

Appendix B. Priority

In the call Explore, in addition to awarding grades for each criterion, reviewers also need to select a Priority score for each application. Priority is a measure of an application's relative competitiveness, that is, how competitive the reviewer considers the application to be compared with other applications they have assessed in the same panel. A three-point scale is used for priority:

- **Priority score 1** – Applications that the reviewer considers to be of the *highest quality* and should be *prioritised for funding*. The reviewers are recommended to use this for no more than 15–20 percent of the applications they review.
- **Priority score 2** – Applications that are *competitive* and should be *funded if there is room left* in the call budget. The reviewers are recommended to use this for no more than 15–20 percent of the applications they review.
- **Priority score 3** – Applications that, in the reviewer's opinion, are *not competitive enough* to receive funding in this call. The reviewers are recommended to use this for at least 60–70 percent of the applications they review.

For example, if a reviewer assesses 20 applications, we recommend assigning no more than 3–4 applications to each of the top two priority categories. The recommended percentage distribution for Priority 1 and Priority 2 is intended to encourage reviewers to differentiate between applications of similar but not equal quality.