5 billion bottles and packaging items, totalling 110,000 tonnes, of post-consumer packaging from households and businesses into high-grade recycled polymer products. We deploy innovative recycling technologies and services, and we want to do more.

We're also a progressive and responsible drinking water and waste water company. The efficiency of our services is improved when we stop plastics from getting into the water system. We and our customers want clean beaches and bathing waters and less plastics pollution.

Pennon is uniquely placed to help consumers, manufacturers and communities to find innovative, long-term solutions that tackle the challenge of plastics waste. This has clear benefits for our business and for the UK's economy and environment.

That's why we've committed to a UK plastics stewardship programme to harness the collaborative strength of our employees, customers, suppliers and partners. We're determined to deliver better resource productivity for all types of plastics that we collect or process at our facilities, and to maximise the control, reduction and utilisation of material that we can indirectly have influence over.

Our programme is part of our sustainability strategy, and it contributes to the UN Sustainable Development Goal 12 – striving for more responsible consumption and production. We also want to help to deliver, and to accelerate, the targets set out by the UK Government's 25 Year Environment Plan, its Resources and Waste Strategy and the UK Plastics Pact (of which we're a founder member).

Our UK Plastics Commitments

Pennon will:

Further develop innovative infrastructure.

We will continue our infrastructure investment programmes, ensuring further innovation and improvement in Viridor's polymer recycling services and facilities, and in South West Water's treatment plants and its Upstream and Downstream Thinking programmes.

Commission, support and enable targeted research and development into plastics and polymers, including micro-plastics, to add value to our business and to enable best practice and improved recyclability and resource efficiency.

Collaborate with our clients, partners and suppliers to identify new and better ways of capturing, harnessing and recycling more plastics for the benefit of the UK economy, and reducing the single-use of plastics, for example by expanding the 'Refill South West' scheme.

Enable and deliver dynamic campaigning and projects to positively change behaviours to reduce the amount and impact of plastic waste and to increase recycling. This includes our award-winning 'Right Stuff, Right Bin' and 'Love Your Loo' initiatives.

Engage and inspire our employees and business partners to reduce, recycle and replace more plastics used in our own offices and operations, and to help clean-up our beaches, rivers and local environments.

We'll review our leadership programme performance against these commitments annually, via our Sustainability Committee, and report our progress clearly.

For more information on Pennon's UK Plastics Programme

Contact sustainability@pennon-group.co.uk