Knowledge Exchange Concordat

Analysis of Priority Actions

JULY 2022

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Introduction

The Knowledge Exchange Concordat (KE Concordat) is a sector-led initiative to recognise, develop and improve the diverse ways in which higher education (HE) providers engage in knowledge exchange (KE). The KE Concordat's eight principles are used by HE providers to self-evaluate and drive growth in KE. For more details on the KE Concordat and its principles, please see http://www.keconcordat.ac.uk .

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Introduction

In 2021, 112 HE providers participated in a development year exercise, using the KE Concordat to track their progress on KE and set priorities for improvement. This process required HE providers to evaluate their KE journey against the eight principles of the KE Concordat and to identify a plan for progressing on each principle in the context of their strategic objectives for KE. As a result, HE providers produced detailed action plans, which included a tailored set of 'priority actions' – key goals for improvement and further advancement of KE – and the means through which these will be implemented. HE providers have also set out clear timescales for each priority action and have committed to achieving these goals within these timeframes.

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Introduction

The present document presents the key findings from a review of the priority actions which 112 HE providers have set for themselves as a result of this development year exercise. Its aim is to visualise some common patterns emerging from these priority actions with respect to their aims, pathways for implementation and timescales. The analysis also visualises priority actions according to different types of HE provider, using KEF Cluster (HE providers in England only – please see https://kef.ac.uk/about) or devolved nation (UK HE providers outside England) labels to group similar HE providers together.

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Approach

Action plans:

- 112 action plans were submitted by 112 HE providers and subsequently evaluated during the development year of the Knowledge Exchange Concordat.
- Within these plans, HE providers have proposed 560 separate priority actions in total.
- Priority actions were aligned with at least one of the eight principles of the Knowledge Exchange Concordat.

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Approach

- Through further analysis, each priority action was attributed one core theme, which is defined as the overarching subject of the goals set out in a given priority action. 10 themes were identified across the 560 priority actions.
- In addition, further analysis identified a set of activities within each priority action. This refers to the way in which HE providers are planning to achieve the goals proposed under a given priority action. In total, 14 types of activity were identified. At least one type of activity was attributed to each priority action –multiple activities were attributed if more than one activity was mentioned by the HE provider.

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

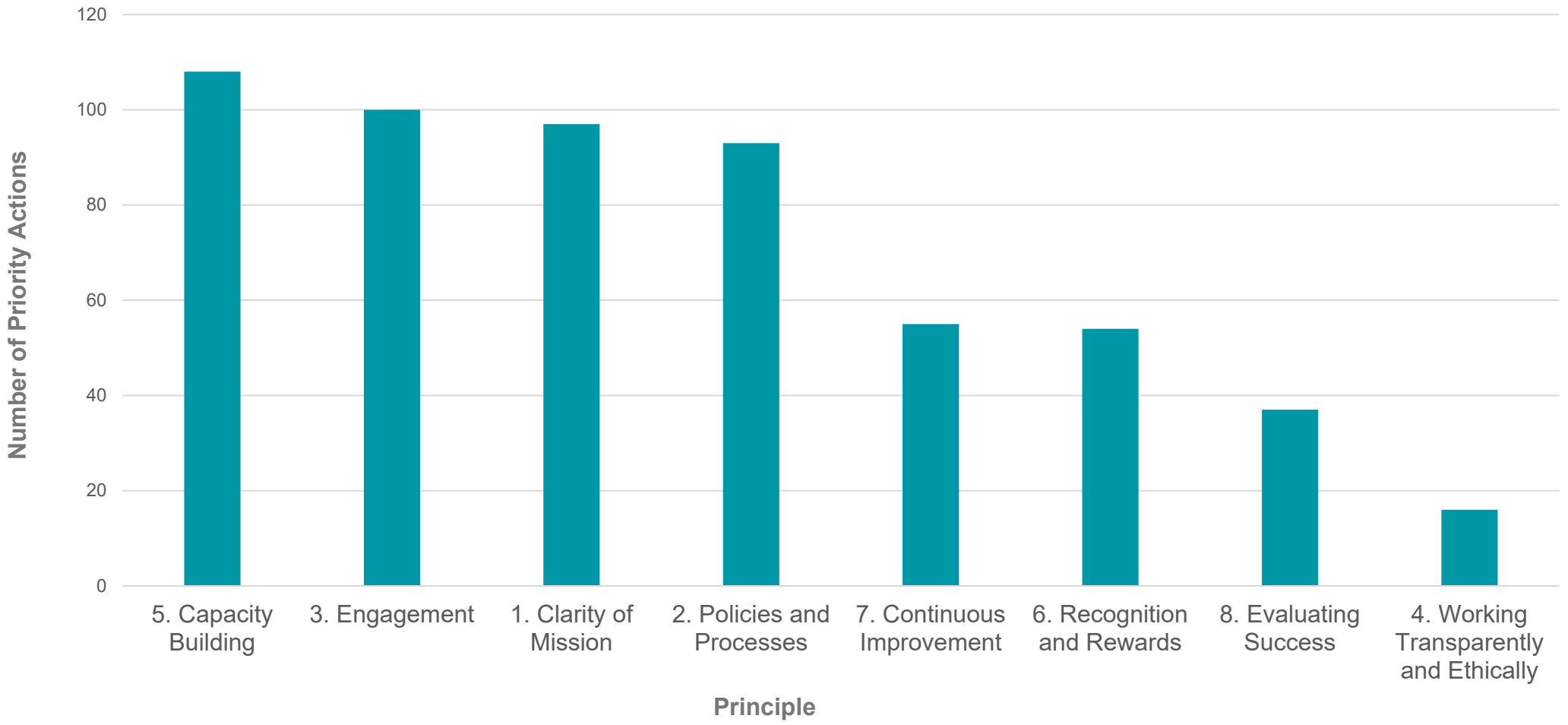
Approach

As part of this analysis, HE providers have been grouped according to either the Knowledge Exchange Framework (KEF) Clusters (HE providers in England only) or devolved nation (UK HE providers located outside England). For more information on KEF and the associated clusters, please see https://kef.ac.uk/about .

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Priority Actions

Priority Actions per Principle of the Knowledge Exchange Concordat



KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Principles per KEF Cluster / Devolved Nation

KEF Cluster* / Devolved Nation	Principles of the Knowledge Exchange Concordat								Total Counts
	1. Clarity of Mission	2. Policies and Processes	3. Engagement	4. Working Transparently and Ethically	5. Capacity Building	6. Recognition and Rewards	7. Continuous Improvement	8. Evaluating Success	
E	26	22	24	3	26	15	20	9	**145**
J	12	11	14	0	18	7	5	3	**70**
M	11	14	11	4	17	1	6	6	**70**
V	15	12	15	2	12	11	5	3	**75**
X	15	13	20	1	18	10	10	8	**95**
Arts Specialist	6	7	7	3	8	2	2	5	**40**
STEM Specialist	7	9	6	2	7	7	5	2	**45**
Northern Ireland	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	**5**
Scotland	3	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	**15**
Total Counts	**97**	**93**	**100**	**16**	**108**	**54**	**55**	**37**	**560**

* *Note:* KEF Clusters (E, J, M, V, X, Arts Specialist and STEM Specialist) apply to HE providers in England only. HE providers located outside England have been grouped by devolved nation. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Principles per KEF Cluster / Devolved Nation

KEF Cluster* / Devolved Nation	Most Commonly Referenced Principle(s)
E	Clarity of Mission Capacity Building
J	Capacity Building
M	Capacity Building
V	Clarity of Mission Engagement
X	Engagement
Arts Specialist	Capacity Building
STEM Specialist	Policies and Processes
Northern Ireland	Clarity of Mission
Scotland	Policies and Processes

Principle	Count
Clarity of Mission	3
Policies and Processes	2
Engagement	2
Working Transparently and Ethically	0
Capacity Building	4
Recognition and Rewards	0
Continuous Improvement	0
Evaluating Success	0

* *Note:* KEF Clusters (E, J, M, V, X, Arts Specialist and STEM Specialist) apply to HE providers in England only. HE providers located outside England have been grouped by devolved nation. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

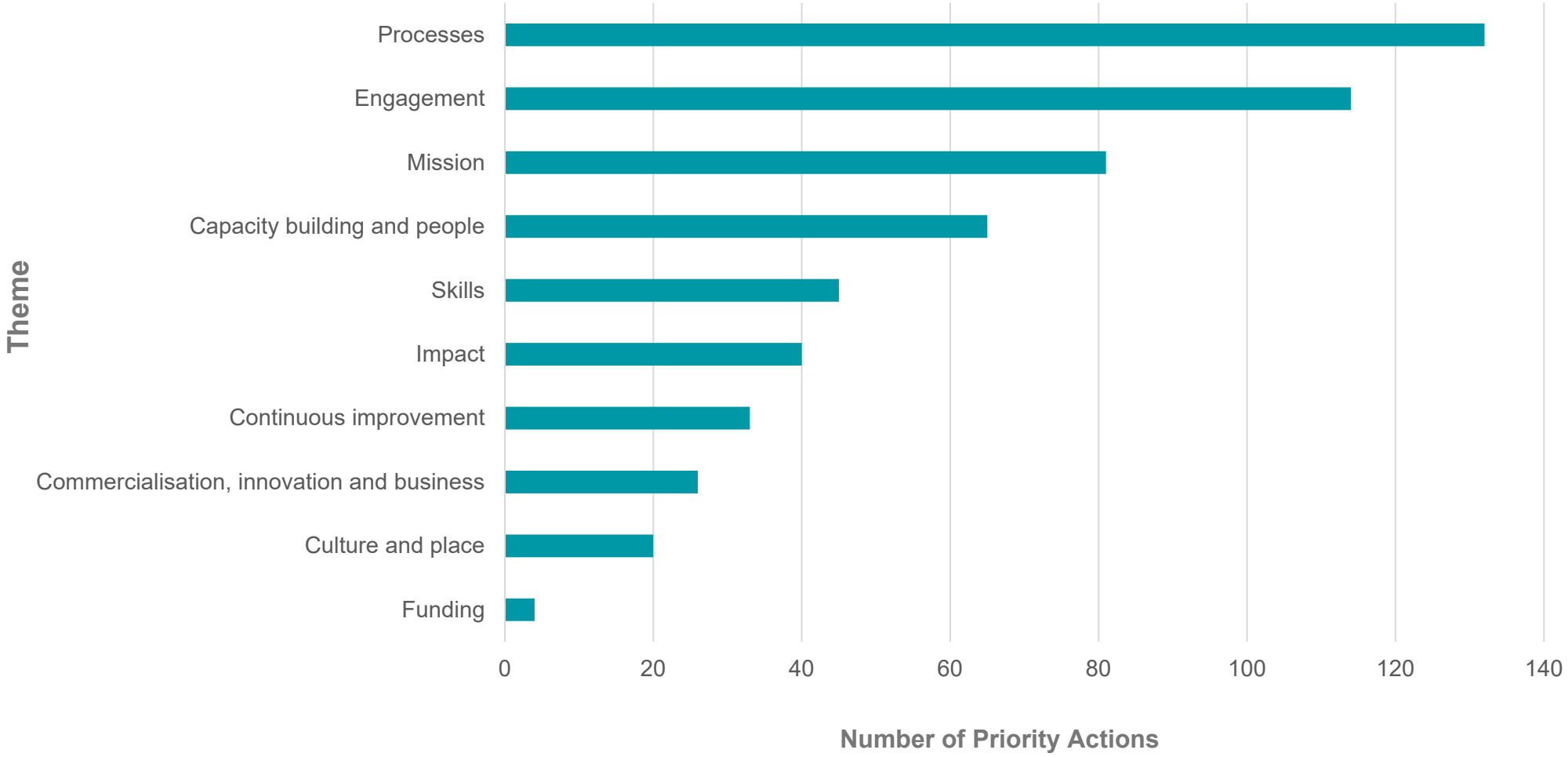
Themes

	Themes									
	Commercialisation, innovation and business	**Impact**	**Culture and place**	**Engagement**	**Processes**	**Funding**	**Mission**	**Capacity building and people**	**Continuous improvement**	**Skills**
Sub-themes	Commercialisation	Impact	Transparency	Partnerships	Policies and processes	Funding	Clarity of mission	Capacity building	Continuous improvement	Student KE
	Intellectual property	Evaluation	Inclusion	Engagement	Reporting			KE community		Employability
	SMEs		Civic university		Rewards					Training and development
	Enterprise									

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Themes

Frequency of Themes Identified in the Priority Actions



KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

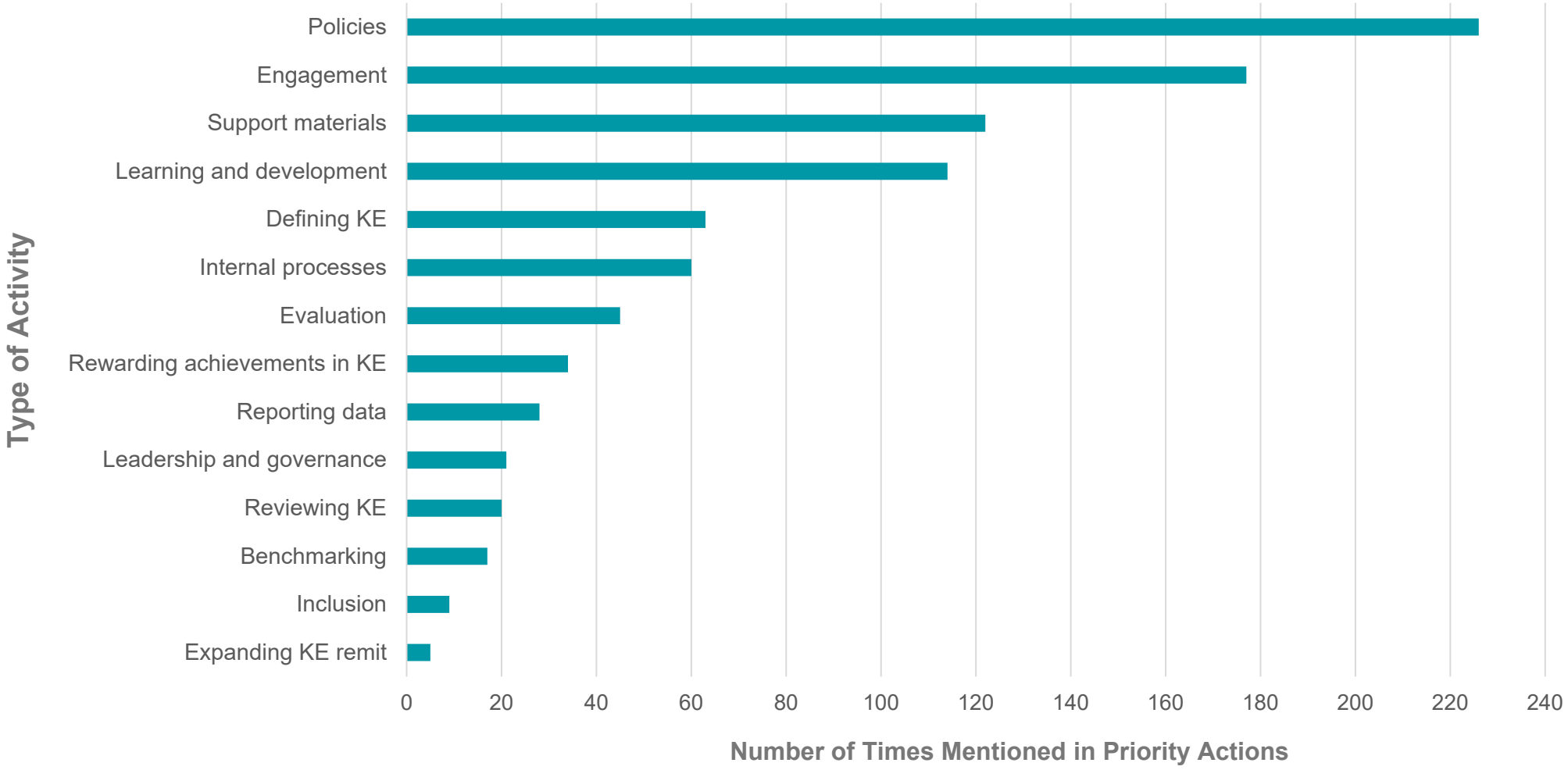
Themes by Principle

Theme	Principles of the Knowledge Exchange Concordat							
	1. Clarity of Mission	2. Policies and Processes	3. Engagement	4. Working Transparently and Ethically	5. Capacity Building	6. Recognition and Rewards	7. Continuous Improvement	8. Evaluating Success
Commercialisation, innovation and business	2	13	4	0	5	2	0	0
Impact	2	0	0	0	1	2	7	28
Culture and place	5	2	0	10	2	0	1	0
Engagement	5	10	87	2	5	0	3	2
Processes	3	67	5	3	2	44	3	5
Funding	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0
Mission	77	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
Capacity building and people	1	1	1	0	54	3	4	1
Continuous improvement	0	0	0	0	1	0	32	0
Skills	2	0	2	1	25	2	3	0

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Activities

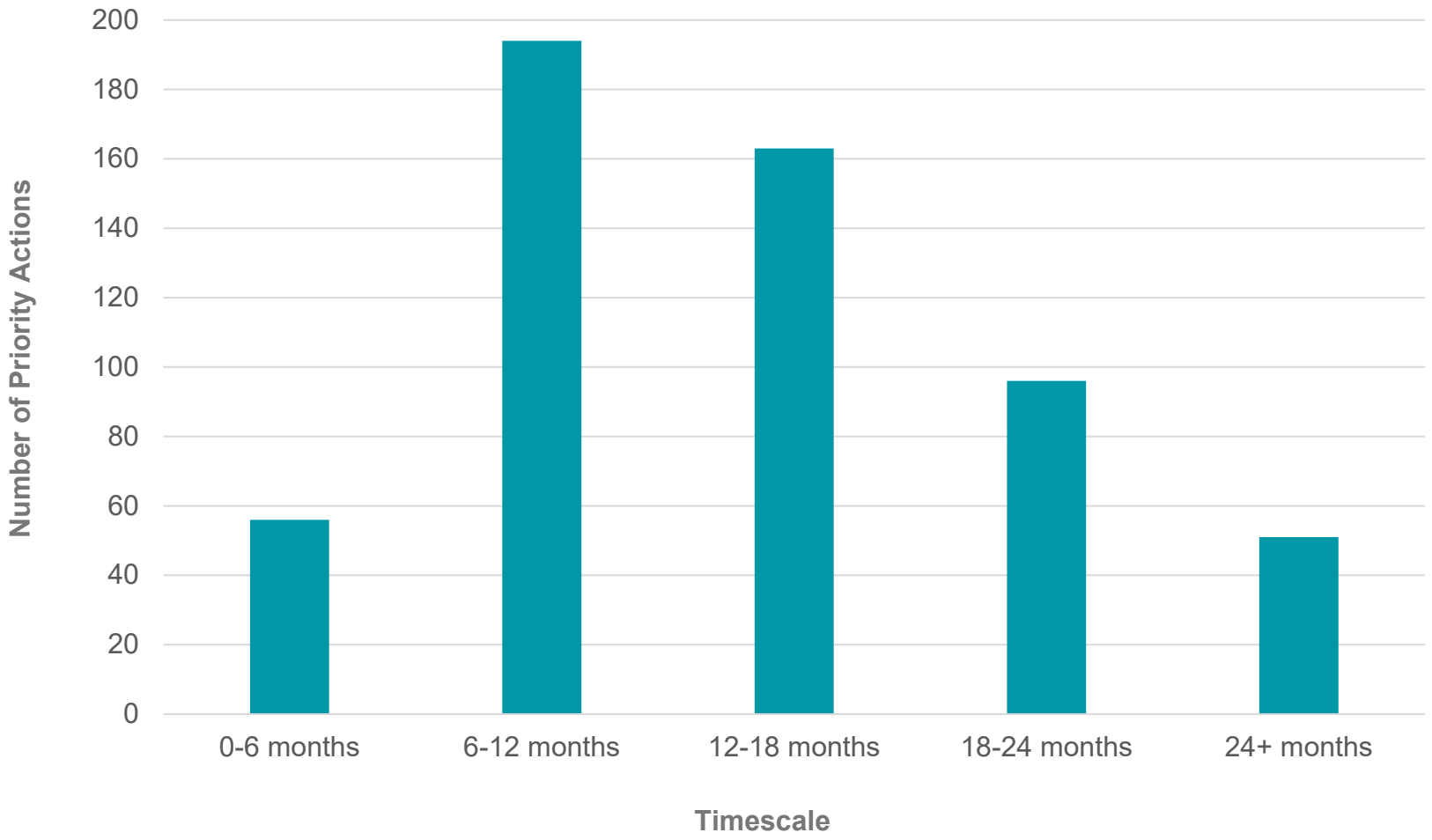
Frequency of Activities Identified in the Priority Actions



KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Timescales

Frequency of Timescales for Priority Actions



KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Timescales per KEF Cluster / Devolved Nation

KEF Cluster* / Devolved Nation	0-6 months	6-12 months	12-18 months	18-24 months	24+ months
E	8	57	41	25	14
J	6	32	15	11	6
M	10	30	13	12	5
V	8	19	29	21	7
X	10	28	29	21	7
Arts Specialist	8	8	11	9	4
STEM Specialist	5	16	13	9	2
Northern Ireland	0	0	3	2	0
Scotland	1	4	9	0	1
Total Counts	**56**	**194**	**163**	**96**	**51**

* *Note:* KEF Clusters (E, J, M, V, X, Arts Specialist and STEM Specialist) apply to HE providers in England only. HE providers located outside England have been grouped by devolved nation. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Timescales per KEF Cluster / Devolved Nation

KEF Cluster* / Devolved Nation	Most Commonly Used Timescales
E	6-12 months
J	6-12 months
M	6-12 months
V	12-18 months
X	12-18 months
Arts Specialist	12-18 months
STEM Specialist	6-12 months
Northern Ireland	12-18 months
Scotland	12-18 months

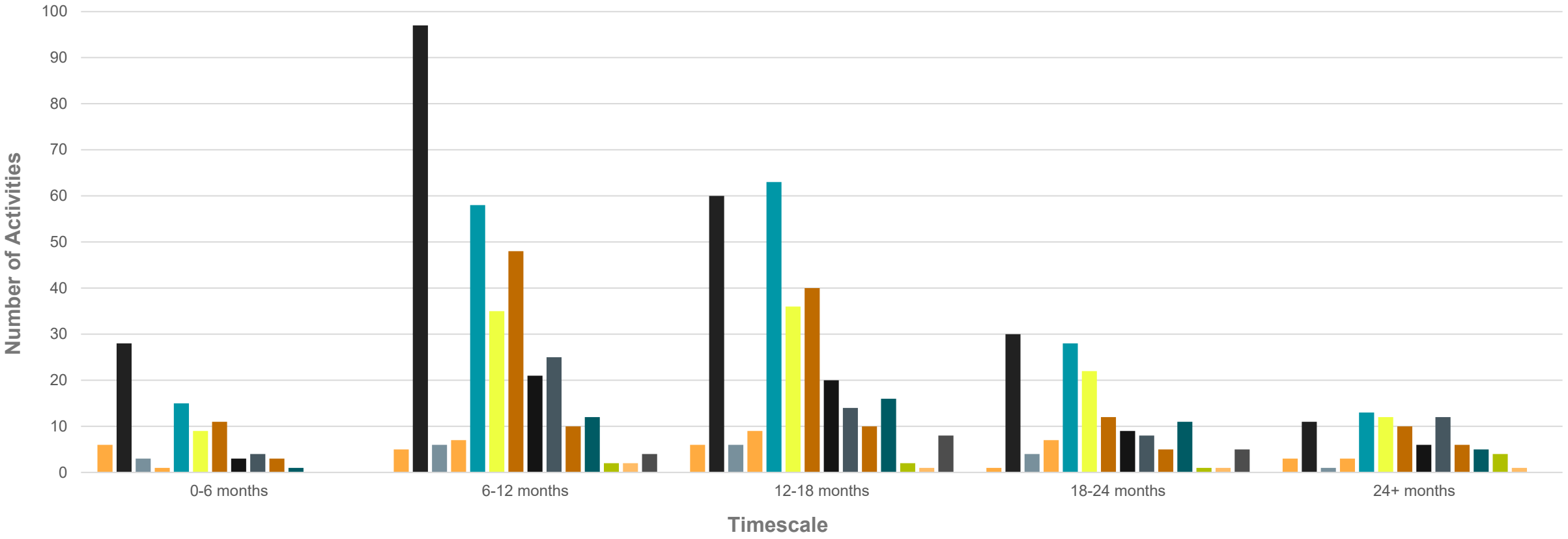
Timescales	Count
0-6 months	0
6-12 months	4
12-18 months	5
18-24 months	0
24+ months	0

* *Note:* KEF Clusters (E, J, M, V, X, Arts Specialist and STEM Specialist) apply to HE providers in England only. HE providers located outside England have been grouped by devolved nation. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Activities by Timescale

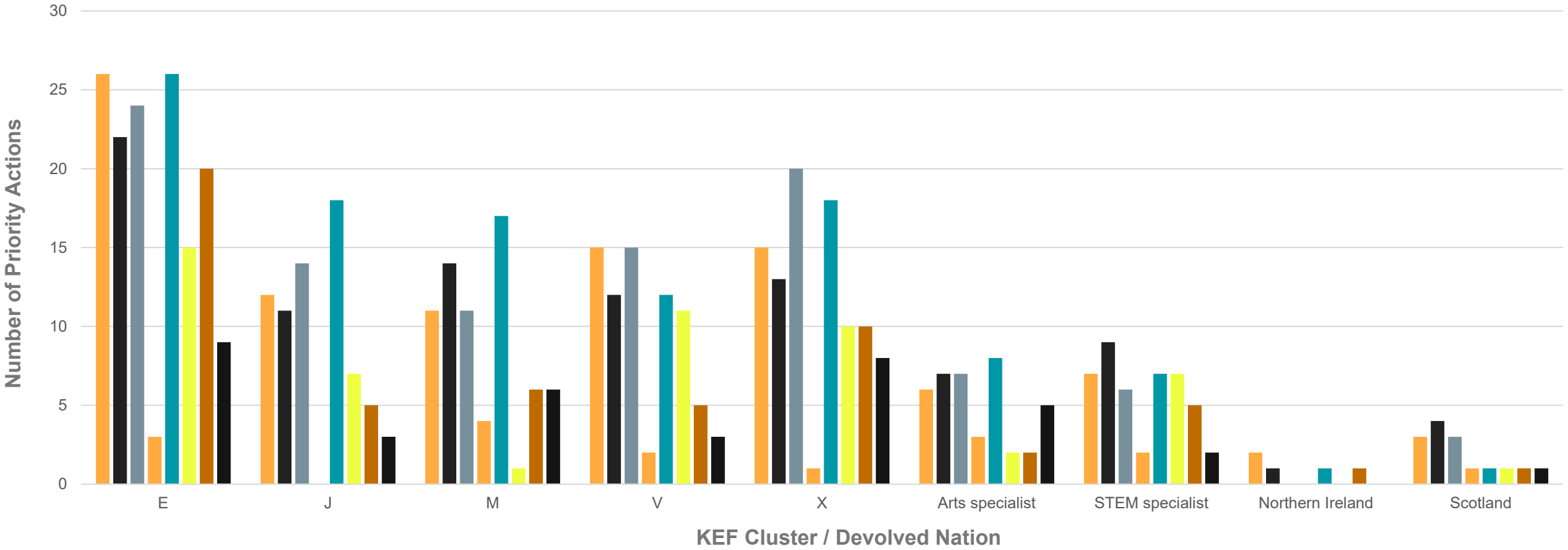
Timescales for Activities



KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

KEF Clusters / Devolved Nations

Priority Actions per KE Concordat Principle, by KEF Cluster (England) or Devolved Nation



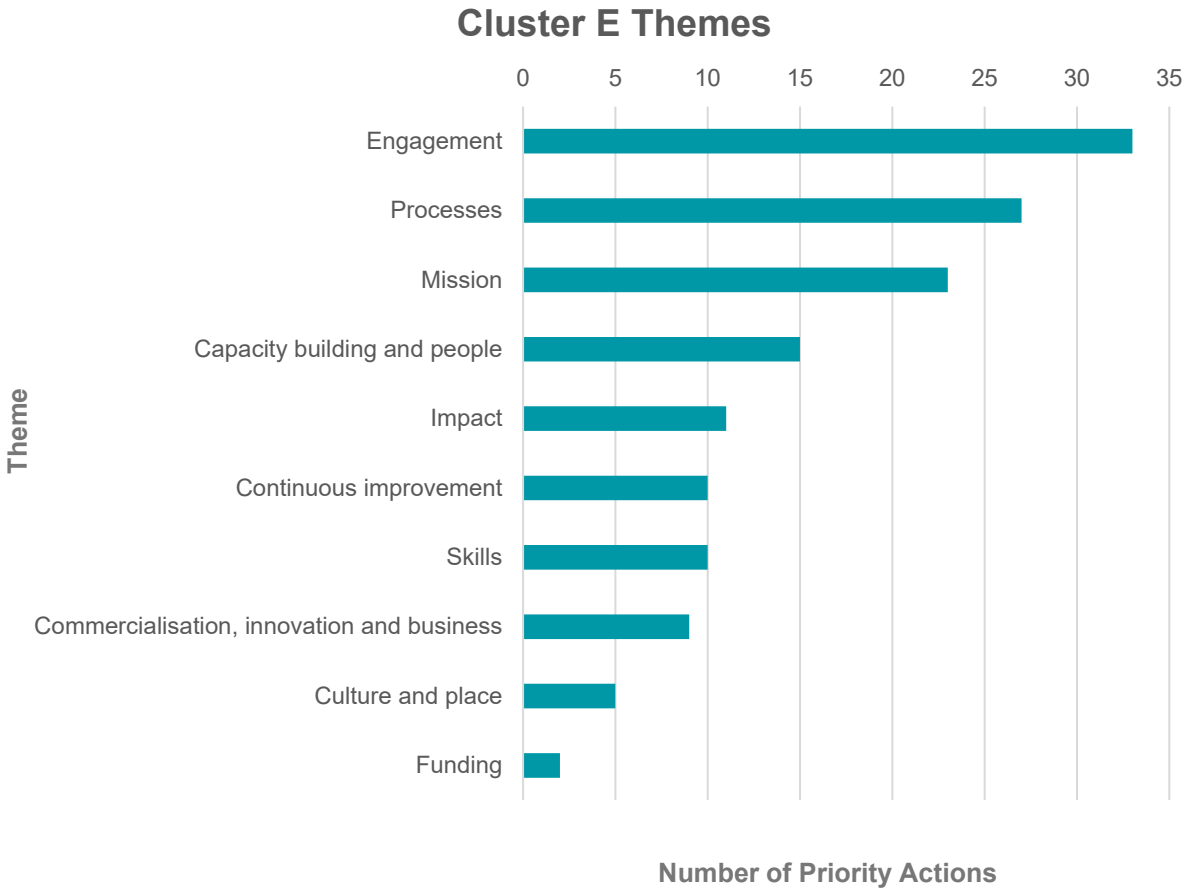
KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

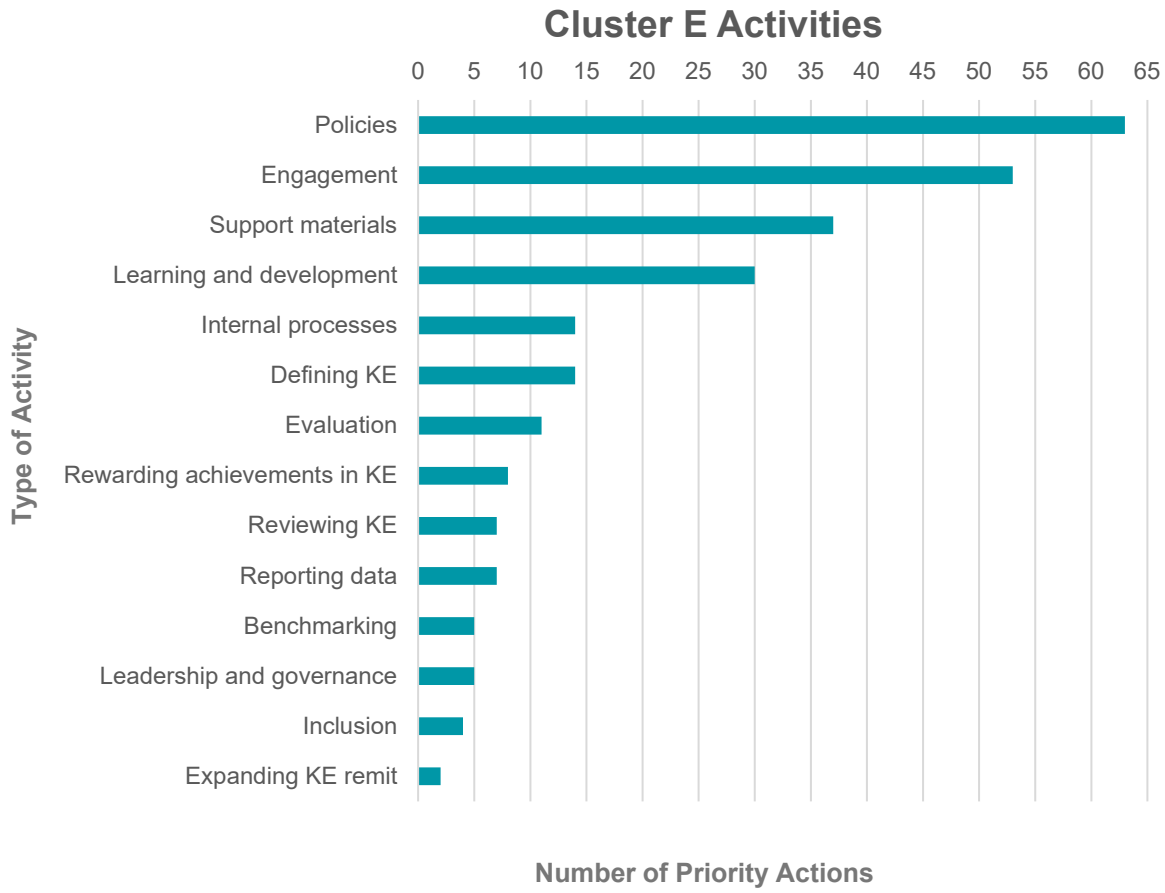
KEF Cluster E: Principles and Timescales

Note: This cluster includes HE providers in England only. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

KEF Cluster E: Themes and Activities

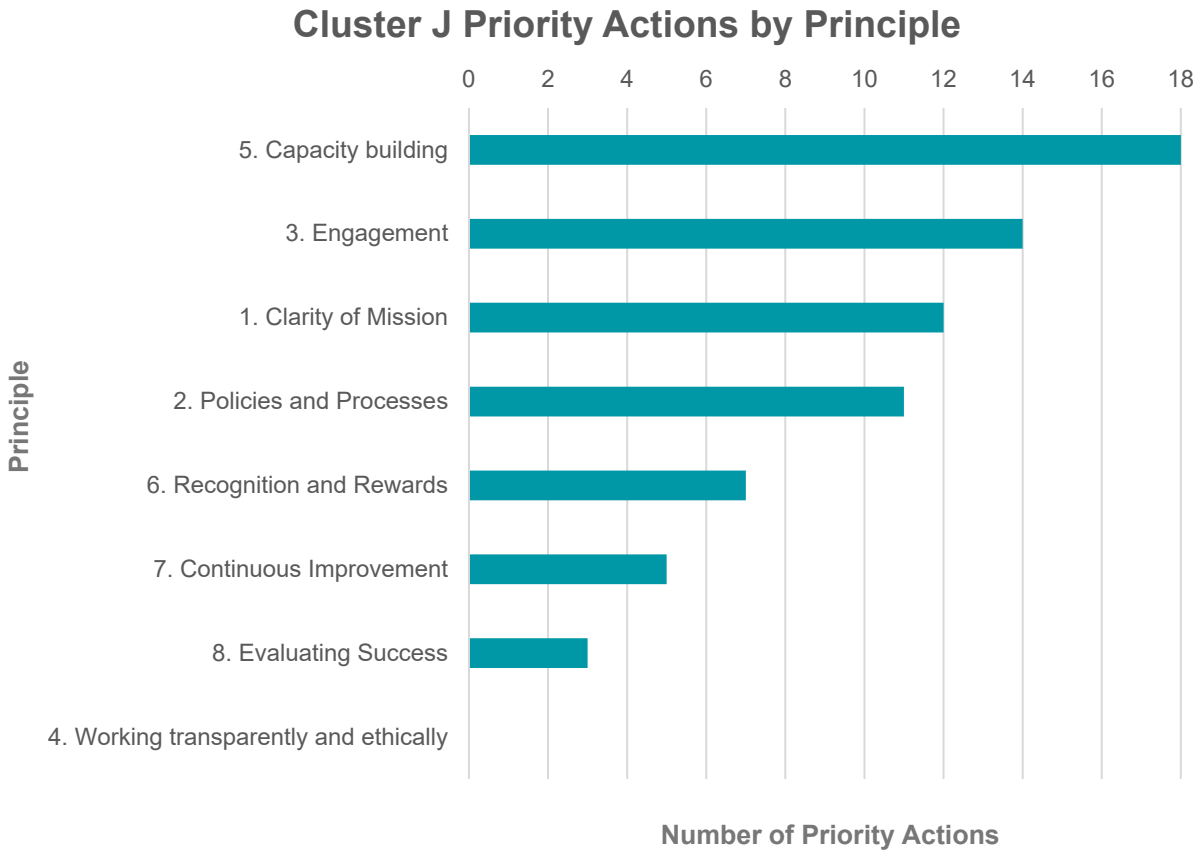


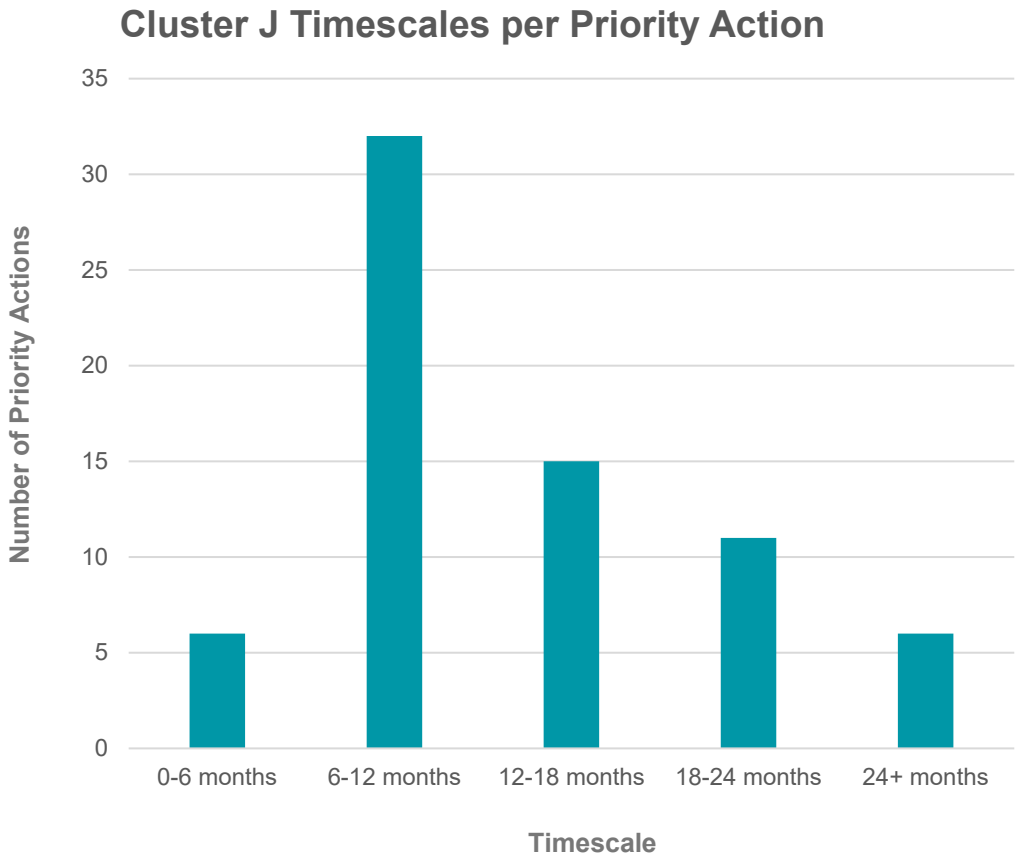


Note: This cluster includes HE providers in England only. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

KEF Cluster J: Principles and Timescales

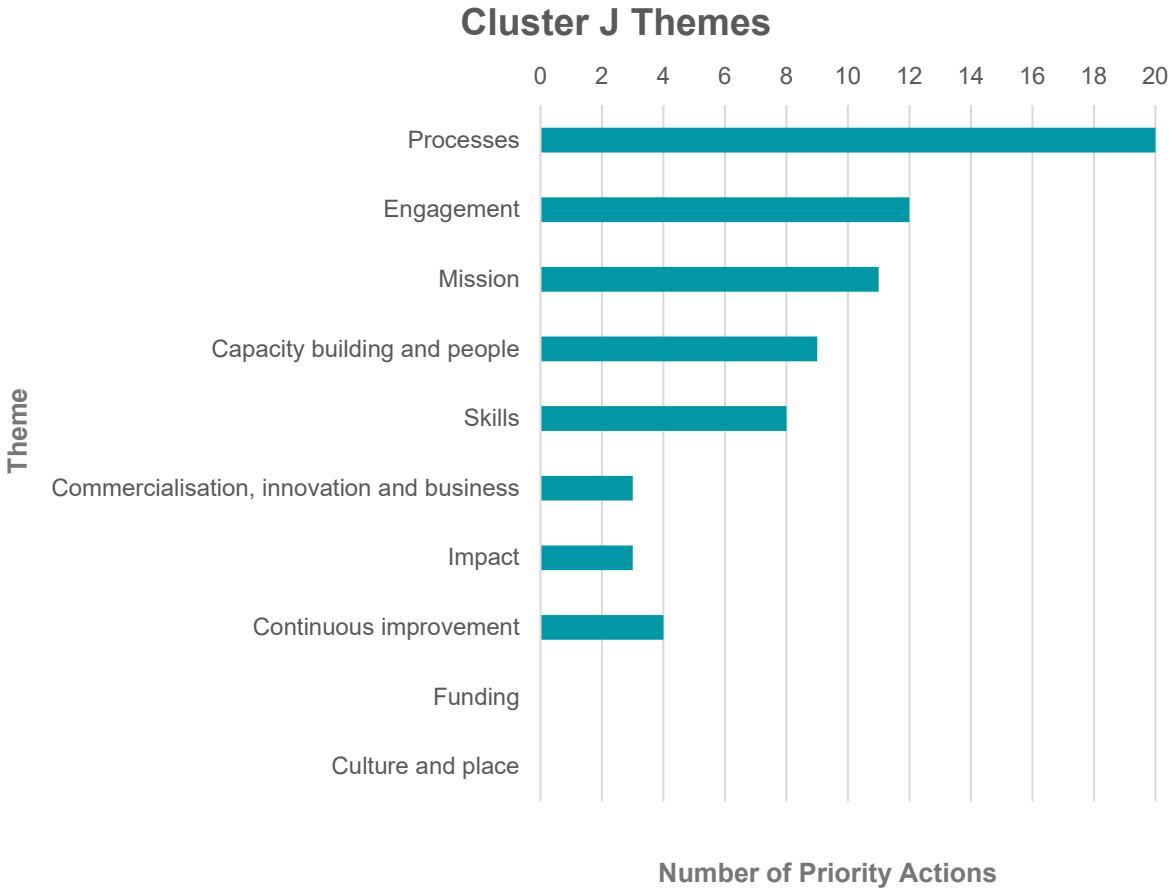


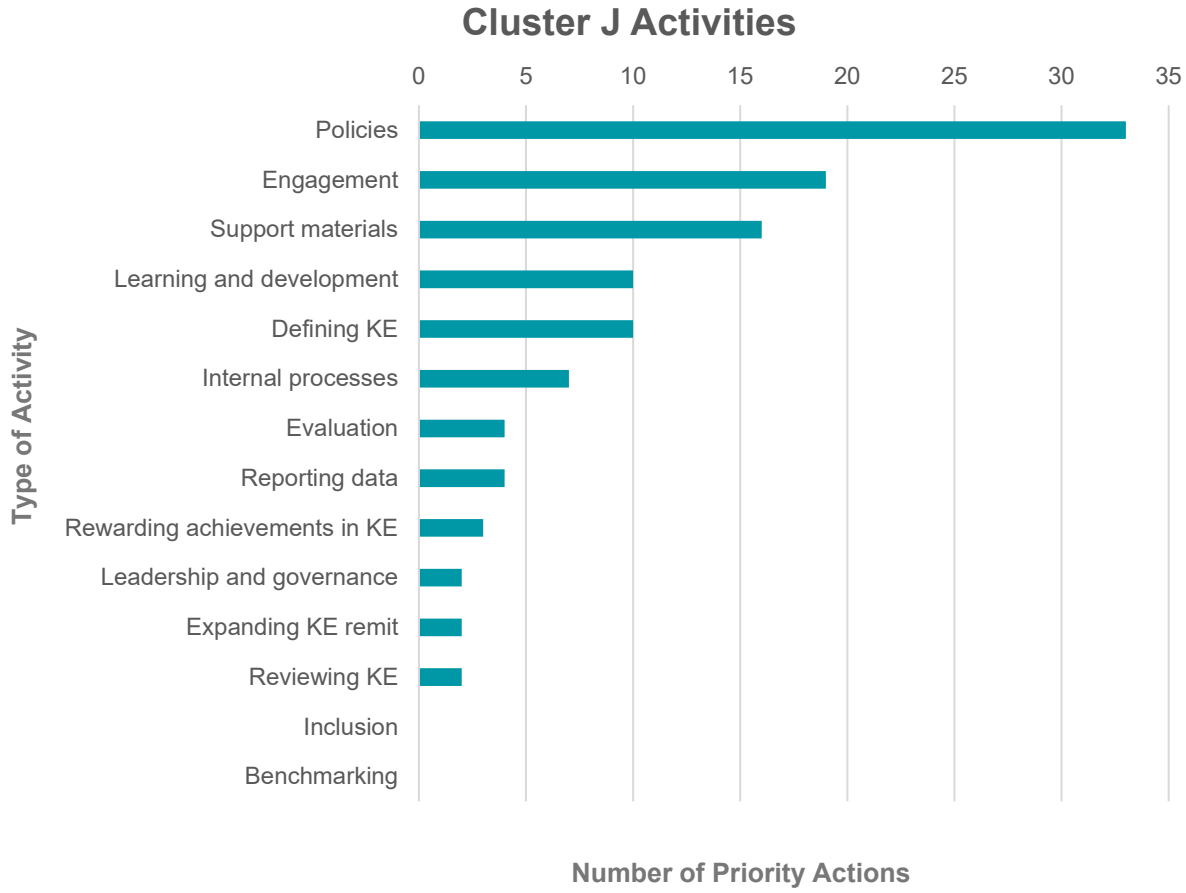


Note: This cluster includes HE providers in England only. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

KEF Cluster J: Themes and Activities

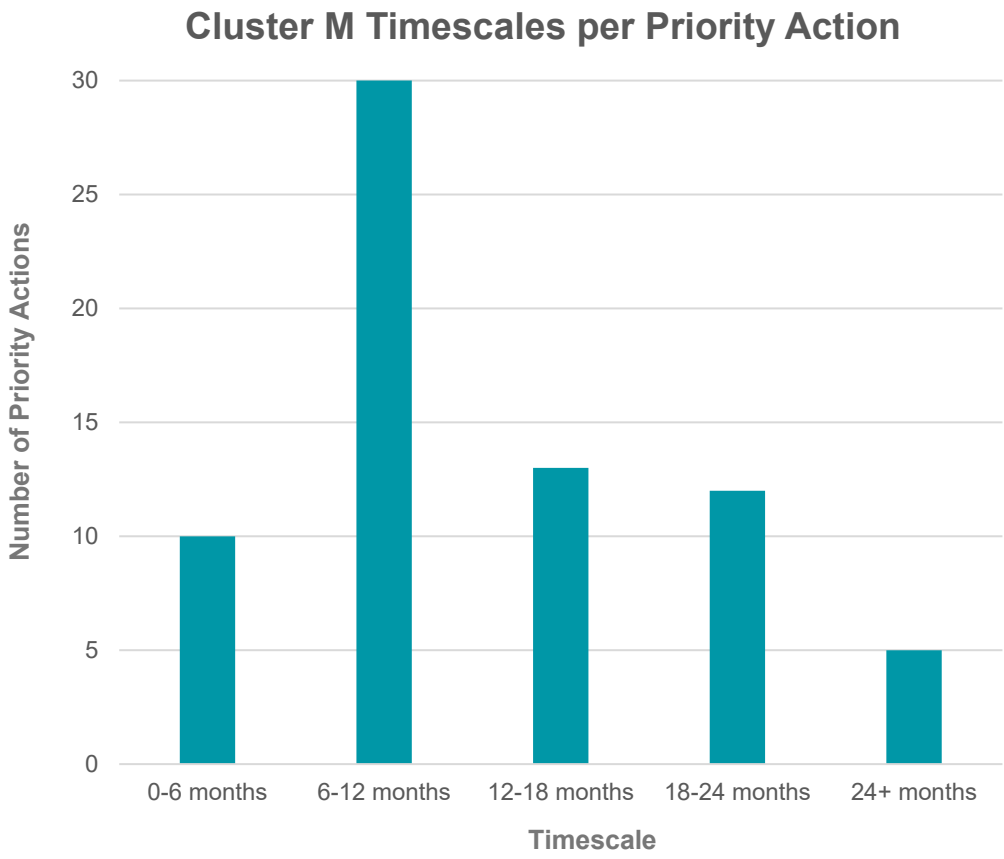




Note: This cluster includes HE providers in England only. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

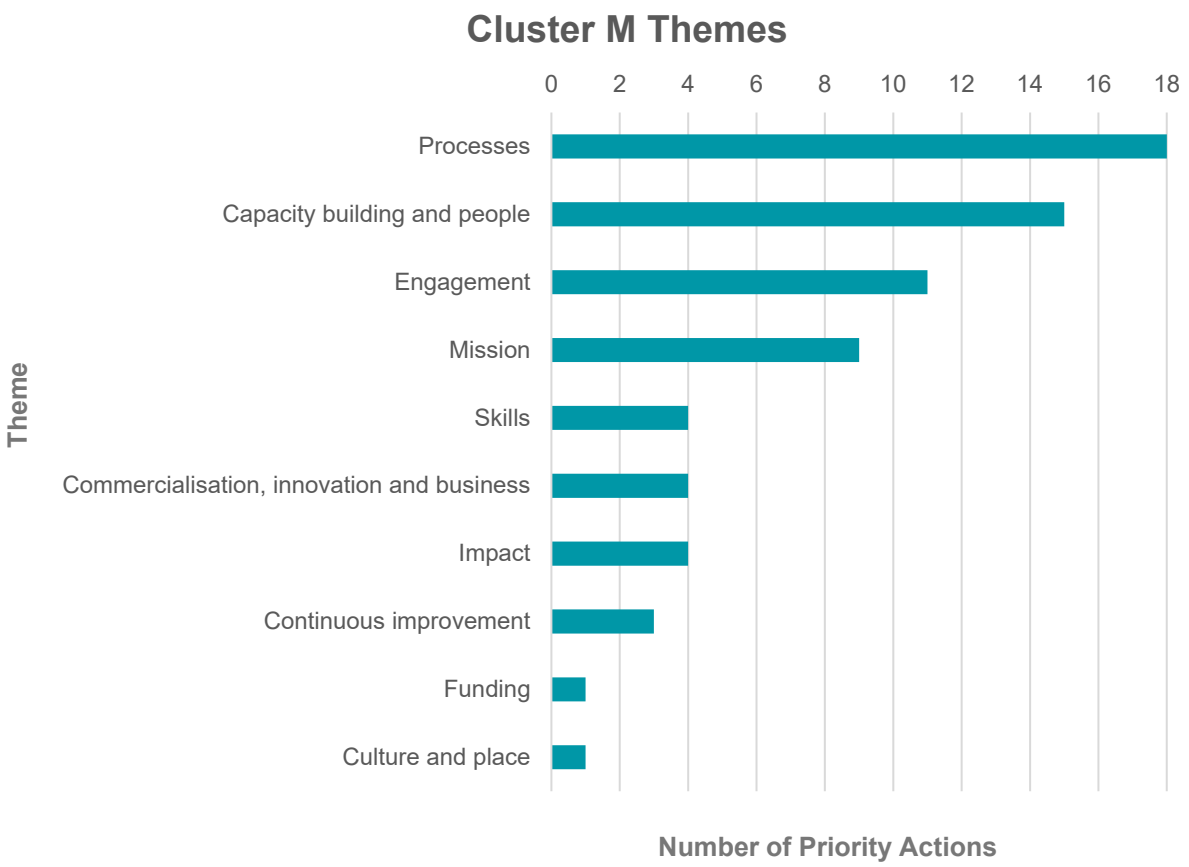
KEF Cluster M: Principles and Timescales

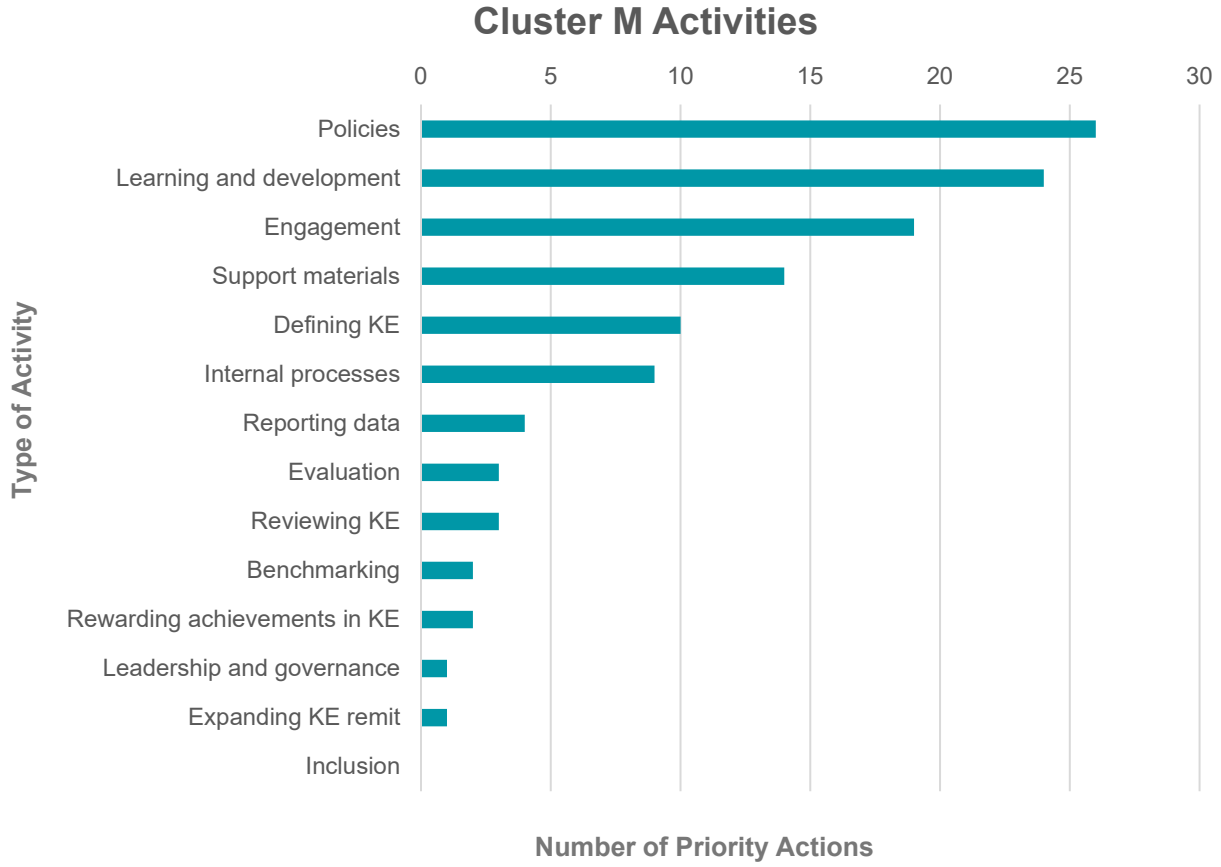


Note: This cluster includes HE providers in England only. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

KEF Cluster M: Themes and Activities

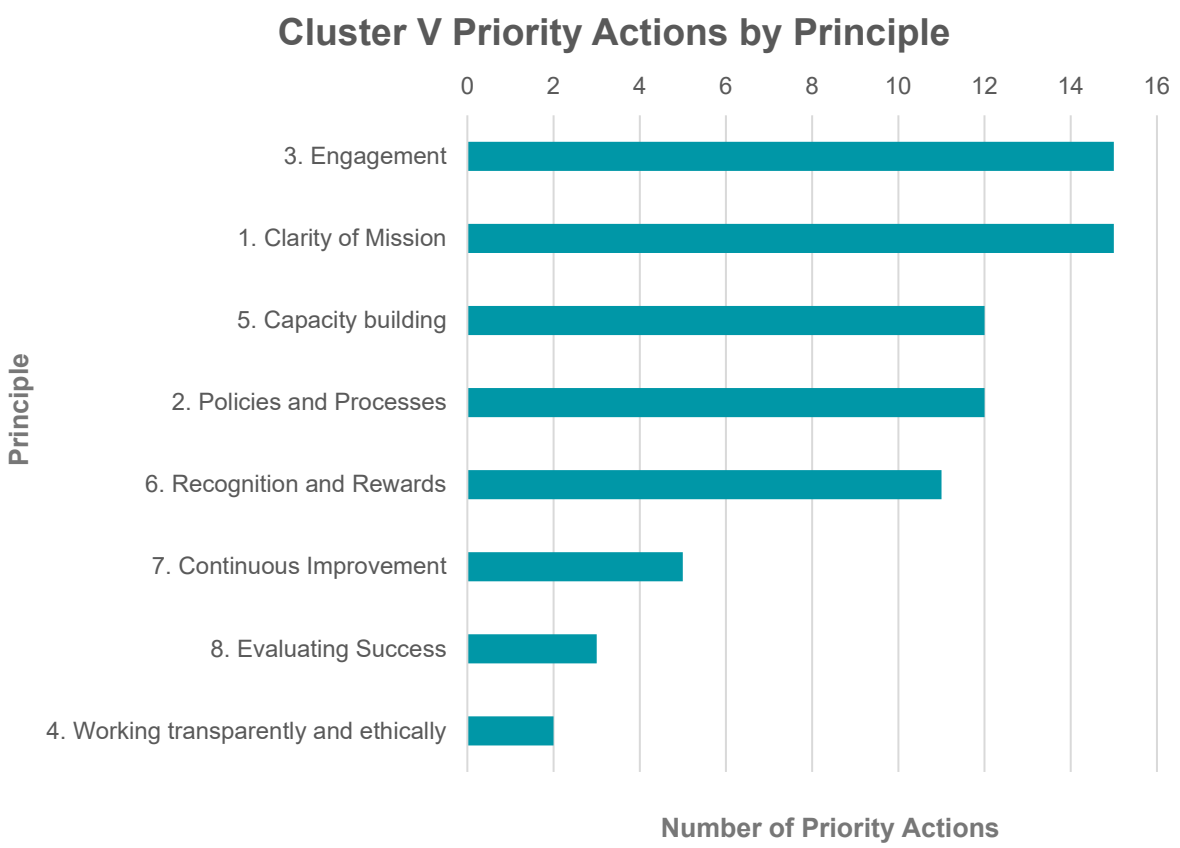


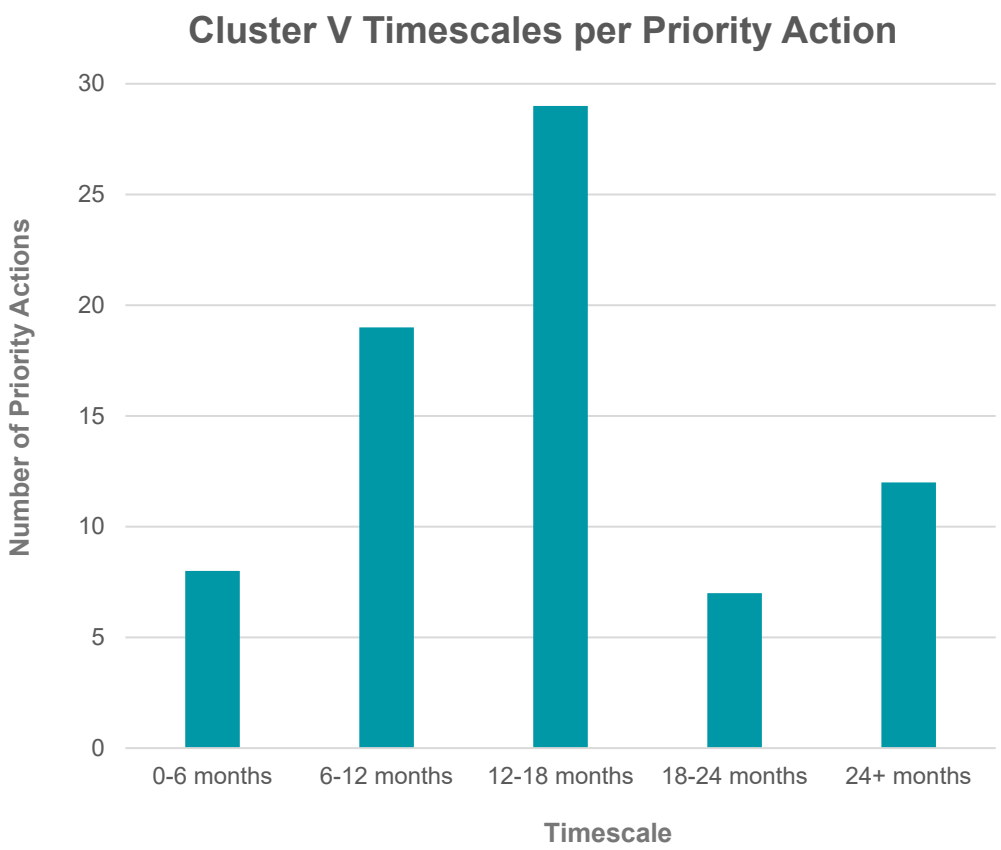


Note: This cluster includes HE providers in England only. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

KEF Cluster V: Principles and Timescales

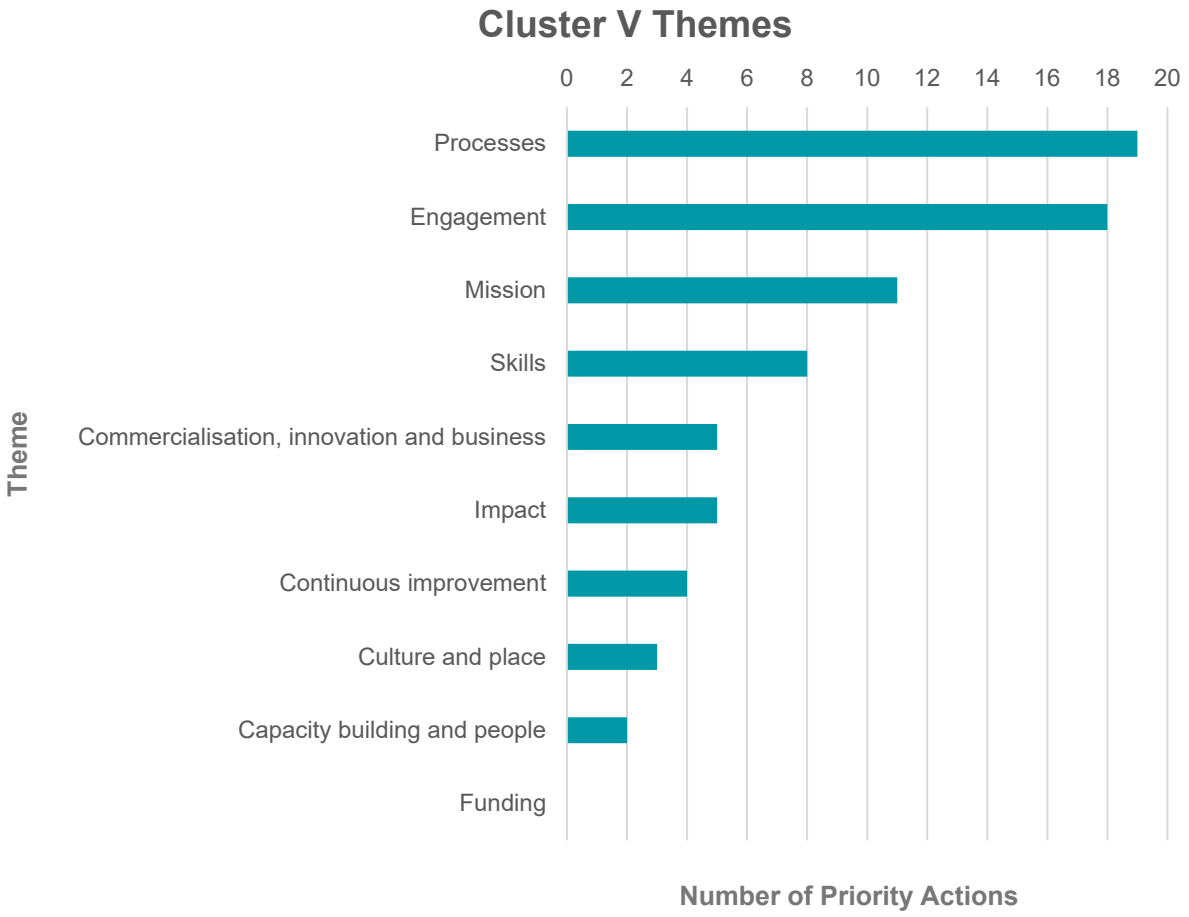


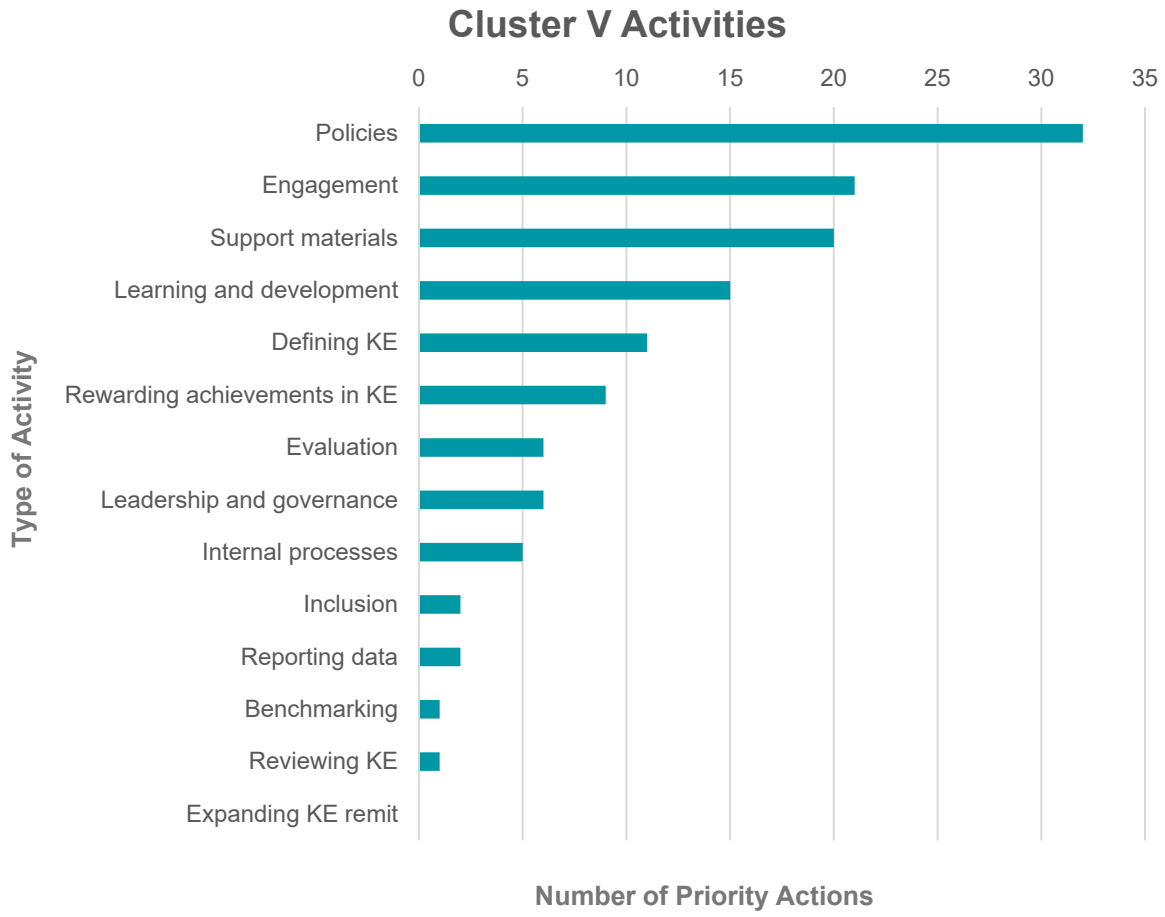


Note: This cluster includes HE providers in England only. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

KEF Cluster V: Themes and Activities





Note: This cluster includes HE providers in England only. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

KEF Cluster X: Principles and Timescales

Note: This cluster includes HE providers in England only. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

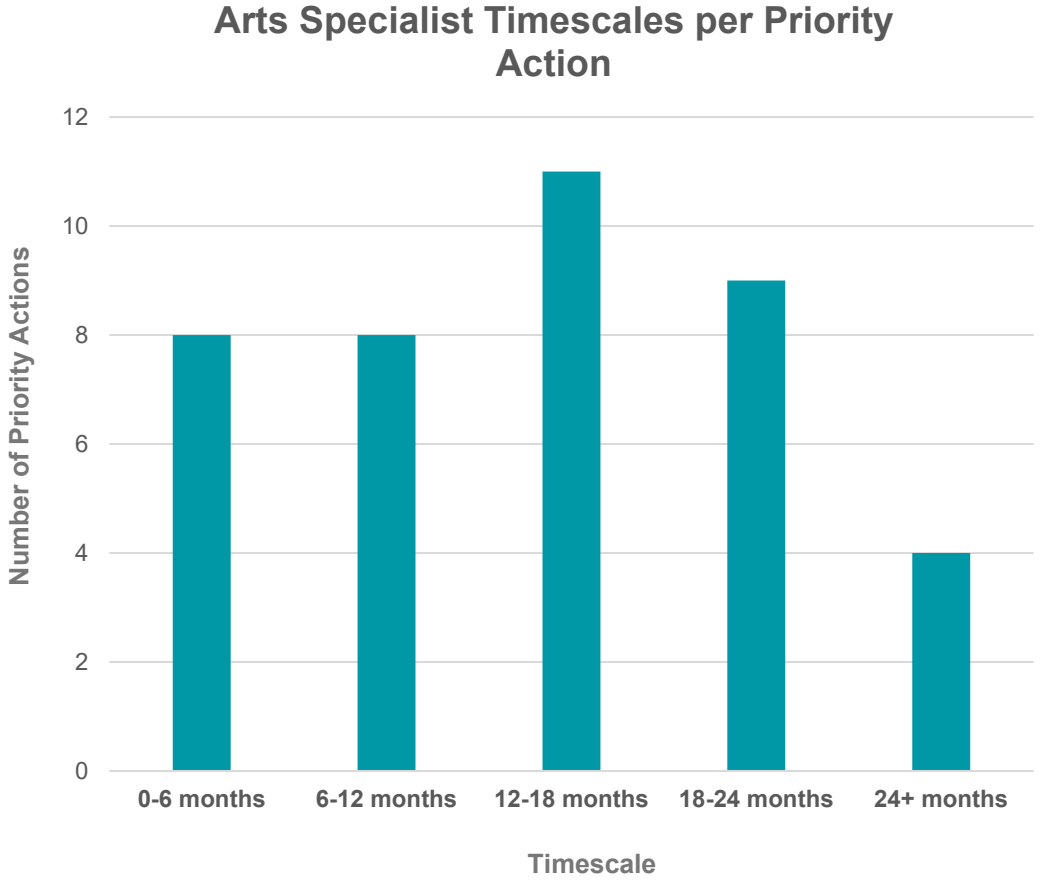
KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

KEF Cluster X: Themes and Activities

Note: This cluster includes HE providers in England only. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

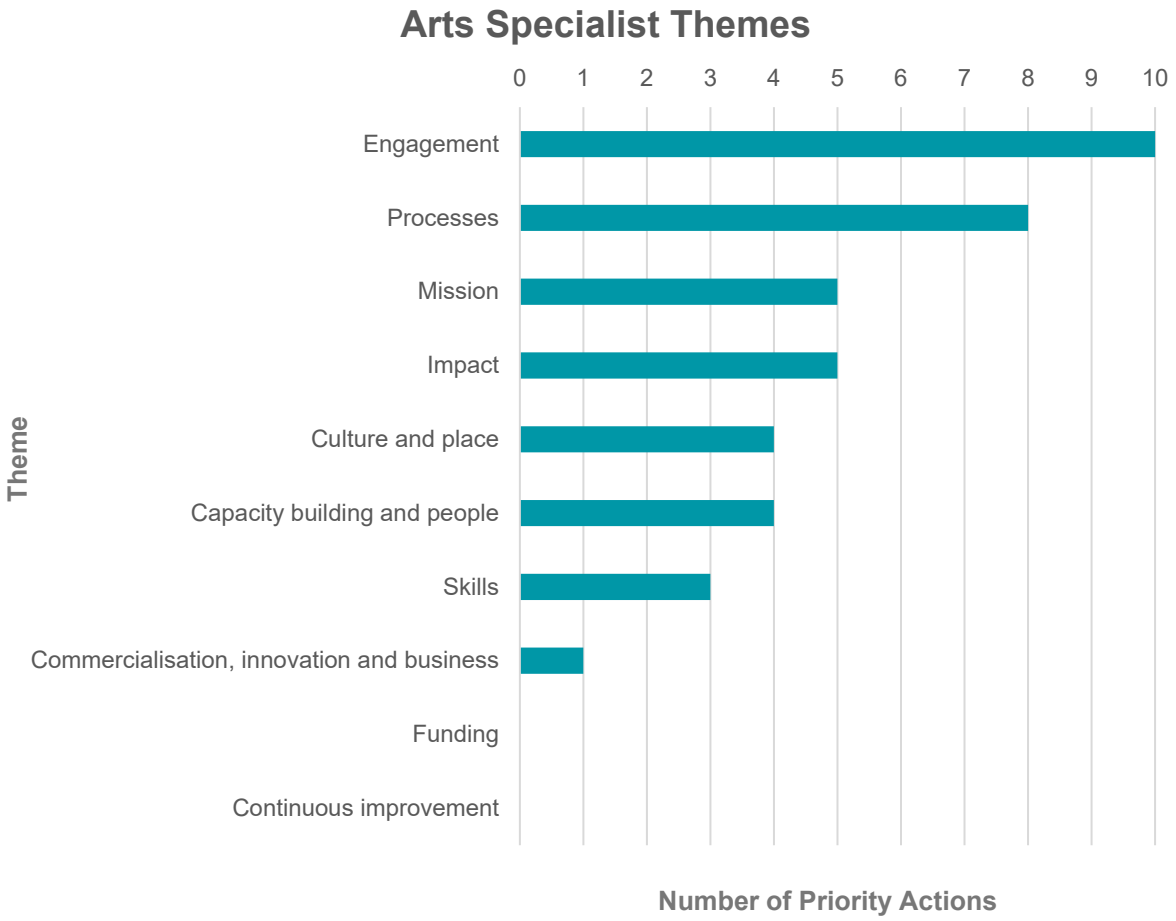
KEF Arts Specialist: Principles and Timescales



Note: This cluster includes HE providers in England only. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

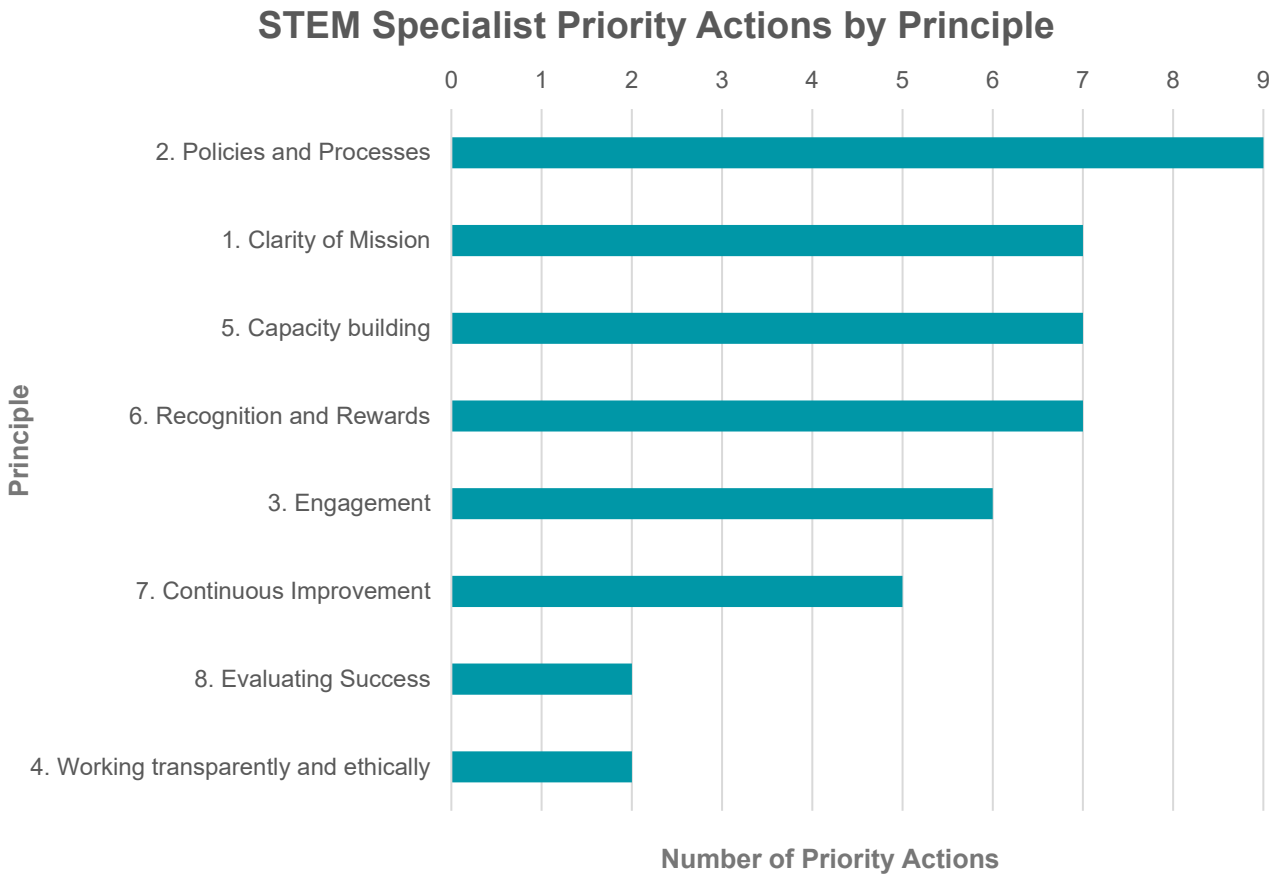
KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

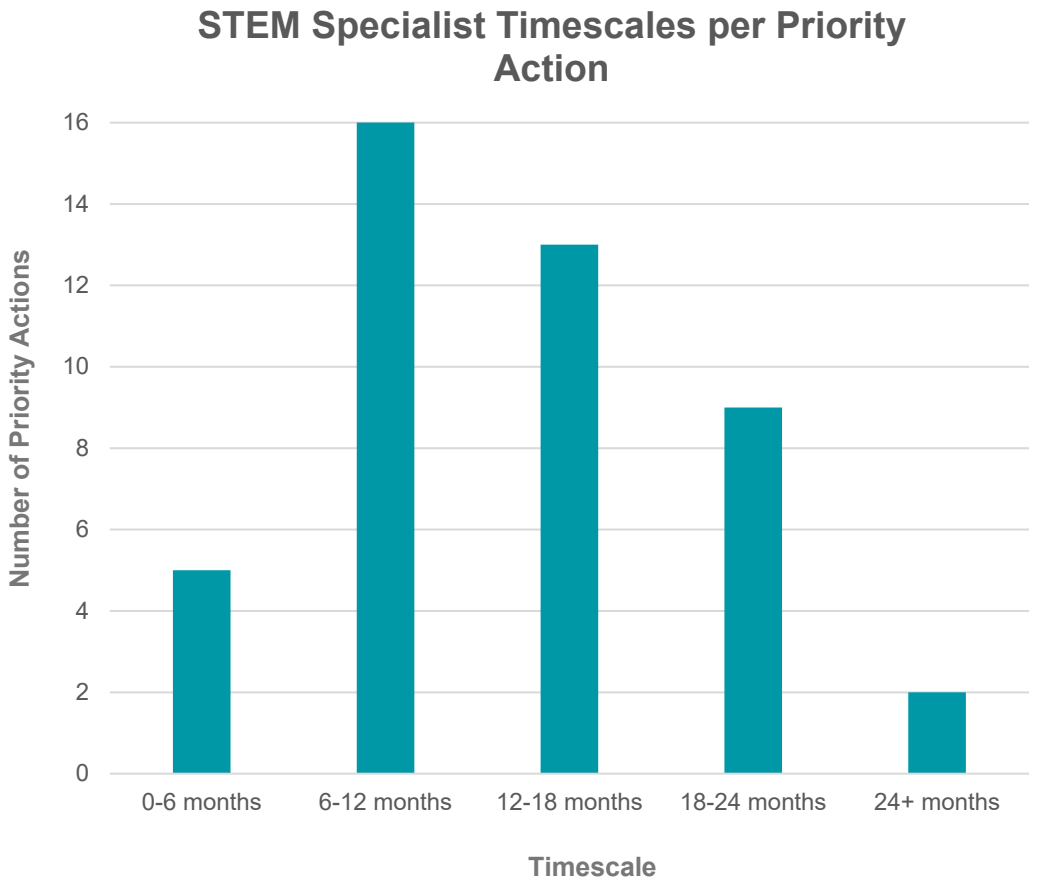
KEF Arts Specialist: Themes and Activities



Note: This cluster includes HE providers in England only. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

STEM Specialists: Principles and Timescales

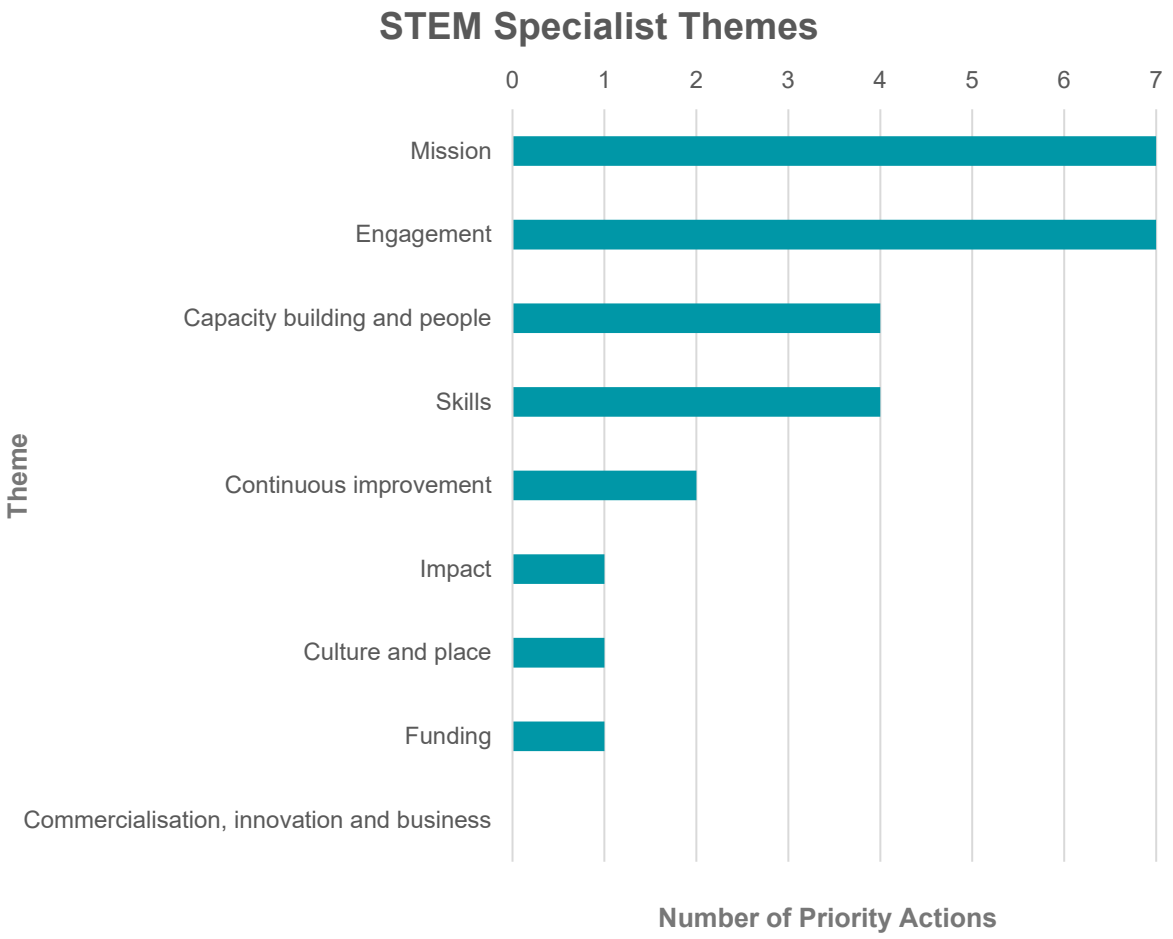


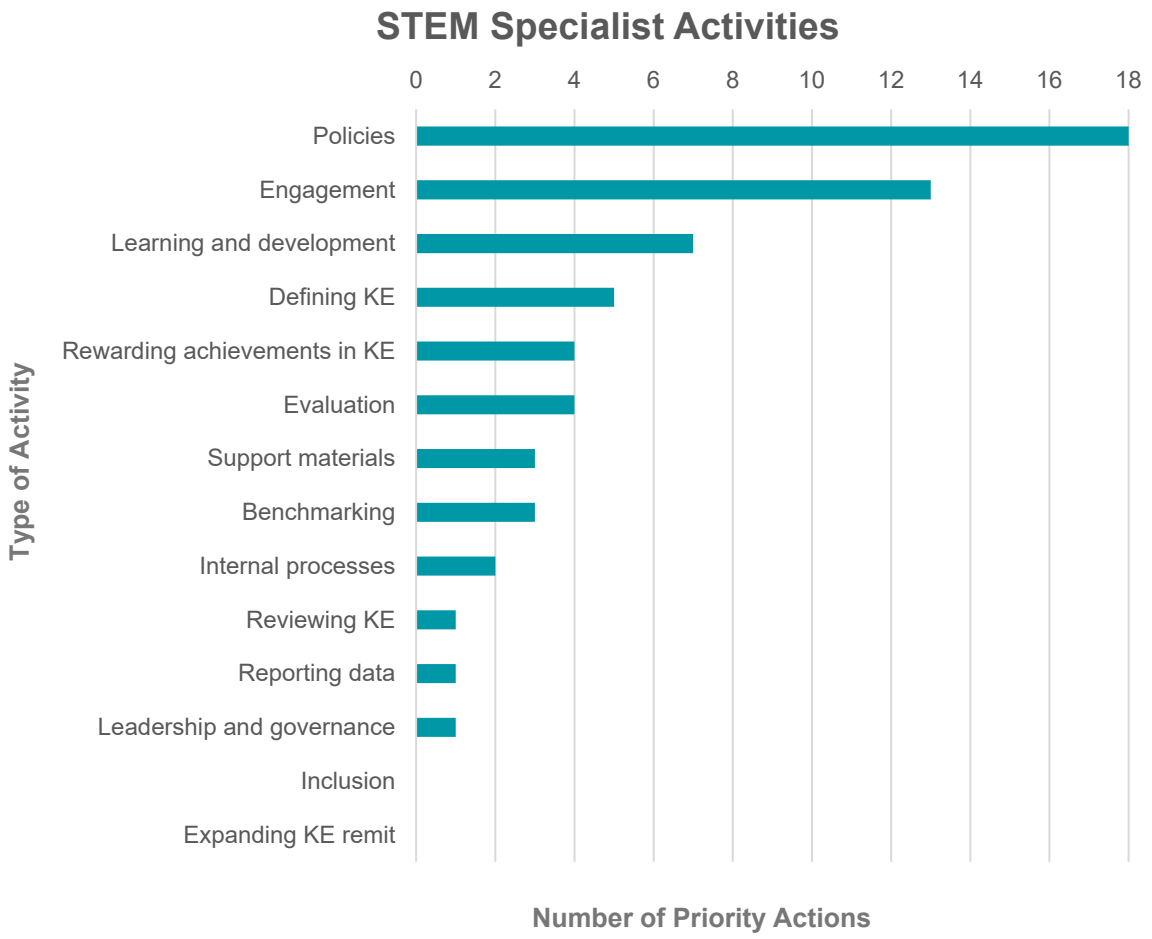


Note: This cluster includes HE providers in England only. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

KEF STEM Specialist: Themes and Activities

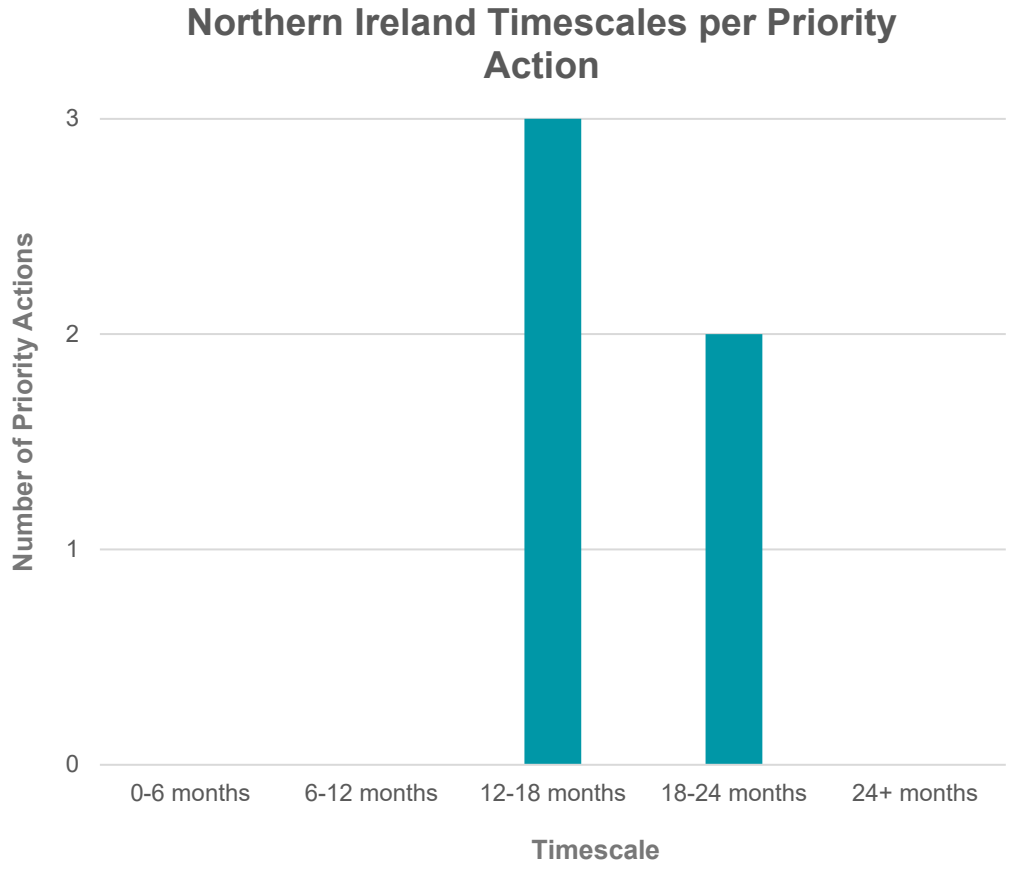




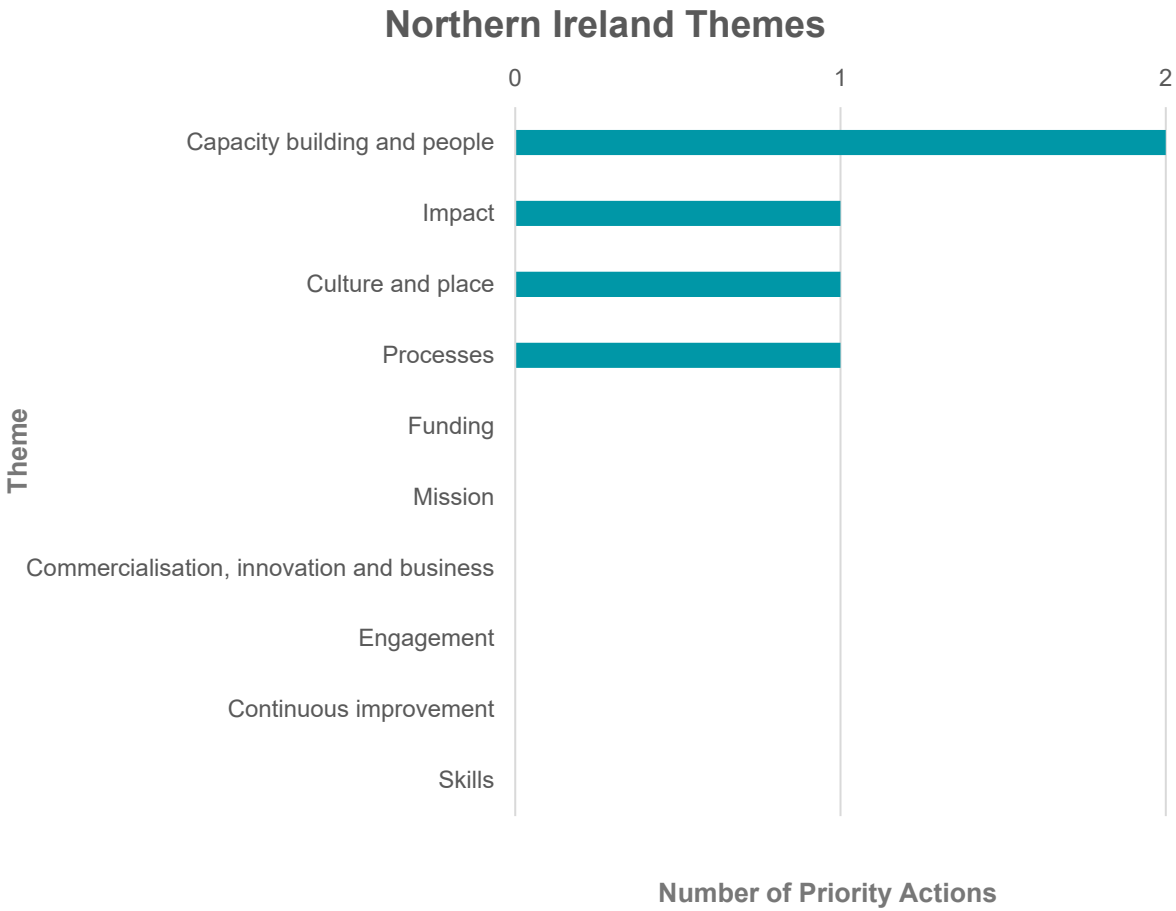
Note: This cluster includes HE providers in England only. For more information on KEF Clusters, please see: https://kef.ac.uk/about

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Northern Ireland: Principles and Timescales

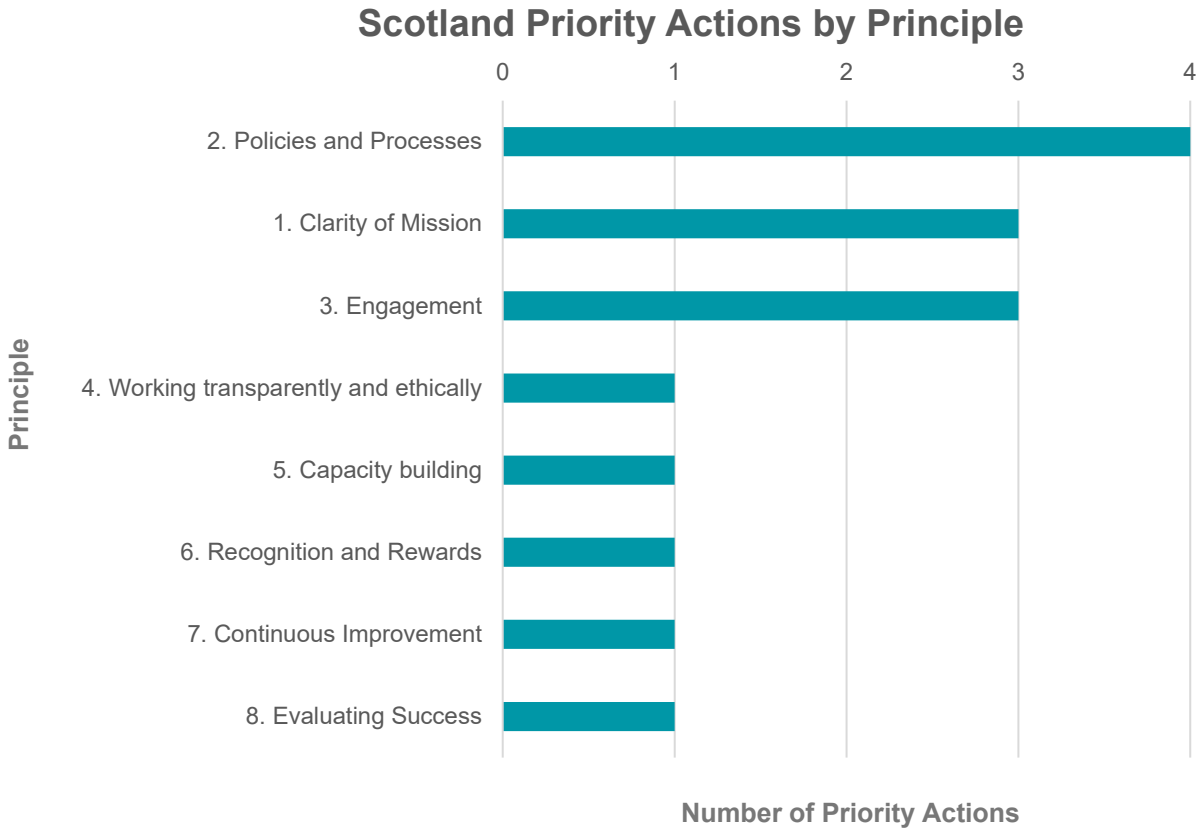


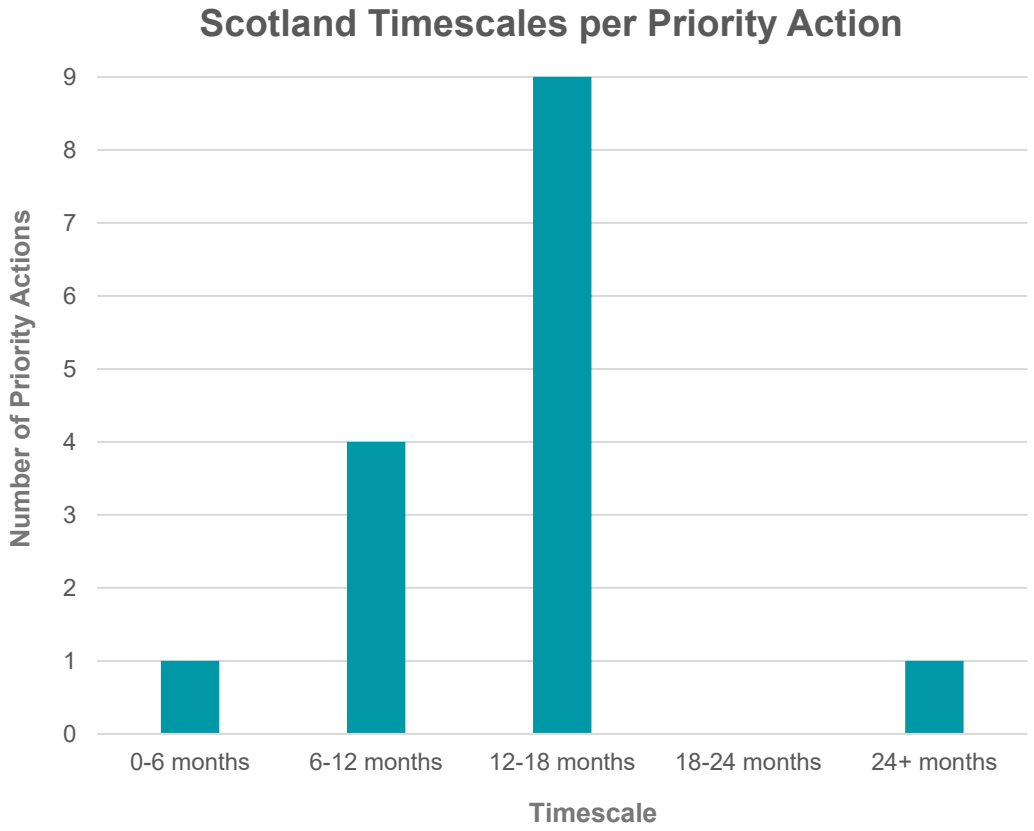
Northern Ireland: Themes and Activities



KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

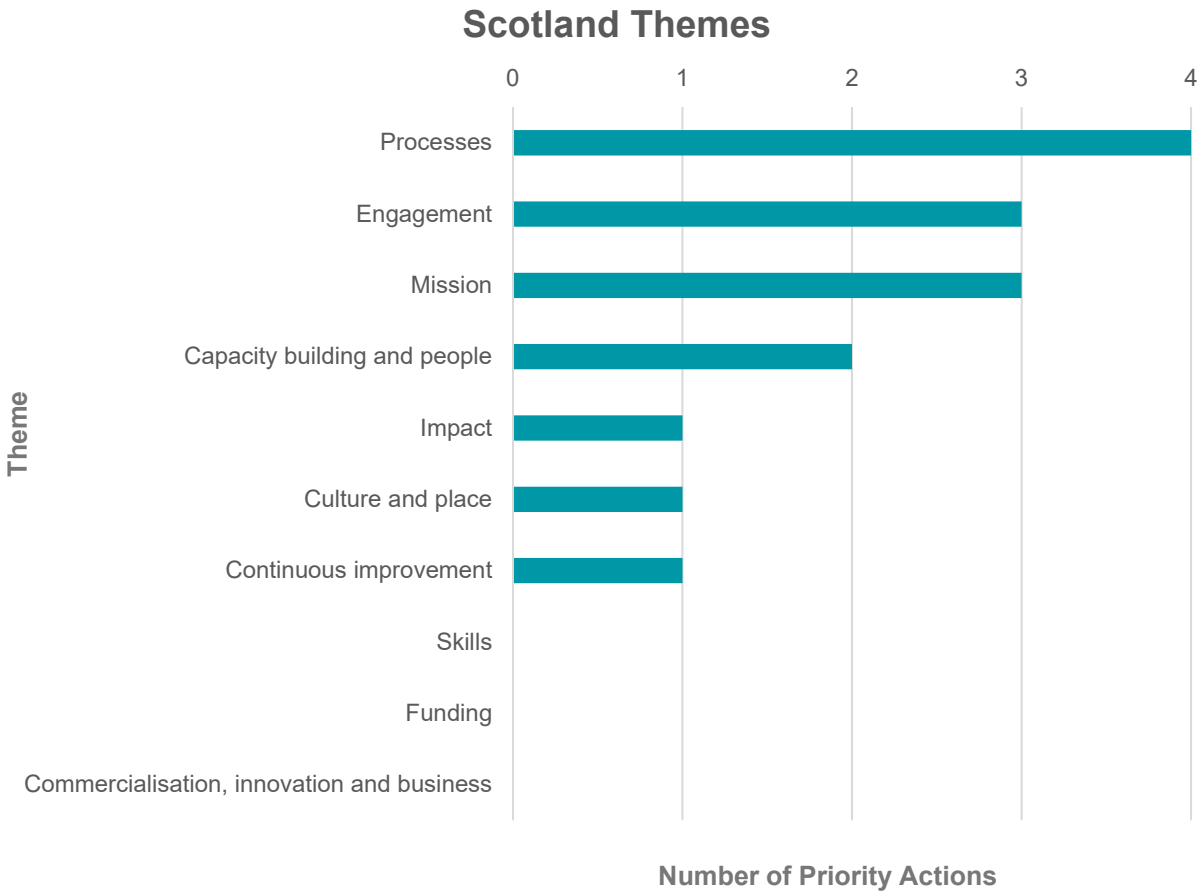
Scotland: Principles and Timescales





KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Scotland: Themes and Activities



KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Regional Analysis (UK)

Region	Priority Principles	Main Themes	Main Activities
England	5. Capacity Building	Processes	- Policies
Scotland	2. Policies and Processes	Processes	- Policies - Engagement
Northern Ireland	1. Clarity of Mission	Capacity Building	- Engagement - Support Materials - Evaluation - Inclusion - Benchmarking

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT

Regional Analysis (England)

Region	Priority Principles	Main Themes	Main Activities
Eastern	2. Policies and Processes	Engagement	Policies
South West	3. Engagement 5. Capacity Building	Engagement Processes	Policies
West Midlands	2. Policies and Processes	Processes	Policies
Greater London	2. Policies and Processes	Processes	Policies
East Midlands	1. Clarity of Mission 5. Capacity Building	Mission	Engagement
South East	3. Engagement	Processes	Policies
North East	1. Clarity of Mission	Processes	Policies
North West	5. Capacity Building	Processes	Engagement Learning and development
Yorkshire and Humberside	3. Engagement 5. Capacity Building	Engagement Processes	Policies

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONCORDAT