

Policy priority survey March 2021

Summary report

As a trusted and authoritative voice, the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) aims to ensure that chemistry has a recognised and influential role in science and society. One of our aims is to influence decision makers in areas that impact the chemical science decision-makers, for example Government and Parliamentarians, on **decisions related to the chemical sciences**. In March 2021, we sent out a survey seeking views from our members on what their priorities were within three of our existing work areas **research and innovation policy, UK and Global chemicals policy, and health challenges**.

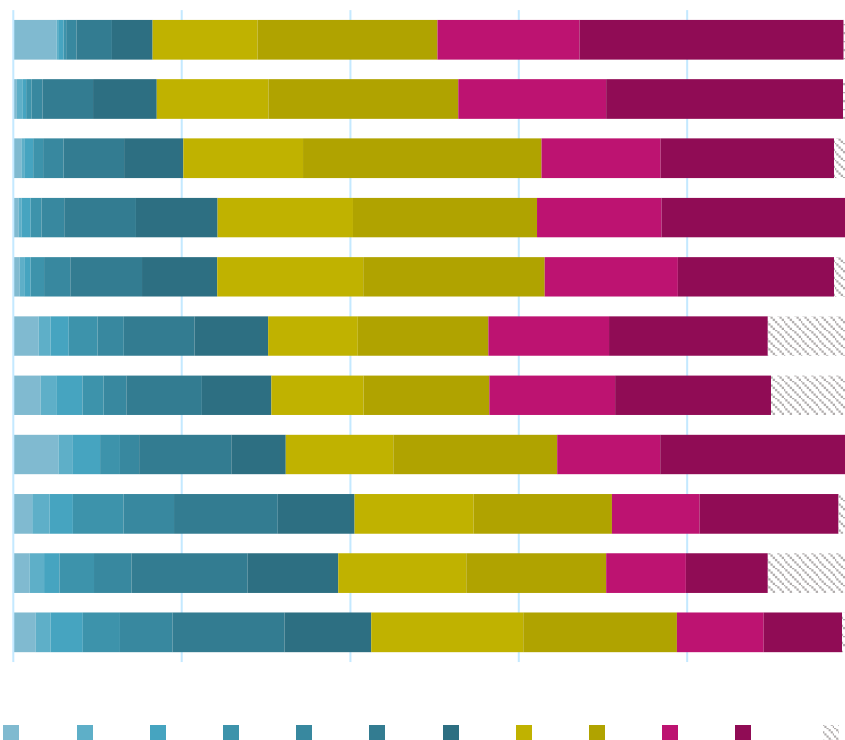


Figure 1 Score distribution for the importance of different areas of research and innovation policy to the chemistry community. In order of decreasing overall weighted score¹ per respondent (top = highest score). (924-936 respondents).

All the areas of research and innovation policy received a score of 6 or more from the majority of respondents, indicating that all the issues identified are important to the chemistry community. Levels of investment in research and innovation consistently emerged as the top community priority with minor variations between different groups of respondents. Science culture was identified as important across the respondent population but is a lower priority for mid- and established career respondents than students and early career respondents.

¹ Overall weighted score per respondent calculated as follows: (SUM[score * n respondents giving score]) / Total N respondents giving a score. Overall weighted scores for all issues can be found in the accompanying slides.

UK chemicals strategy

-wide chemicals strategy [we have identified four themes: education, innovation, circular economy and regulation](#). To find out which issues within these themes were most important to members, respondents were

Health challenges

We asked members how much or little impact they thought the chemical sciences could have in addressing a range of health challenges. Challenges were scored from 0 to 10 with 0 being no impact

Next steps

We will use the survey results, alongside an assessment of the policy environment and stakeholder , ensuring they support the . The relevant RSC Governance bodies will consider them in autumn 2021 and we will update members later this year.

More information on our policy work in these and other areas can be found on [our corporate website](#),
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