Reporting on what matters

Listening to our stakeholders and understanding what matters to them is a fundamental part of our strategic decision making. We use a materiality matrix to consider what matters most to stakeholders alongside our own assessment of what has the biggest impact on our ability to create value. This stakeholder materiality assessment informs decisions about what we report in documents such as our Annual Integrated Report and Accounts.

In defining the strategic relevance of a matter to NI Water, we have adopted the integrated reporting framework definition of materiality, which states: "A matter is material if it could substantively affect the organisation's ability to create value in the short, medium or long-term". Value, in this context, may be created internally (for the Company and our employees) or externally (for our Shareholder, customers, communities, suppliers, the local economy and the natural environment). Value can be financial or non-financial. Our assessment of the level of interest to stakeholders is based on our ongoing engagement with stakeholders, as well as the extensive insights gathered from engagement with stakeholders on our Strategy and PC21 Business Plan. Read more on stakeholder engagement and decision making on page 123. We have aligned these issues with our principal threats and opportunities on page 76.



Effect on our ability to create value

Based on the potential effect on our ability to create value over the short, medium and long-term. Value can be created for NI Water and or our stakeholders. Value can be financial or non-financial.

External matters

- 1. Funding and governance
- 2. Climate emergency
- 3. Cyber security
- 4. Local economy and
- development constraints
- 5. Natural resources
- 6. Land management and access
- 7. Energy cost shocks and wider supply chain inflation

Internal matters

- 8. Resilience
- 9. Risk management
- 10. Corporate governance and business conduct
- 11. Innovation
- 12. Data security
- 13. Energy use
- 14. Responsible supply chain
- 15. Health, safety and
- wellbeing
- 16. Employee relations

Internal and external matters

- 17. Trust, transparency and legitimacy
- 18. Customer experience
- 19. Drinking water quality
- 20. Leakage and water efficiency
- 21. Supply interruptions and low pressure
- 22. Affordability
- 23. Sewer flooding
- 24. Impacts on natural environment
- 25. Diverse, inclusive and talented workforce
- 26. Creating a legacy for our communities