

# Science Policy Priorities (2022 – 2027)

The following priorities define the areas of focus for the science policy work of the Royal Society of Biology (RSB). The priorities have been agreed by the [Education and Science Policy \(ESP\) Committee](#) and [Council](#), to be taken forward by the [RSB Science Policy Team](#). The priorities link to the Society-wide strategic objectives, currently listed in the [RSB's Strategic Plan \(2025 – 2030\)](#). This, together with the [RSB's vision and mission statements](#), describe the RSB's intended impact.

## Purpose and context of the priorities

These priorities provide a framework for the RSB's science policy work. We aim to spearhead the focus of the biosciences sector: assisting society in tackling major challenges and utilising opportunities in ways that are ethical and sustainable. Key, dynamic societal needs have become even more apparent through the COVID-19 pandemic, and ongoing effects of climate change, biodiversity loss and chemicals pollution, alongside a raised public profile for the biosciences and scientists themselves, emerging new technologies, and the ever-shifting global political landscape – affecting things like food security and the cost of living. These priorities have been developed on the basis of our past iteration, through horizon scanning research, recommendations from our community and continued measurement of our science policy [impact](#).

## **RSB Science Policy Priorities 2022 – 2027**

We focus our efforts to create impact in the following areas:

- **Knowledge exchange, information sharing and building trust in the biosciences:** Enabling dialogue between bioscientists, policymakers and the public. Providing evidence synthesis.
- **Ethical biological innovation:** Providing evidence-based advice to policy on the technological and ethical implications of the use of animals, and of the use of genetic knowledge, in research.
- **Biological security:** Advocating for One Health evidence and principles in policymaking, including plant health. Advancing training and standards in biosecurity.
- **Nature and climate:** Raising the profile of biodiversity loss, and chemicals and waste pollution, in policymaking. Providing evidence to policy on the connectedness of global challenges, including climate change.
- **Research culture:** Supporting and empowering underrepresented communities in the biosciences. Advising ethics and integrity standards in research practice.
- **Research landscape:** Providing evidence to policy on development of the bioscience workforce; research, development and innovation infrastructure; research funding; and research communication. Advising reproducibility and open access standards in research practice.