





### Outcomes

The project outputs include a summary report and user guide to help the reader through the wealth of data and information assembled during the project. The study brings together a large range of GIS information along with tables of the main issues within the catchment. Potential projects suggested by the Irwell Catchment Partnership, WFD mitigation measures identified by the Environment Agency, and opportunities recorded during a number of catchment walkover surveys, have been scored and ranked according to their potential contribution to WFD objectives.

### Learning

The opportunities to improve the catchment are summarised in a series of water body output maps for each of the streams and rivers that make up the catchment.

The maps summarise the issues in each water body and highlights opportunities based on:

- Tackling the issues themselves
- The list of EA Mitigation Measures Actions (MMA) for that water body
- The Irwell Catchment Partnership projects portfolio
- Comments provided during the stakeholder workshop in February 2017

Proposed works, by the water company United Utilities, during the current investment period in each water body are also given. In order to help the catchment partnership prioritise action, the Evidence & Measures study assigns one of the following categories to each water body:

- Partnership Priority: where there are no water company issues to address and therefore where there are real opportunities for the catchment partnership to play a central role in addressing the issues in that water body.
- Mixed Priority: where further investigation is required into the issues or where there are planned water company issues which could contribute to the solution.
- Water Company Priority: where water company issues dominate the water body.

### Next Steps

The Evidence & Measures study provides a resource to the Irwell catchment partnership and will support the production of the catchment management plan. It has a clear focus on water quality issues and achieving WFD objectives. The outputs of the study will be used alongside other resources produced through Natural Course, such as the Natural Flood Risk Management modelling by The Rivers Trust and a Green Infrastructure for Water study by City of Trees, to identify projects that can provide a multiple benefits for the water environment.

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