



## Skills Framework: Evidence-informed Policymaking

- **Understanding Policy & Science.** Effective researchers understand the key drivers of the policy process – which can never be as simple as a policy cycle – and adapt their evidence presentation strategies to the policy context. Effective policymakers anticipate what evidence will be needed in the future.
- **Interpersonal Skills.** Being able to interact well with others – using verbal and non-verbal communication skills - is essential to building trust and solving problems that occur in creating and applying knowledge to policymaking.
- **Synthesising Research.** Effective knowledge management will provide policymakers with access to more robust and fit-for-purpose evidence. Effective researchers employ methods and tools to make better sense of the wealth of knowledge ('secondary research') available on a given topic.
- **Managing Expert Communities.** 'Communities' of experts, sharing a common language or understanding, are fundamental to creating and applying knowledge to complex problems. Effective researchers develop networking and facilitation skills, through digital and physical interactions, to reduce disciplinary and policy divides.
- **Communicating Scientific Knowledge.** The communication of research to a non-scientific audience requires effective communication skills, using content-related tools like infographic design, succinct writing, public speaking and data visualisation tailored to the audience.
- **Participating in Policymaking.** Effective science policy advisors go beyond simply communicating research evidence towards identifying options, helping to understand the impact of policy choices during and after implementation, and providing policy advice from a scientific viewpoint.
- **Engaging with Citizens & Stakeholders:** Engagement with the public and stakeholders is essential to build trust and legitimacy of evidence to be used in policy.
- **Monitoring & Evaluation Framework.** Monitoring and evaluating the impact of research evidence on policymaking is a specific skill needed to continuously improve the influence of evidence on policymaking.