

Community Investment Assurance Statement – Pearson

Pearson is an active member of LBG; the global standard for measuring corporate community investment. LBG's measurement model helps businesses to improve the management, measurement and reporting of their community investment programmes and activities. It moves beyond charitable donations to include the full range of contributions (in time, in kind and in cash) made to community causes, and assesses the actual results for the community and for the business. (See www.lbg-online.net for more information)

As managers of the Group, we have worked with Pearson to ensure that it understands the LBG model and that the reported community investment programmes are in line with the LBG principles of measurement. Having conducted an assessment, we are satisfied that this has been achieved during the year to 31st December 2017. Our work has not extended to an independent audit of the data.

Commentary

The data reviewed continues to reflect Pearson's approach to community investment and the delivery of social impact, whereby through a programme of 'social innovation' it is working to bring greater alignment between community needs and its own products and services. We are satisfied that Pearson has only included in its reporting those contributions that focus on delivering a direct community benefit.

This assignment focussed on the 'input' number; the resources committed by Pearson to the community. However, we are encouraged that Pearson is also systematically tracking and reporting the results (the outputs and impacts) of its major initiatives so that it can understand the change it generates for beneficiaries as well as identify opportunities for improvement.