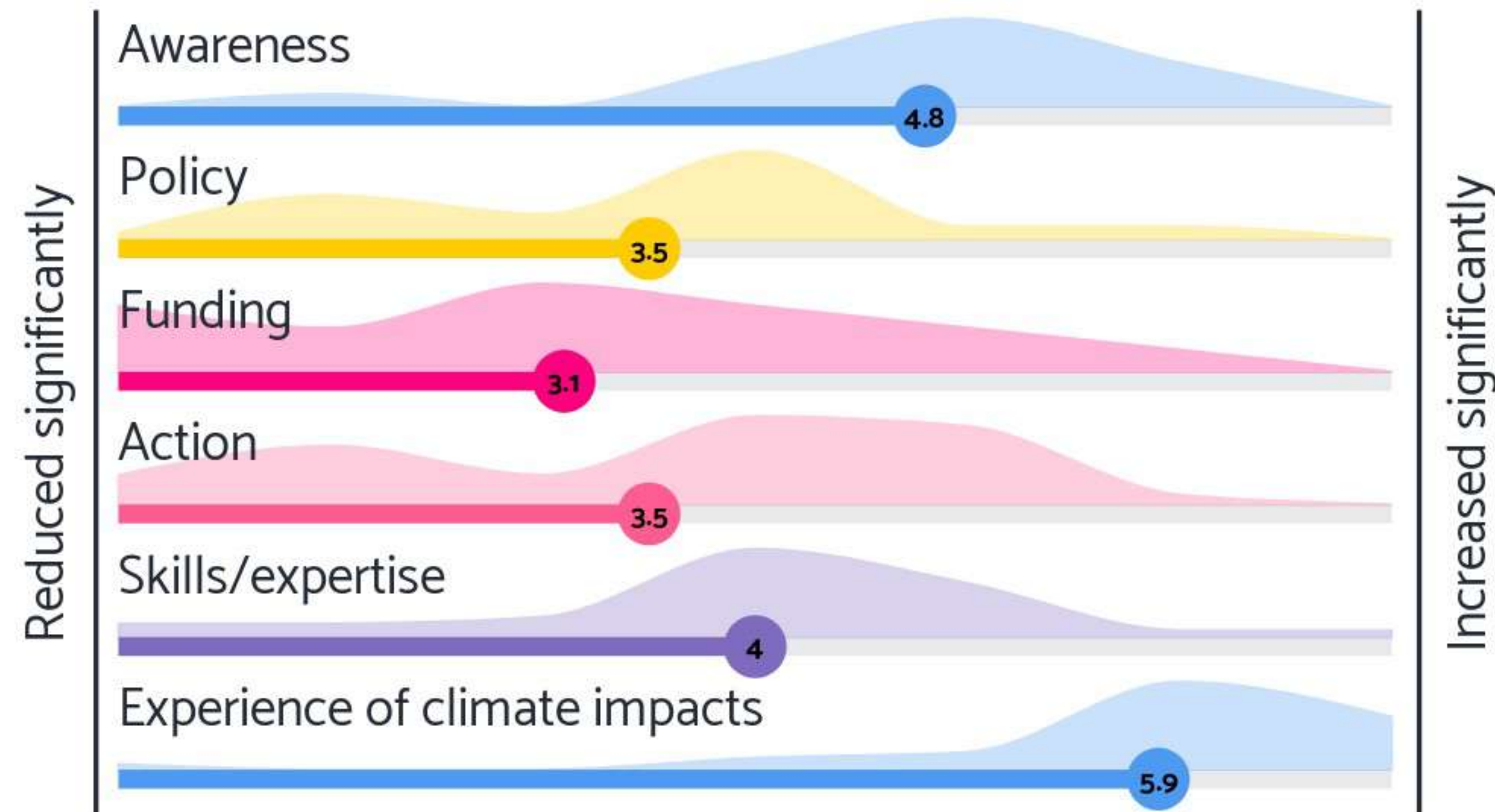# How do you think the adaptation landscape has changed over the last year?

What has made working on adaptation easier over the last year or so?

This network	Collaboration	more awareness	Awareness
Recognition of the need for adaptation in more sectors	More frequent storms gives us something to point towards as evidence	Not the government.	dedicated time to commit to it

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What has made working on adaptation easier over the last year or so?

New policy including adaptation in NI	More awareness	Expanding network of people working in this area	The impacts of climate change - they're motivational
Collaboration	Networking	Shift from mitigation to adaptation is clear	Building wider networks of similar minded people across sectors

What has made working on adaptation easier over the last year or so?

Evidence of climate impacts increasing awareness	Better engagement and awareness	There is more interest and awareness	Media reports of effects of cc
Connecting with other departments within the council such as public health	Climate Impacts	Case study collections being published	More awareness

What has made working on adaptation easier over the last year or so?

Financial impact of extreme weather systems	experience of climate impacts	Being part of this community and sharing resources	Collaboration
I feel it's getting harder, given funding and resource situation in our LA.	Really understanding the health related impacts and angles	A Strategy/Policy	Dedicated Officers

What has made working on adaptation easier over the last year or so?

finding others working in this area having similar changes

Community of people working on this has increasedNetworking oppsStrength of coming together - despite small numbers - to share skills and experience and move this thing on!More events

Developing networks and a (hesitant) recognition by some affected communities that adaptation action is needed.

Peoples experience of weather extremesLinking of networksYounger people being involved more in decision making

Need and the impact of climate change on agriculture

Increased media coverage of climate impact

Dedicated officers within LA

Integration and network within council

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What has made working on adaptation easier over the last year or so?

slightly more funding	More climate adaptation events/ themes at conferences etc	Dedicated job roles	UKHSA climate and health report helps
others!	Funding	Financial situation	Government role back and culture war around climate crisis

What has made working on adaptation easier over the last year or so?

funding difficult	central gov policy stalling/moving backwards	Shorter purse strings for NHS	Media (long term)
Funding	government priority on climate change in general being scaled back	Less funding, less knowledge and poicy	Still focus on mitigation

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What has made working on adaptation easier over the last year or so?

Confusion between
mitigation and adaptation

What has made it harder?

budget freezes, changes in local political make up	Siloed funding	Distracted government	Changed funding structures
Its less measurable	Council budgets shrinking - more difficult to justify projects and actions.	Recent funding issues	Local authorities going into austerity

What has made it harder?

Weak government policy making & even reversal of some	Government role back and culture war around climate crisis	funding difficult	People facing up to the reality of what is coming…. either they don't want to know or are afraid.
Lack of funding	Policies, lack of direction at government level.	Ongoing Operational pressures shifting focus and budget	Government uturn

What has made it harder?

Mental health	Complexity seems to keep growing, requiring more and more voices to understand the issues and opportunities	Environment Agency cuts	More AI media misinformation
Shorter purse strings and short term financial targets	Increasing weight given to mitigation over adaptation	Slow movement on policy from government	Requires investment in long-term planning, tricky to convince higher level commitment

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What has made it harder?

Continued austerity for public bodies who are on their knees financially and capacity

Less resource and increased pressure on funding for statutory work in a LA. Some lead Cllrs are climate deniers.

Lagging and decreasing central government responsibility

Distractions - wars, economic crises

Lack of skills/knowledge to join up multidisciplinary action

Such a complex and multi-variable issue. Difficult to know what is the priority. The more we know, the more we realise we need to do.

Challenges between central government and local gov (councils)

Need to refocus of being proactive and not reactive

What has made it harder?

There are no short term fixes	Still focus on mitigation	A lack of a clear vision of what being Well Adaptive looks like	Other issues like impact of Brexit/ cost of living crisis
Difficult to justify costs	Gaps in research	Changing priorities	Culture of firefighting instead of prevention

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What has made it harder?

Media	Drive to combine adaptation and mitigation (how this works in practice)	Burn out	Lord Frost being made a member of the climate group within the HoL?!
Lack of clear guidance on adaptation indicators	Despite an adaptation strategy for our region it's hard to unpick simple actions to take	BBC weather person said 'no evidence that increased sequential storms are related to climate change." Sowing doubt	

25

What do you think will make the most difference in progressing adaptation over the next year or so?
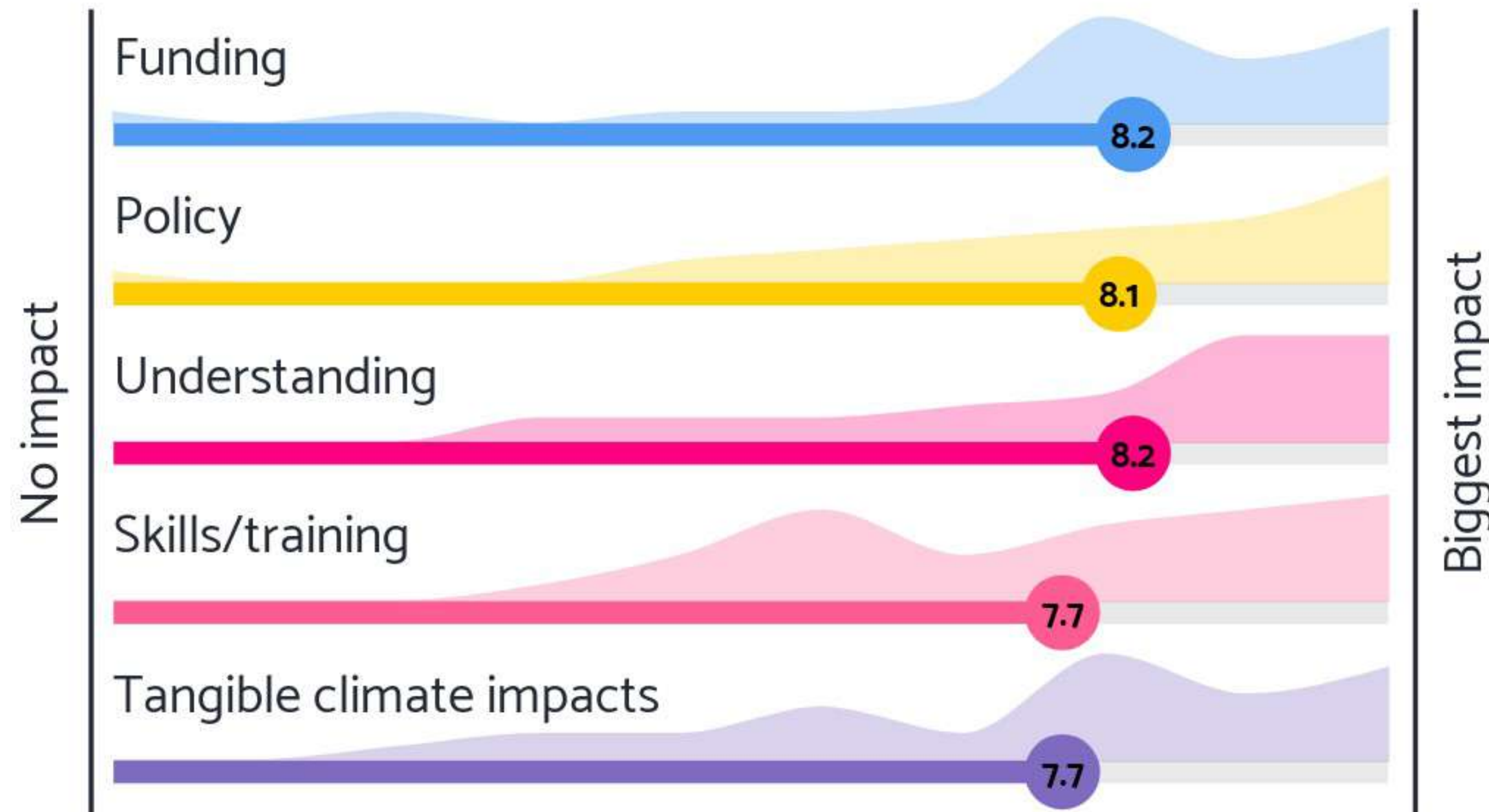
What do you think needs to be the biggest priority for adaptation over the next year?

Embedding at an organisation-level	Funding and radical policy	Policy	Understanding
Engaging with communities.	Strong National Policy	Agree with funding and radical policy!	resource: funding, skills, staff, capacity building

31

What do you think needs to be the biggest priority for adaptation over the next year?

Clear lead from UK Gov on policy, actions to take

Tangible Action and Local Involvement

Public awareness of long-term benefits and co-benefits

Stronger government policy & funding

Pushing for policy and legislative development.

strong leadership (policy & in organisations)

Focus on delivering local projects with relevant partners so that it can be seen in action

Demo sites for what it looks like in practice

What do you think needs to be the biggest priority for adaptation over the next year?

Awareness that adaptation plans and action is needed now.

Clear policy that gives adaptation importance

Getting the national policy framework right, across government departments, and clear funding aligned to this cross government framework

Coordination of climate action on the ground

Raising awareness to increase engagement in organisations

Change of government would help considerably

Recognising the value of investment in adaptation

Reducing inequalities

What do you think needs to be the biggest priority for adaptation over the next year?

Civil action

Funding and clear strong leadership

Co-creation with communities

Needs to be easier to make good change that makes sense, less red tape!

Government policy and investment

Government action and private funding

Getting it on the agenda at all levels through engagement, learning, skilling up

Sustainable Energy infrastructure increase at pace

31

What do you think needs to be the biggest priority for adaptation over the next year?

Learning by doing

Education and clear leadership

Policy on adaptation reporting at council level

This needs to be framed as a Transformational Programme... Would be great if Government approached it using the principles of MSP... Create a clear blueprint and then work back from that

Cross department thinking

Cultural change at leadership levels

Local involvement leadership, training

Longer term planning - lag in impacts

What do you think needs to be the biggest priority for adaptation over the next year?

Co-benefits

Permission to do so (or not waiting for permission)

leadership

integrated, and in-depth internal risk assessments and adaptation plans across all directorates/services.

Natural Solutions

Cut through the climate denial once and for all! We have to get our collective comms nailed and may need comms experts to help us with this.

Equitable approach from the off

People need consistent messages that link to correct actions being taken

31

What do you think needs to be the biggest priority for adaptation over the next year?

Councils need adaptation & resilience plans

31

What are the conditions for change needed?

60 responses

What are the reinforcing feedback loops?

60 responses

reliable information
embeddedness of subject
working solutions seen
shared evaluation
increasing resilience
information flows
monitoring and evaluation
social norms
trusted influencers
alternatives unattractive
dialogue
trust in the messenger
communication to public
knowledge
economy of scale
action learning
quality
corporate buy-in
engagement
pull of change
visibility
compassion
trusted suppliers
communication
understanding
seeing results
education
collaboration
evidence
working together
personal experience
community
hearing from others
reseach
trust
acceptance
good media coverage
experience
money saving
price
small successes
resilience
knowledge building
community empowerment
ownership
funding
raise profile of projects
strong myth busting
seeing improvements
good evaluation
wider sense of ownership

25

What are the dampening feedback loops?

57 responses

conflicts of interest

oil companies vested int

human nature as evolved   lack of leadership   wealth

lack of clarity   hopelessness   profitabilty   low confidence in leaders

other priorities   vested interests   mis-information   lack of evidence base

short term costs   misinformation   fossil fuel lobby

current media

overwhelm   power   scepticism   fear of change   current politicians

inequity   aversion to risk

denial   fear   media   apathy

uncertainty   status quo

cynicism   doubt   climate denial   burn out   profit in other places

financial power   some media and lobbies

structural inflexibility   poor outcomes of adapting

non sustainable economy

failed attempts   lack of regulation   lack gov leadership

other priorities eg war   re-telling of old stories

What could be the triggers?

64 responses