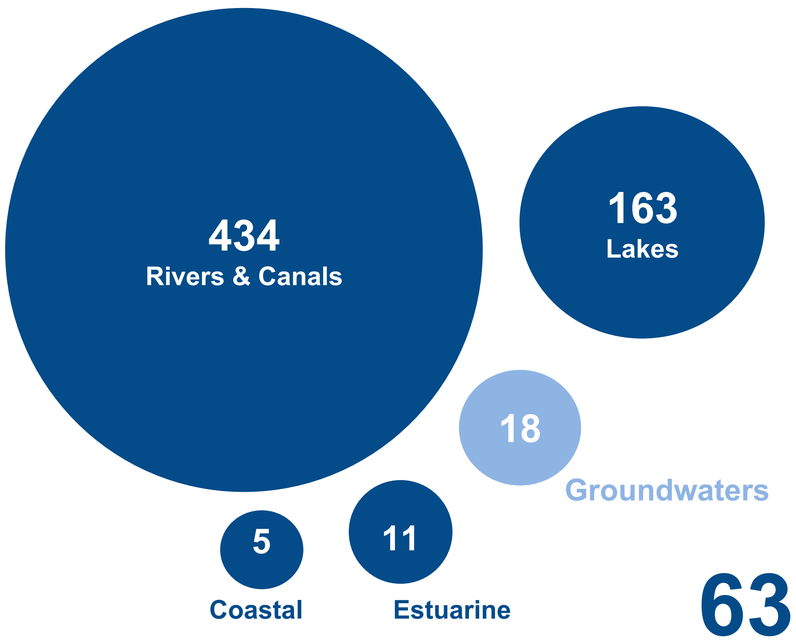
WATER ENVIRONMENT in the NORTH WEST RIVER BASIN DISTRICT

Environment Agency

Water bodies and current status



631
Total number of water bodies

22% of surface water bodies are at good or better ecological status

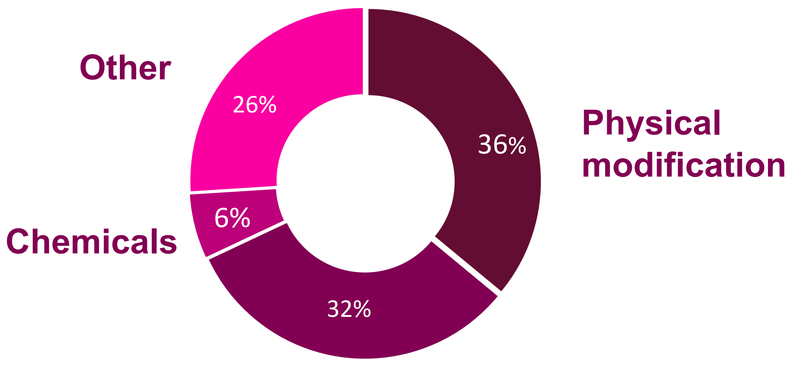
79% of the elements that define surface water ecological status are at good or better now

39% of groundwater bodies are at good chemical status now

89% of groundwater bodies are at good quantitative status now

Reasons for not achieving good status

Top 3 pressures
preventing waters reaching good status



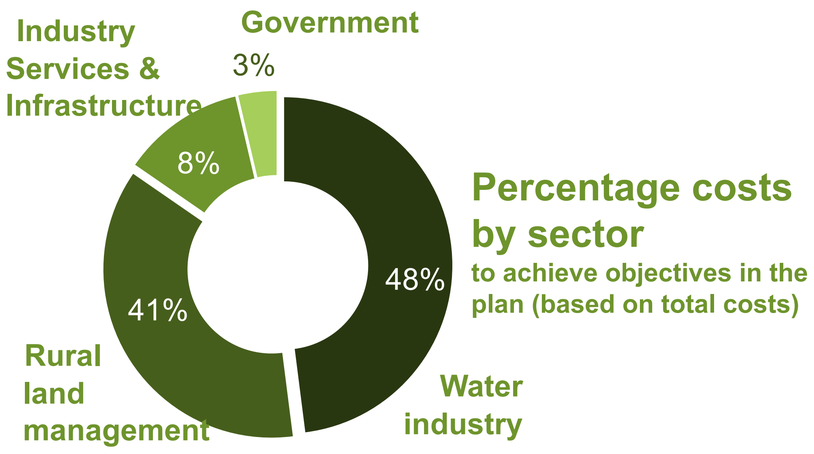
Top 3 sectors contributing to waters not reaching good status

33% Water industry

19% Urban and transport

18% Agriculture and rural land management

Costs and benefits of meeting the objectives in the current plan



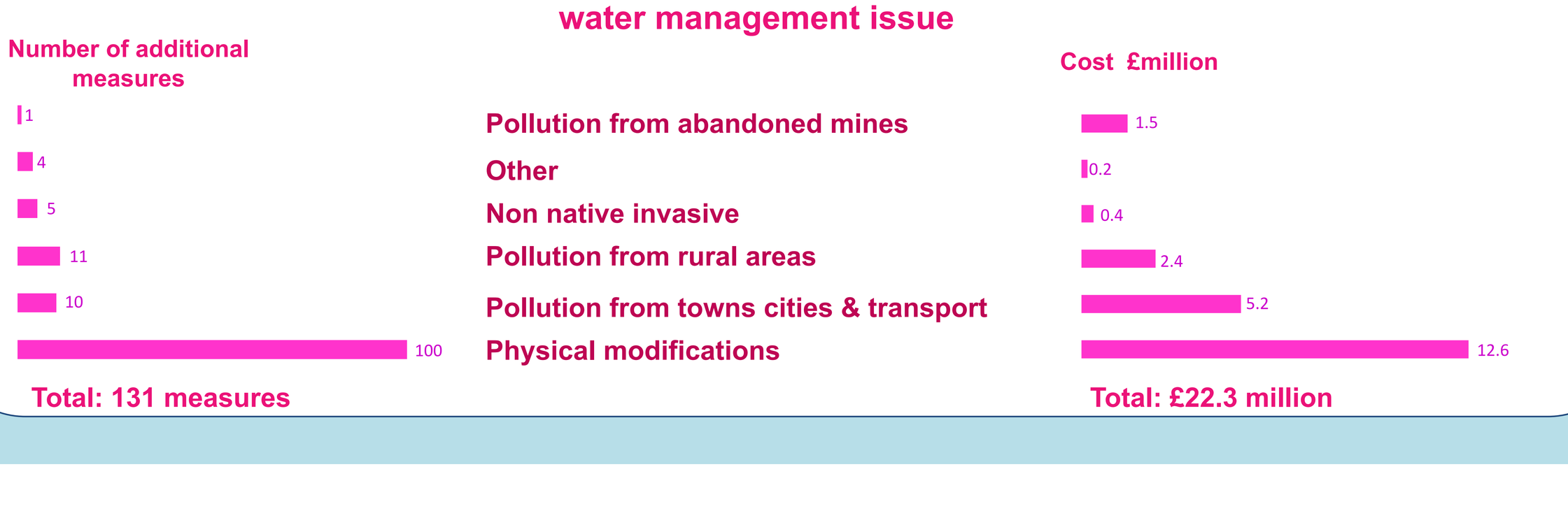
Percentage costs by sector
to achieve objectives in the plan (based on total costs)

£2.47bn
(present value) costs of measures to achieve objectives

£3.60bn
(present value) benefits through adopting the current plan

1.46
the benefit cost ratio through adopting the current plan

Additional measures since the 2009 plans implemented between 2010 and 2015 by significant water management issue



Footnotes

Note: All percentages have been rounded up or down to the nearest whole number

Data	Date, Source, Notes & Glossary
Water bodies	**Date**: December 2015 |**Source** : Update to the North West RBD river basin management plan. National Evidence and Data Report **Glossary**: Water body: A manageable unit of surface water being the whole (or part) of a stream, river or canal, lake or reservoir, transitional water (estuary) or stretch of coastal water. A 'body of groundwater' is a distinct volume of groundwater within an aquifer or aquifers.
Classification/current status	**Date**: December 2015 | **Source**: Update to the North West RBD river basin management plan. National Evidence and Data Report **Glossary**: **Classification/current status**: Categorising the health of our waters based on how close they are to their natural state. **Good Ecological Status**: A standard achieved if wildlife, water quality and habitat are all considered to be good. It is very similar to good overall status but does not screen out waters which fail the priority substances tests. **Groundwater classification**: Calculated differently to surface water. There are only two classes, good and poor, based on chemical and quantitative status using a series of tests.
Reasons for not achieving good status (RNAGS)	**Date**: 14 August 2015 | **Source**: RNAG database taken from the snapshot from Environment Agency Catchment Planning System **Notes**: North West counts of numbers of reasons for not achieving good status and not numbers of water bodies. **Glossary**: **Reasons for not achieving good status**: Where an element is at less than good status we need to see if action can be taken to improve the status to good. In order to identify appropriate actions we need to understand the cause of the failure. The cause is recorded using a defined set of reasons for failure [note: for biological failures the pressure(s) causing the failure must also be identified] and, where applicable, source apportionment.
Costs and benefits of meeting the objectives in the 2015 river basin management plan	**Date**: 15 October 2015 |**Source**: Impact assessment for the updated river basin management plans(2015):evidence base **Notes**: The results presented in the impact assessment are estimated costs and benefits, not absolute figures. Rounding is applied to the results (for example, total sector level results have been rounded up/down to the nearest £10 millions and overall totals to the nearest £100 million). This is appropriate for the purposes of an impact assessment . **Glossary**: **River Basin Management Plans**: For each River Basin District, the Water Framework Directive requires a River Basin Management Plan to be published. These are plans that set out the environmental objectives for all the water bodies within the River Basin District and how they will be achieved. The plans are based upon a detailed analysis of the pressures on the water bodies and an assessment of their impacts. The plans must be reviewed and updated every six years. **37 years appraisal period**: All costs estimated over 37 years. This timescale covers the 12 years of the next two cycles of river basin management, running from 2015 to 2027, plus an average asset life of 25 years. The 25 years reflect the assumption that an asset implemented late in the third planning cycle is still fully taken into account in the impact assessment. By forecasting costs and benefits over the same time period it allows a direct comparison between options. **Present value (PV) explanation**: Total costs and benefits that have been discounted are known as present value (PV) costs and benefits. People tend to value future costs and benefits differently to those occurring in the present. A technique known as 'discounting' is a way of taking this into account and expresses what a future impact is worth now. The net present value (NPV) is the PV benefits minus the PV costs.
Additional measures	**Date**: December 2015 | **Source**: Update to the NW RBD river basin management plan. National Evidence and Data Report. **Glossary**: **Significant Water Management Issues (SWMI)**: The main issues that limit the uses and potential benefits of managing the water environment in the river basin district in a sustainable way. They have been identified based on the results of public consultation and assessments of the pressures caused by people now , in the past, and predicted in the future.