



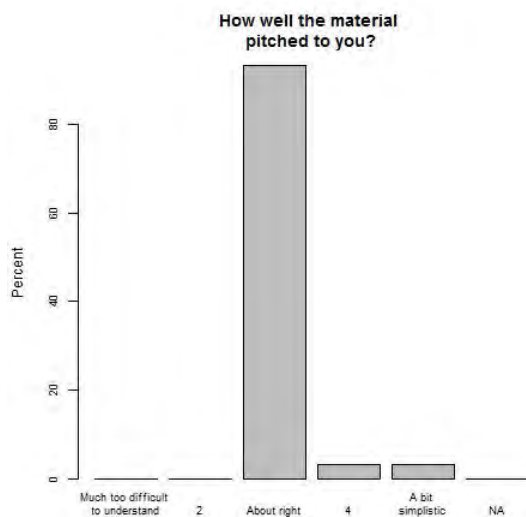
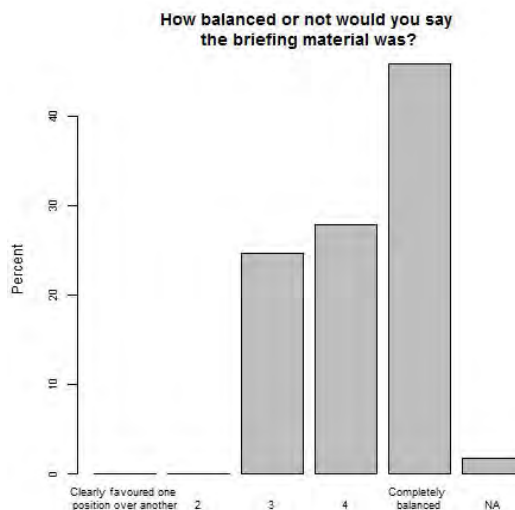
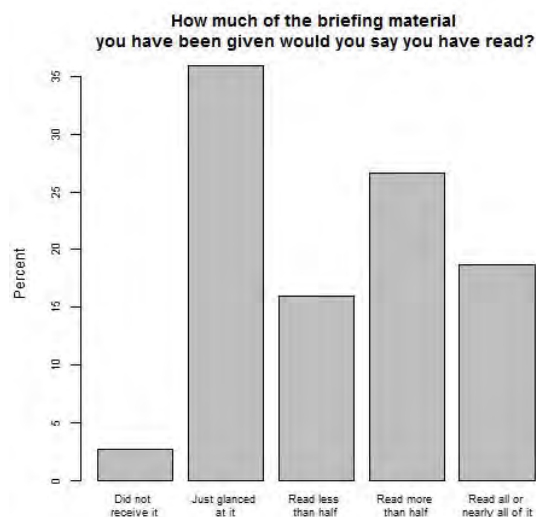
## **Research on the Citizens' Assembly**

### **Feedback Reports from Citizens' Assembly Meetings.**

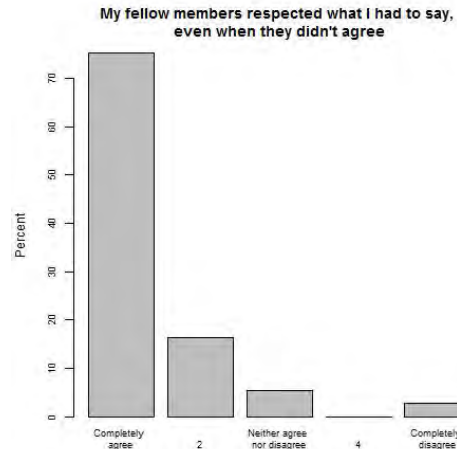
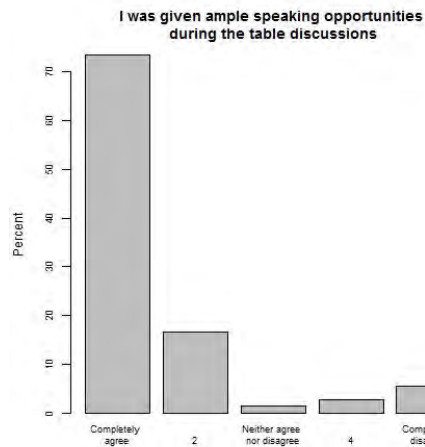
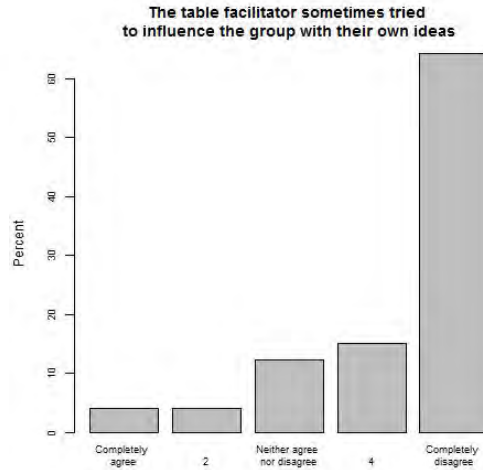
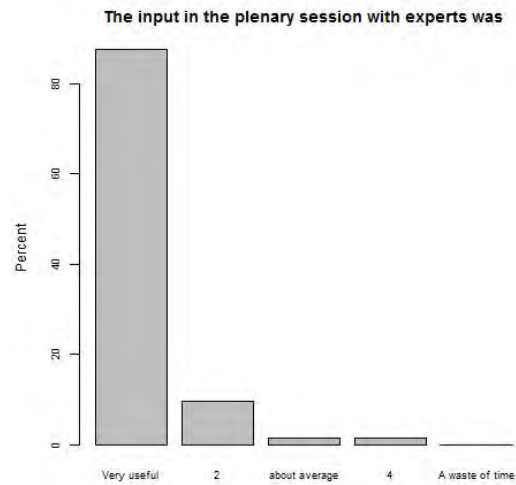
**(November 2016 - November 2017)**

## Feedback report on Weekend 1 (26-27 November 2016)

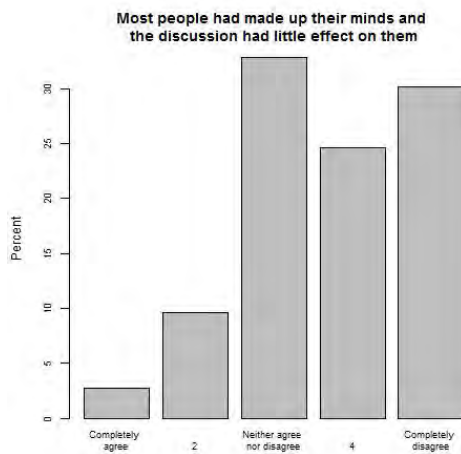
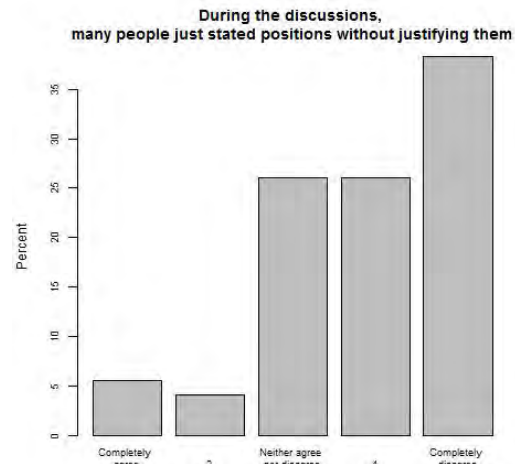
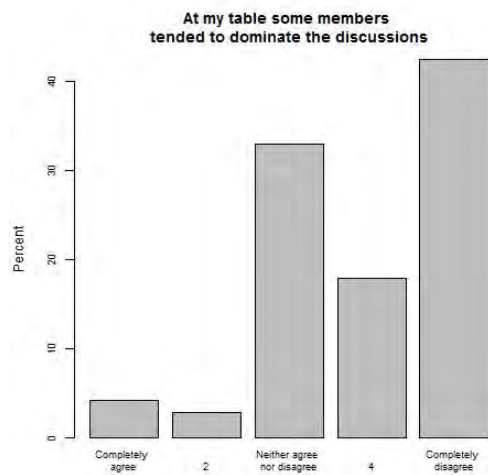
The first set of questions were about the briefing materials. Given that these were not circulated in advance (for reasons explained at the meeting) it is understandable why so few of the members read the material in detail. But the general view about the content of the material was positive: most members felt the briefing material was balanced or completely balanced, and the vast bulk of members felt that the briefing material was ‘pitched about right’.



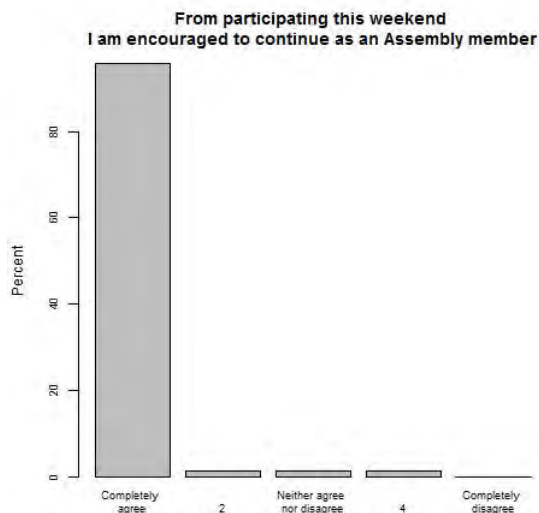
Next we have a series of questions about the quality of the discussions. There was a strong positive reaction to the role of the experts: most found them ‘very useful’. There was also a view that the facilitators did a good job. Generally, the members were happy that they were given ample speaking time at the table discussions and that fellow members respected what they had to say.



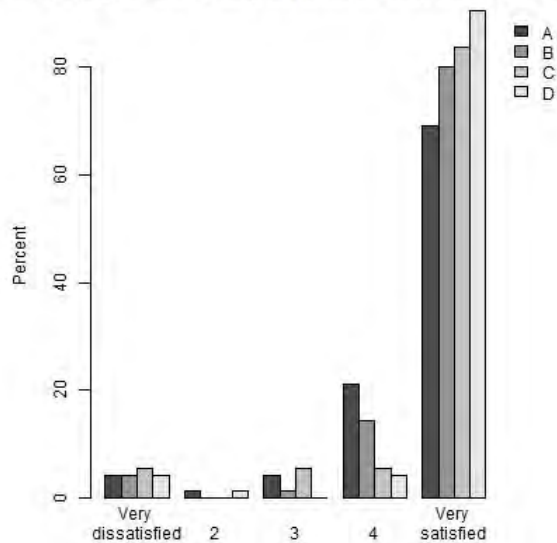
Other questions about the quality of the discussions suggest that at some tables perhaps there were members who tended to dominate the discussions a bit too much, and that there was a slight tendency for members to state positions without justifying them. There was also a feeling that a sizeable minority of members had made up their minds so that the discussions had little effect on them. But, again, overall the views were pretty positive on each of these matters.



Finally, overall levels of satisfaction with the first weekend were very high: virtually all members are happy to remain on as members for future meetings; and the greater majority of members were satisfied for very satisfied with the arrangements of the first weekend (though in the open comments there were specific suggestions about improving food and refreshment arrangements).



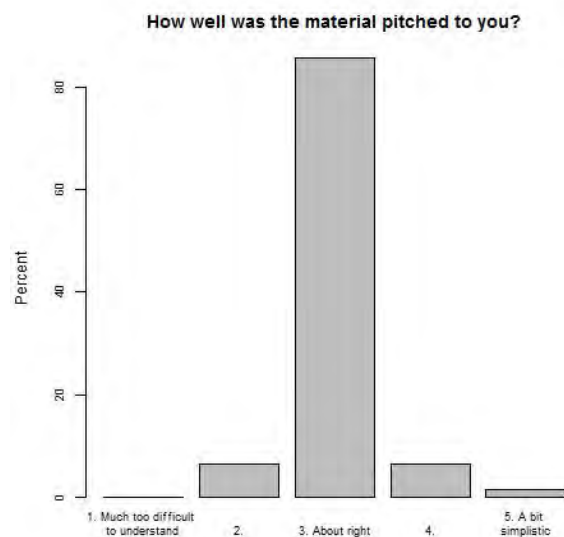
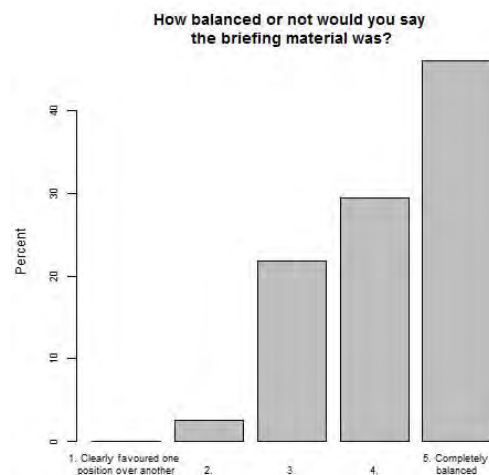
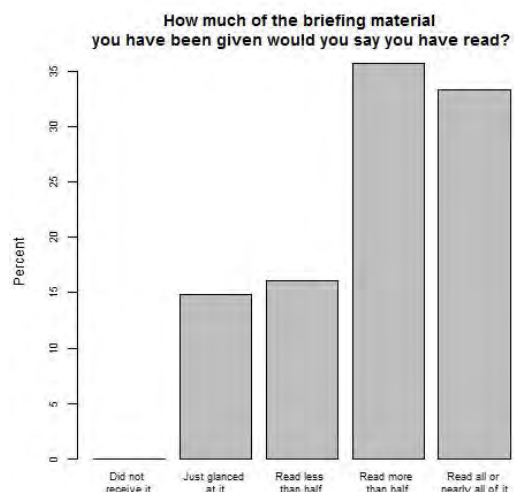
**Can you let us know your views about  
the arrangements leading up to and during this weekend?**



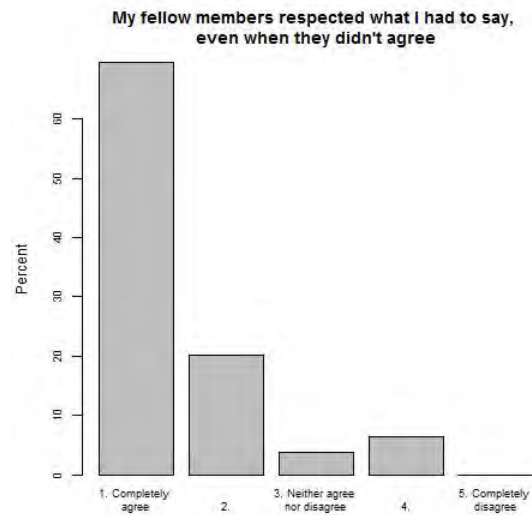
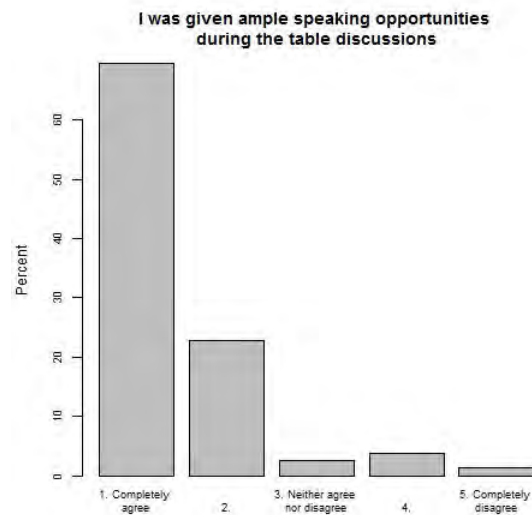
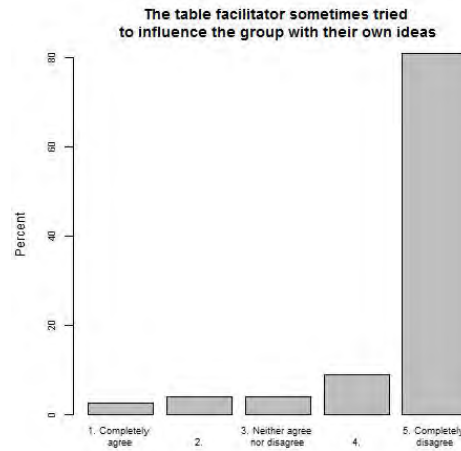
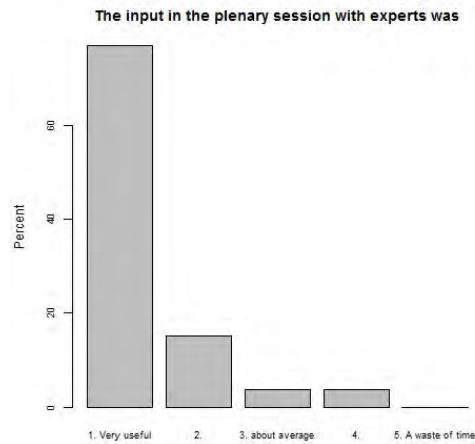
- A- The travel arrangements for getting to the hotel
- B - The accommodation provided
- C - The food, coffee, tea & refreshments throughout the weekend
- D - The support and assistance provided by the Citizens' Assembly secretariat

## Feedback report on Weekend 2 (7-8 January 2017)

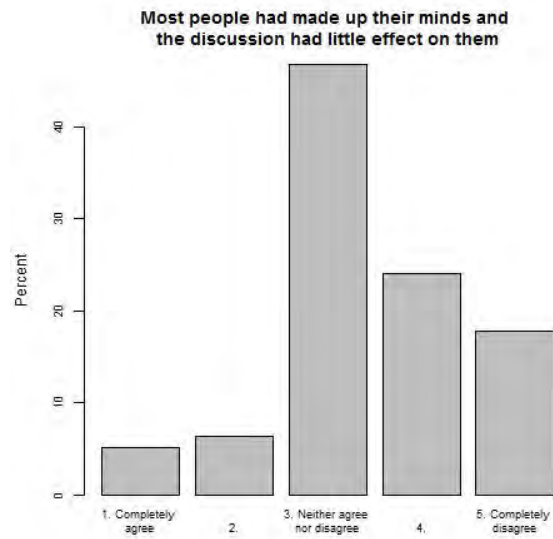
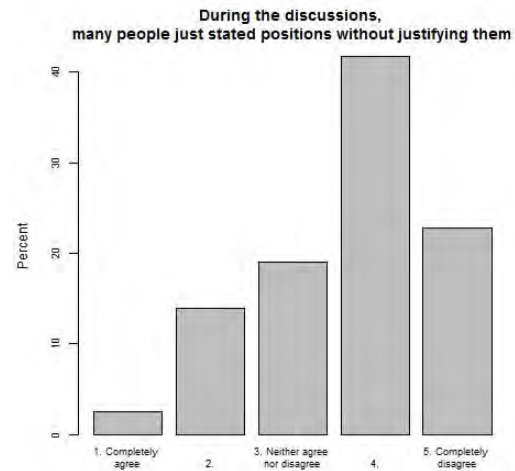
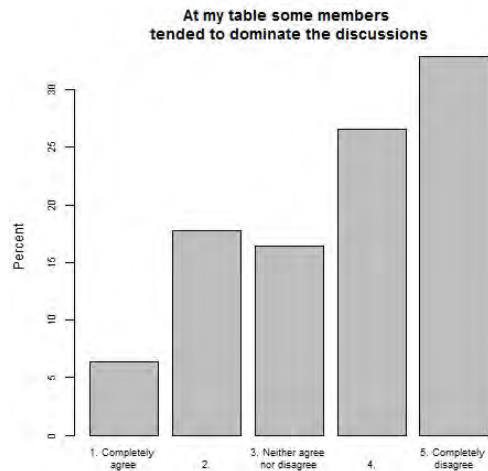
The first set of questions were about the briefing materials. On this occasion the briefing materials were circulated in advance and most members had a chance to read it (though in the open comments issues were raised over the lateness of its circulation). The general view about the content of the material was positive: most members felt the briefing material was balanced or completely balanced, and the bulk of members felt that the briefing material was ‘pitched about right’



Next we have a series of questions about the quality of the discussions – and these show very similar trends to the previous weekend. There was a strong positive reaction to the role of the experts: most found them ‘very useful’. There was also a view that the facilitators did a good job. Generally, the members were happy that they were given ample speaking time at the table discussions and that fellow members respected what they had to say.

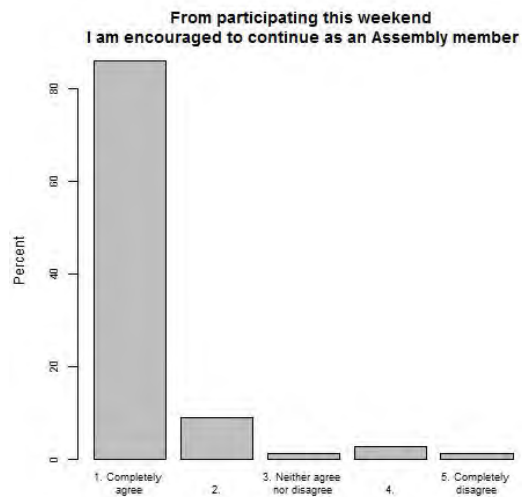


Like the previous weekend there were a few tables where it was felt that some members tended to dominate the discussions a bit too much, and in a minority of cases there was a slight tendency for members to state positions without justifying them. There was also a feeling that a sizeable minority of members had made up their minds so that the discussions had little effect on them. But, again, overall the views were pretty positive on each of these matters.

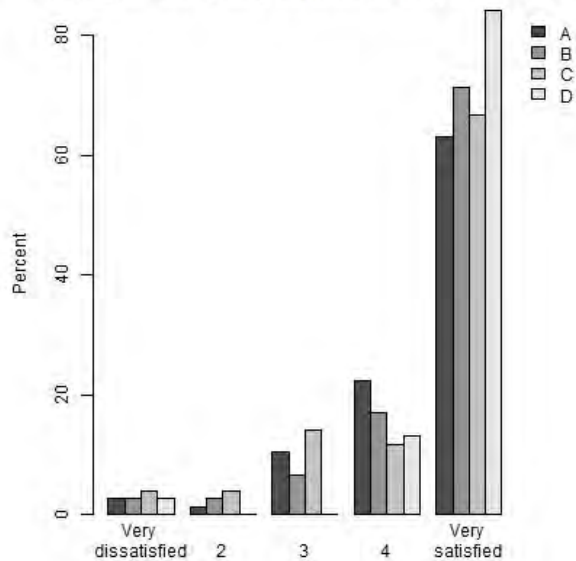




Finally, overall levels of satisfaction with this weekend's meeting were very high: most members are happy to remain on as members for future meetings; and the greater majority of members were satisfied or very satisfied with the arrangements of the weekend (though in the open comments there were again specific suggestions about improving food and refreshment arrangements).



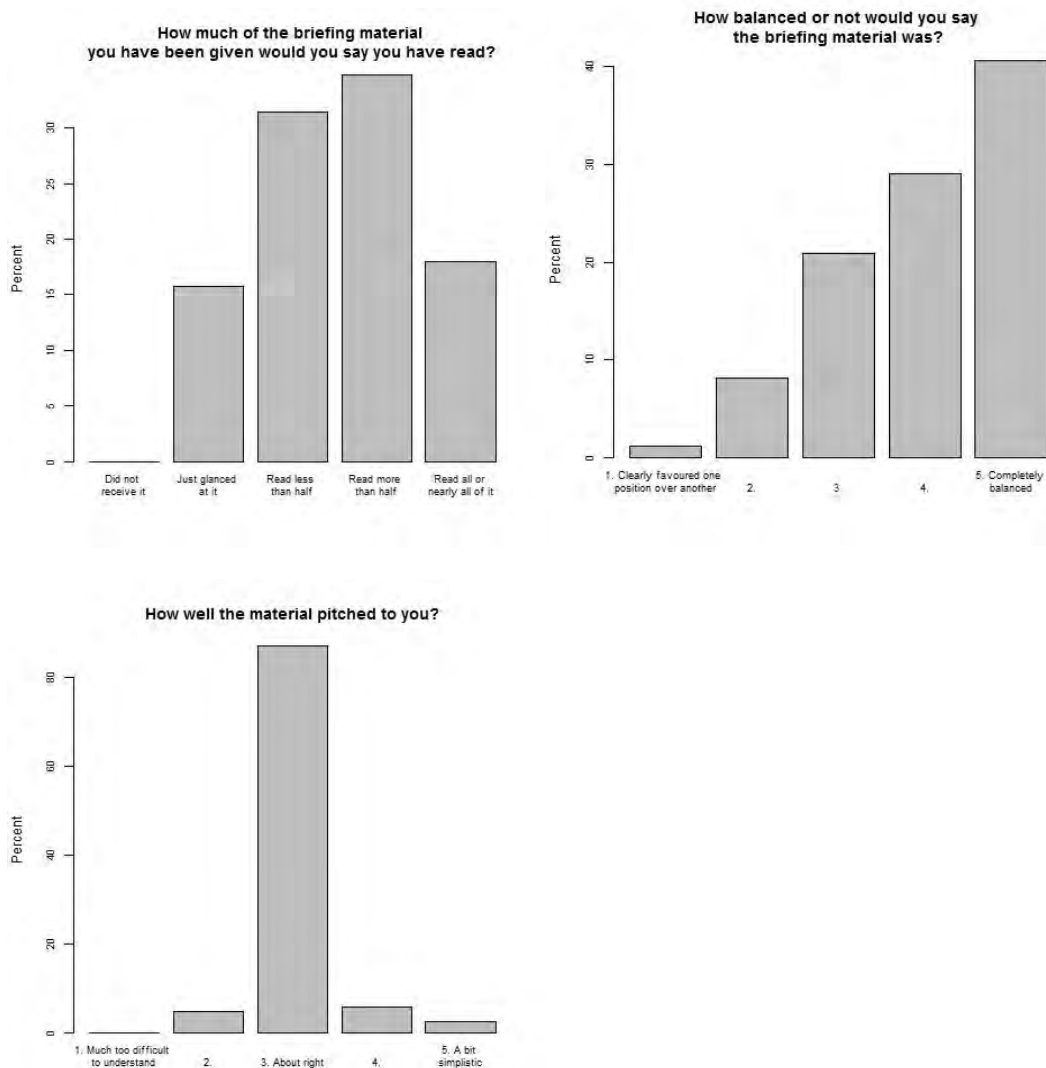
**Can you let us know your views about  
the arrangements leading up to and during this weekend?**



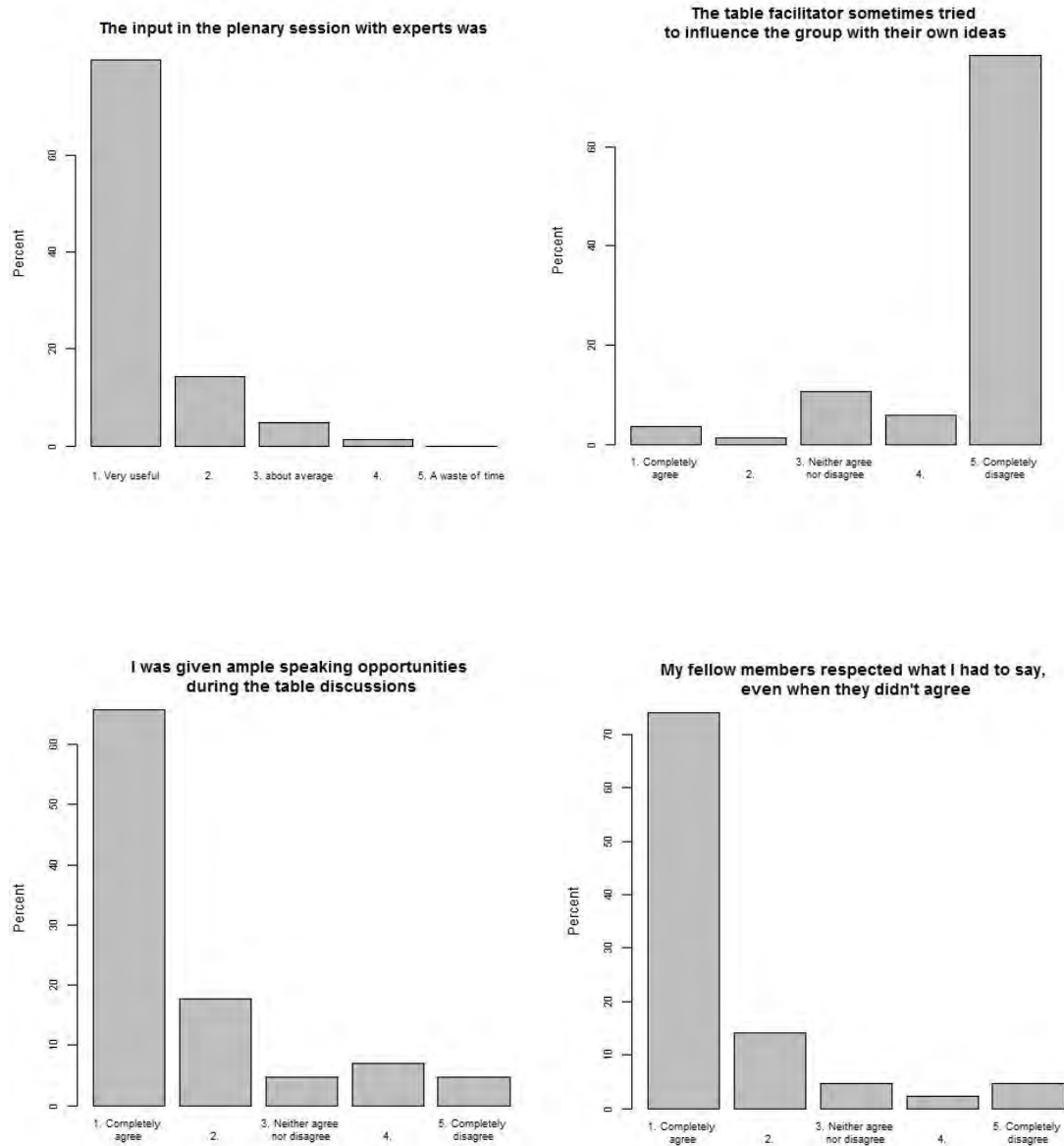
- A - The travel arrangements for getting to the hotel
- B - The accommodation provided
- C - The food, coffee, tea & refreshments throughout the weekend
- D - The support and assistance provided by the Citizens' Assembly secretariat

## Feedback report on Weekend 3 (4-5 February 2017)

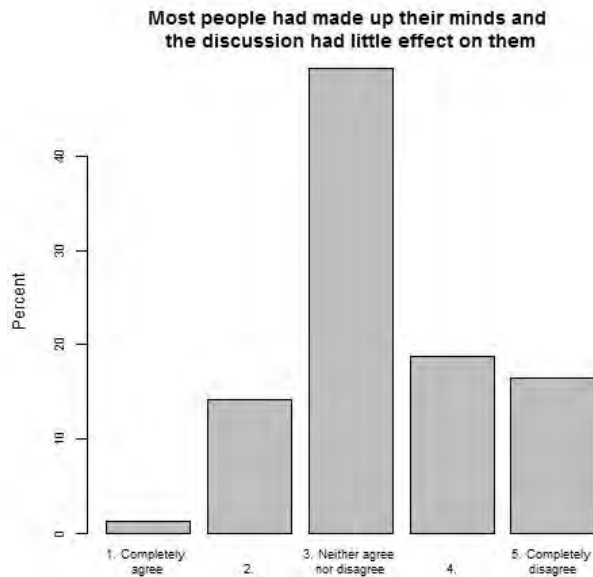
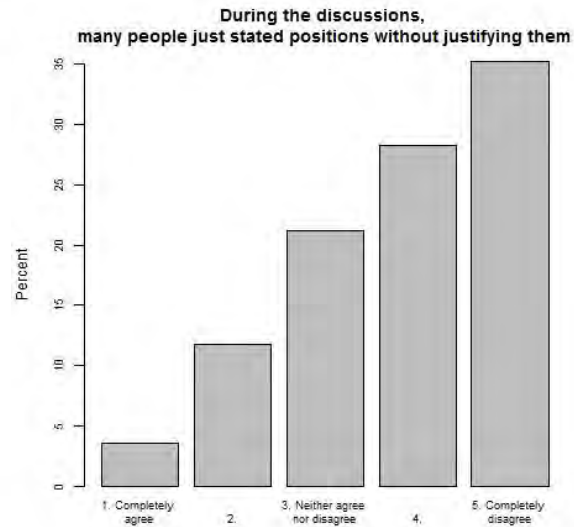
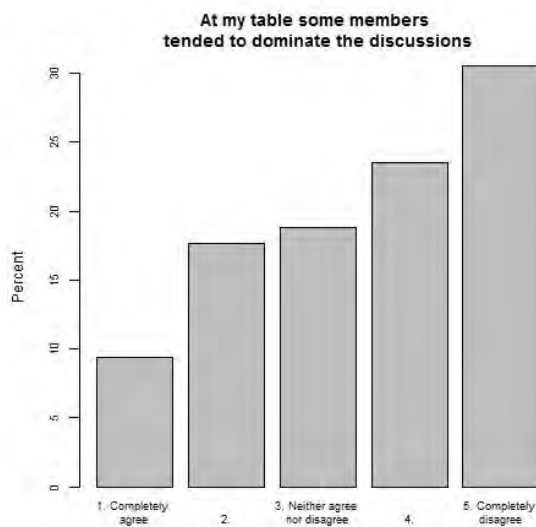
The first set of questions were about the briefing materials. There were a larger proportion of members on this occasion who did not read all the material, perhaps reflecting the amount that was circulated (again, in the open comments issues were raised over the lateness of its circulation). As in previous meetings, the general view about the content of the material was positive: most members felt the briefing material was balanced or completely balanced, and the bulk of members felt that the briefing material was ‘pitched about right’



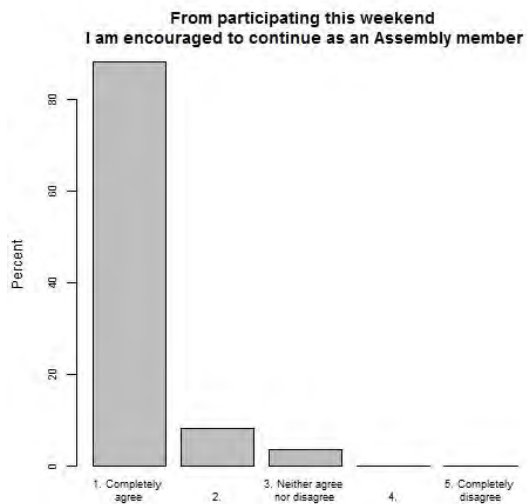
Next we have a series of questions about the quality of the discussions – and these show very similar trends to the previous two weekends. There was a strong positive reaction to the role of the experts: most found them ‘very useful’. There was also a view that the facilitators did a good job. Generally, with a small number of exceptions, the members were happy that they were given ample speaking time at the table discussions and that fellow members respected what they had to say.



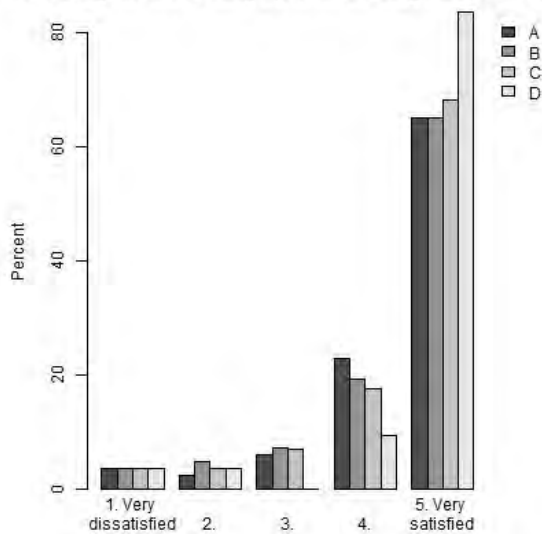
Compared to previous meetings there was a slightly larger proportion of members who felt that some members tended to dominate the discussions a bit too much. There was also a slight increase in the proportion of members who felt that other members tended to state positions without justifying them (that was matched by an increase in the proportion who strongly disagreed). There was also a feeling that a sizeable minority of members had made up their minds so that the discussions had little effect on them. But, again, overall the views were pretty positive on each of these matters.



Finally, overall levels of satisfaction with this weekend's meeting were very high: most members are happy to remain on as members for future meetings; and the greater majority of members were satisfied or very satisfied with the arrangements of the weekend (though in the open comments there were specific suggestions about improving food, refreshment and accommodation arrangements).



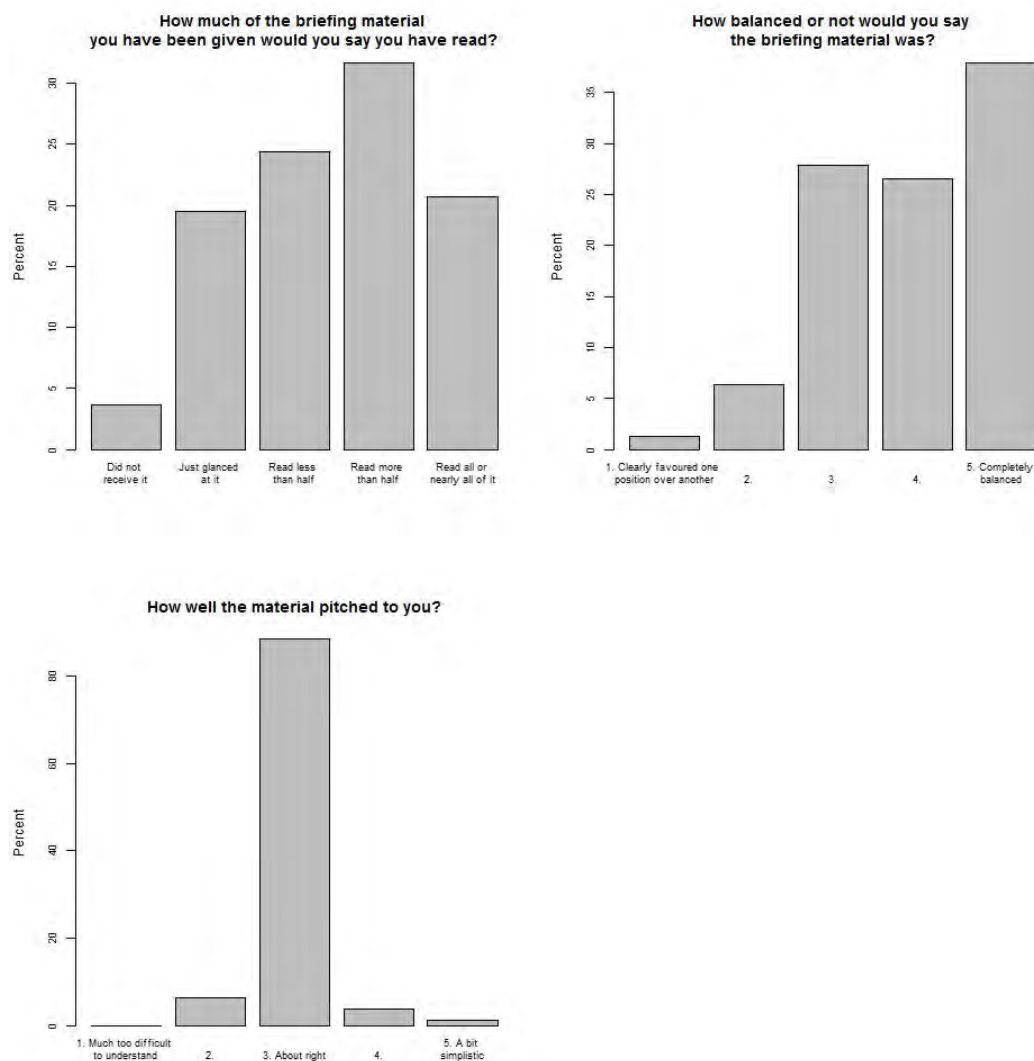
**Can you let us know your views about  
the arrangements leading up to and during this weekend?**



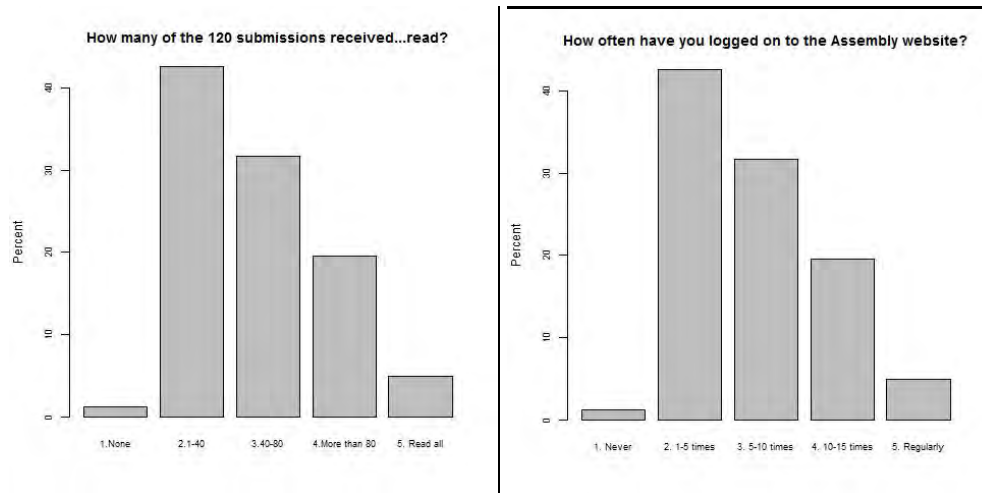
- A - The travel arrangements for getting to the hotel
- B - The accommodation provided
- C - The food, coffee, tea & refreshments throughout the weekend
- D - The support and assistance provided by the Citizens' Assembly secretariat

## Feedback report on Weekend 4 (4-5 March 2017)

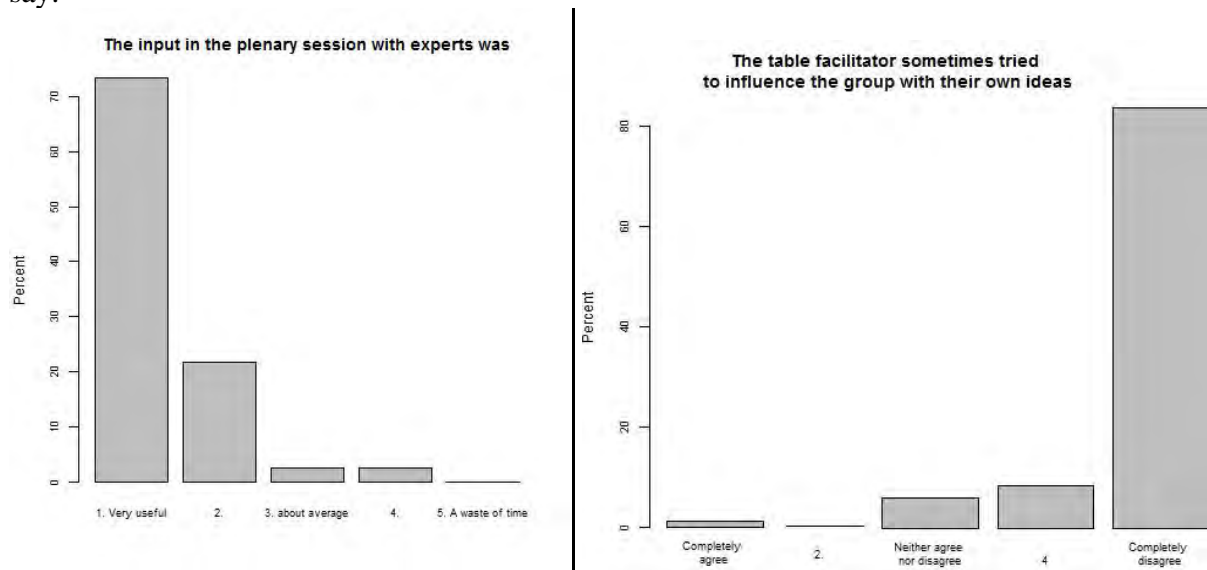
The first set of questions were about the briefing materials. Overall, the trends were very similar to the previous weekend. While slightly more than last time had read all or nearly all of the material, there was also a notable increase in the proportions who glanced at the material or didn't receive it (also reflected in the open comments). As in previous meetings, the general view about the content of the material was positive: most members felt the briefing material was balanced or completely balanced (although there were a sizeable proportion who were equivocal on the matter), and the bulk of members felt that the briefing material was 'pitched about right'.

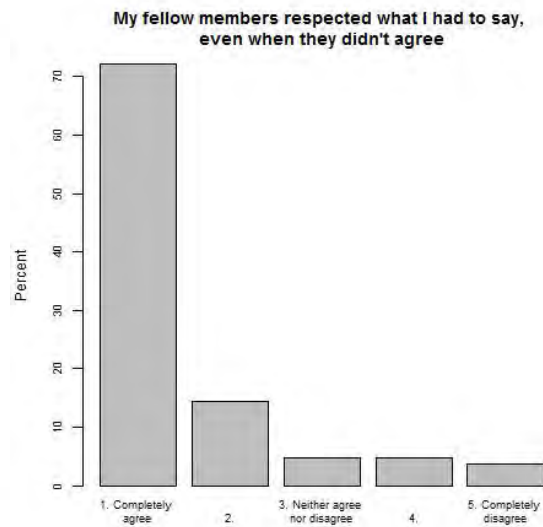
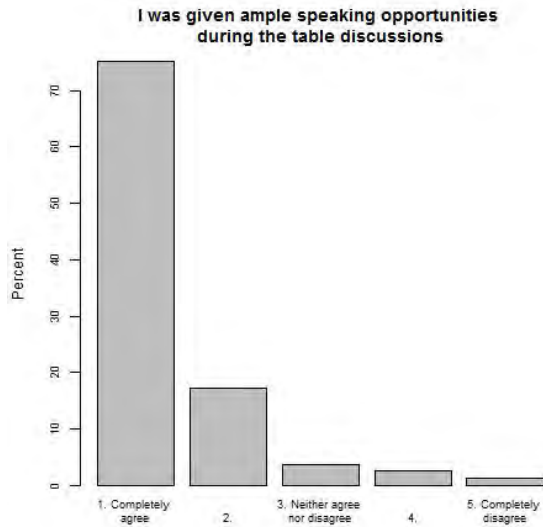


On this occasion we asked two questions about the submissions to the Citizens' Assembly that have been posted on the Assembly website. A little over half of the Assembly members have read at least 40 of the 120 submissions received from advocacy and other representative groups; a quarter have read more 80 or more of them. The trends are pretty similar regarding website usage more generally: a little over half of the members have logged on to the website five or more times to read from the total submissions received by the Assembly.

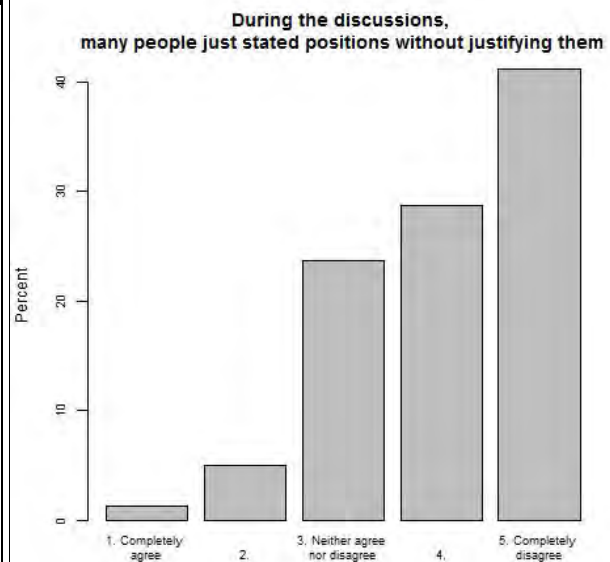
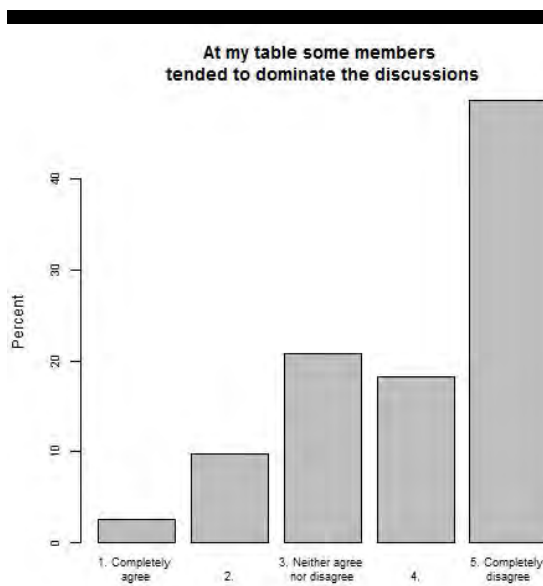


Next we have a series of questions about the quality of the discussions – and these show very similar trends to the previous three weekends. There was a strong positive reaction to the role of the experts: most found them ‘very useful’. There was also a view that the facilitators did a good job. Generally, with a small number of exceptions, the members were happy that they were given ample speaking time at the table discussions and that fellow members respected what they had to say.

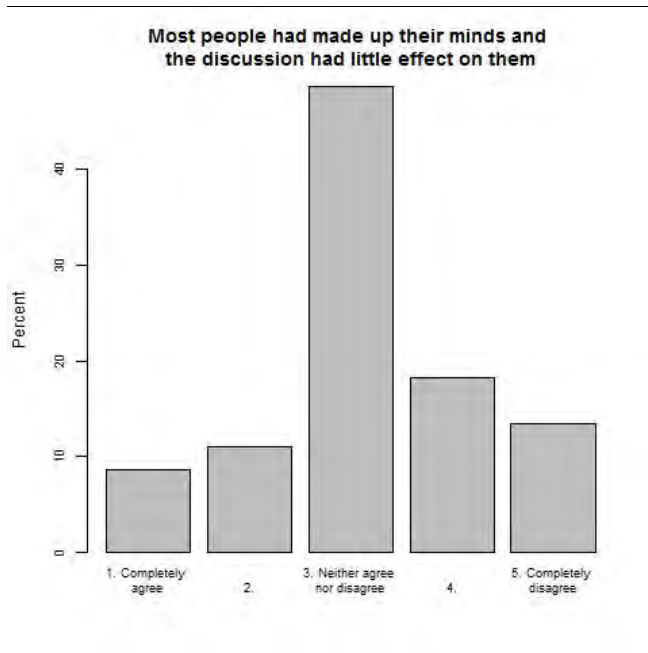




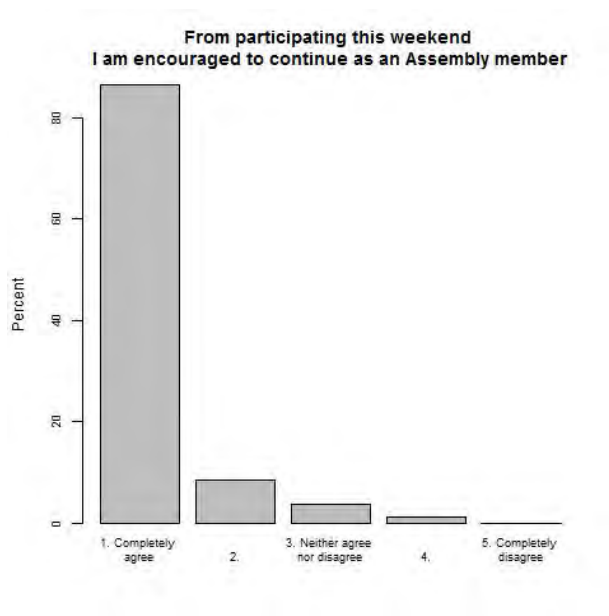
Compared to the previous weekend there was a notable drop in the proportion of members who felt that some members tended to dominate the discussions a bit too much: 60 per cent of members disagreed or completely disagreed with that statement. There was also a drop in the proportion of members who felt that other members tended to state positions without justifying them: three-quarters of the members disagreed with that statement. Most members were equivocal on the issue of whether members had made up their minds before the discussion.





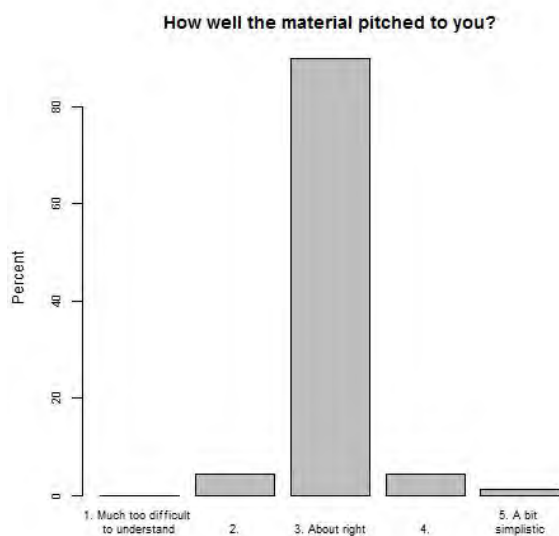
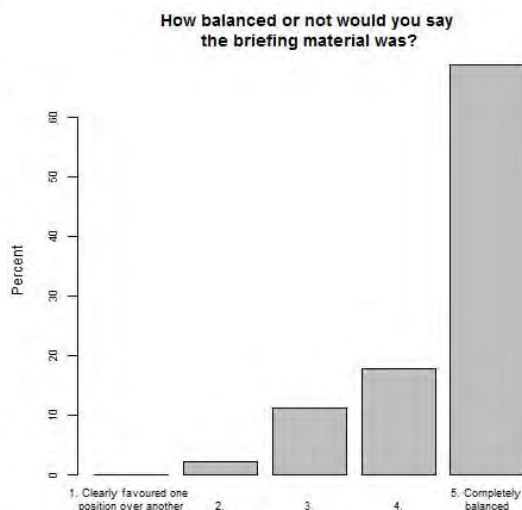
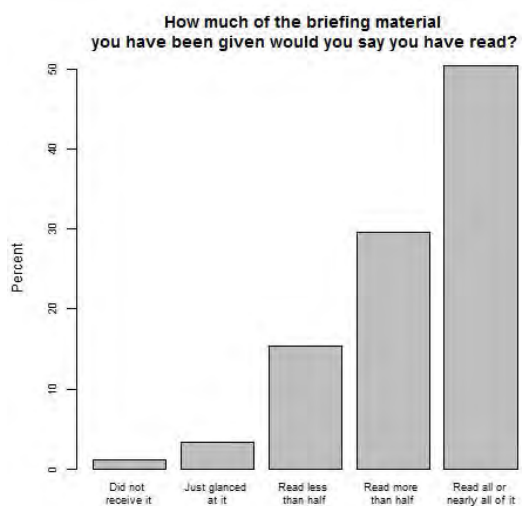


Finally, overall levels of satisfaction with this weekend's meeting were very high: as reported in all the previous surveys most members are happy to remain on as members for future meetings.

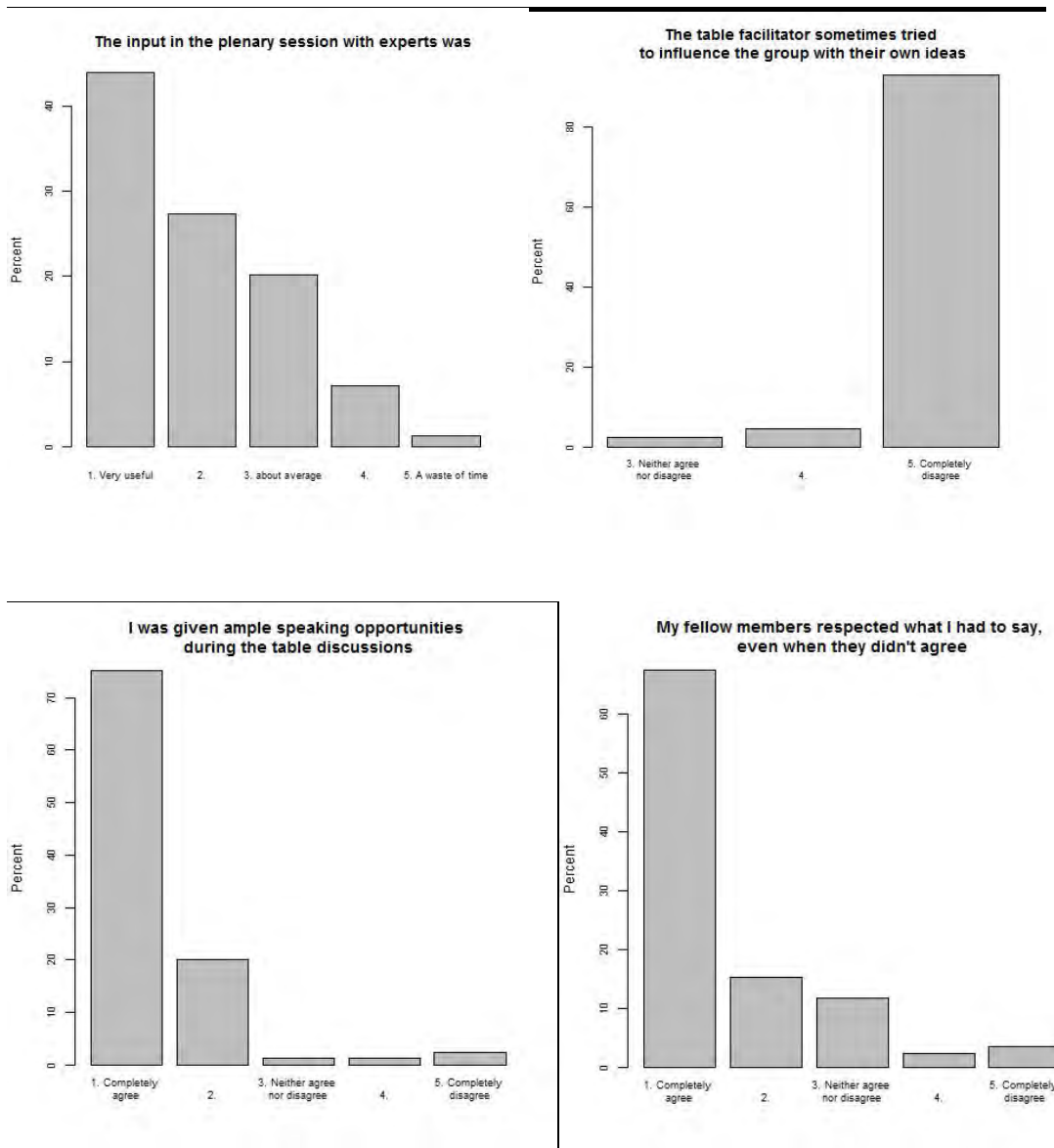


## Feedback report on Weekend 5 (22-23 April, 2017)

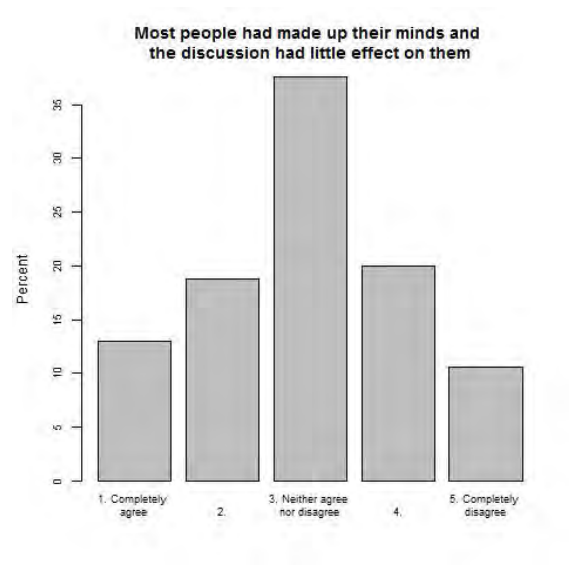
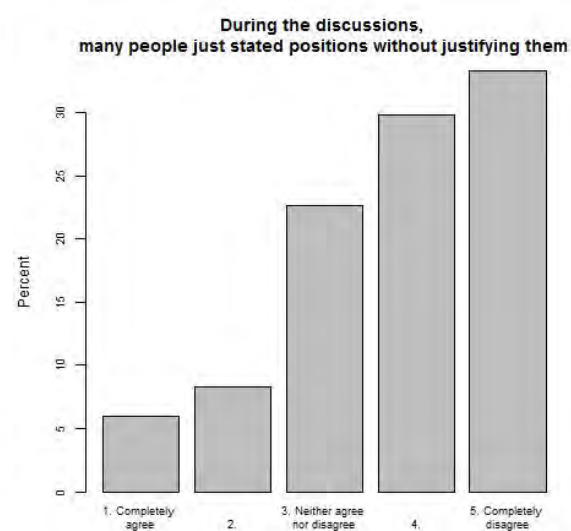
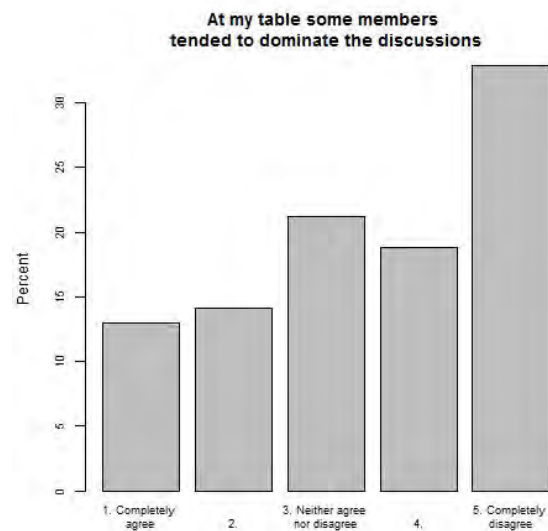
The first set of questions were about the briefing materials. Eight out of ten of members said they had read most or all of the briefing material – a significant increase on the previous weekend. There was also a big increase in the proportion of members who felt that the briefing material was balanced (eight out of ten thought that it was), and the bulk of members felt that the briefing material was ‘pitched about right’.



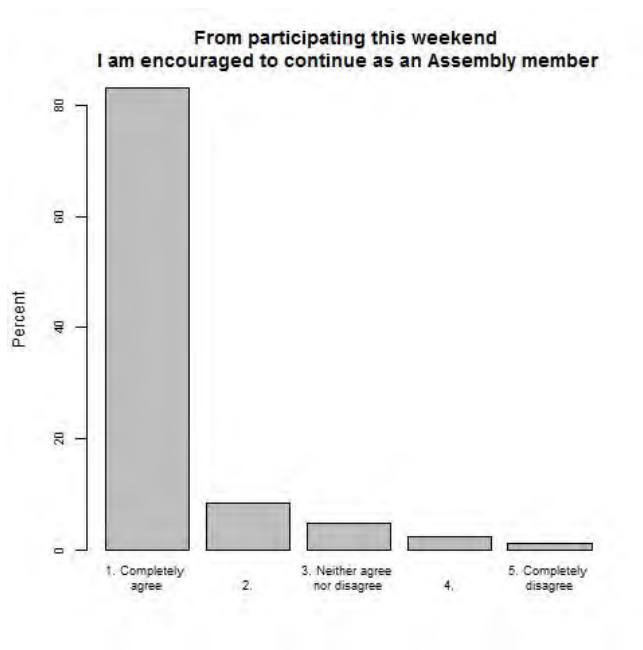
Next we have a series of questions about the quality of the discussions – and for the most part these show similar trends to the previous weekends. The majority view was that the input of the experts was useful or very useful; however, somewhat more so than in previous weekends there were some who disagreed. There was strong support for the view that the facilitators did a good job: on this occasion, the view was particularly strong (no members agreed with the statement that the facilitator ‘tried to influence the group’). Generally, with a small number of exceptions, the members were happy that they were given ample speaking time at the table discussions and that fellow members respected what they had to say.



Opinions were pretty divided on the question of whether members felt that some members tended to dominate the discussions a bit too much: most disagreed with the statement, but there was a sizeable proportion who agreed. The proportion of members who felt that other members tended to state positions without justifying them was slightly up on the previous weekend; nevertheless, about two-thirds of the members disagreed with that statement. Like in previous weekends most members were equivocal on the issue of whether members had made up their minds before the discussion.



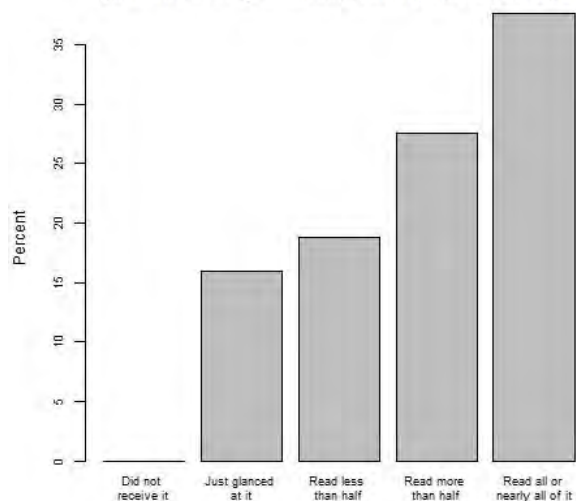
Finally, overall levels of satisfaction with this weekend's meeting were very high: as reported in all the previous surveys most members are happy to remain on as members for future meetings.



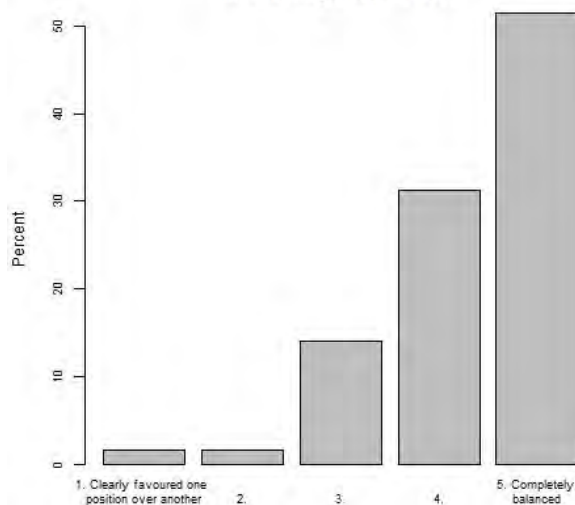
## Feedback report on Weekend 6 (10-11 June, 2017)

The first set of questions were about the briefing materials. Compared to the previous weekend, there was a slight reduction in the numbers of members who said they had read most or all of the briefing material, nevertheless about two-thirds had. Eight out of ten members felt that the briefing material was balanced, and the bulk of members felt that the briefing material was 'pitched about right'.

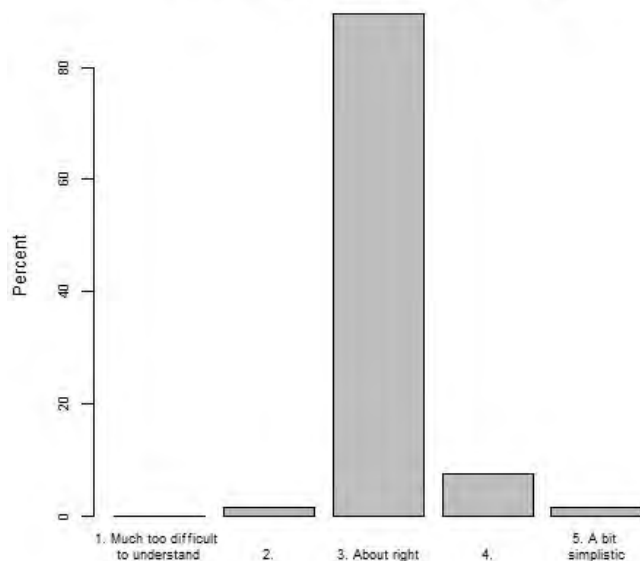
**How much of the briefing material you have been given would you say you have read?**



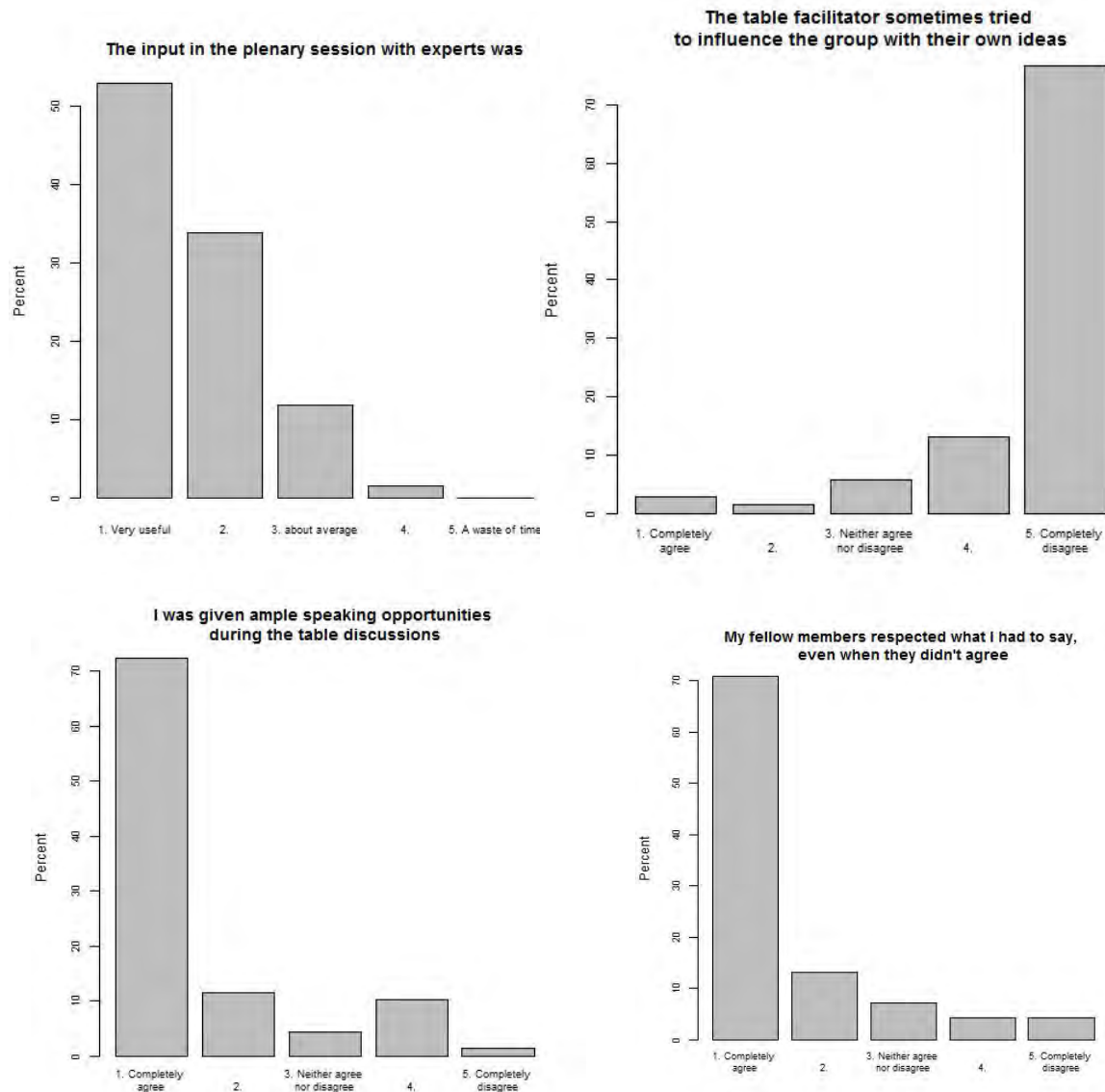
**How balanced or not would you say the briefing material was?**



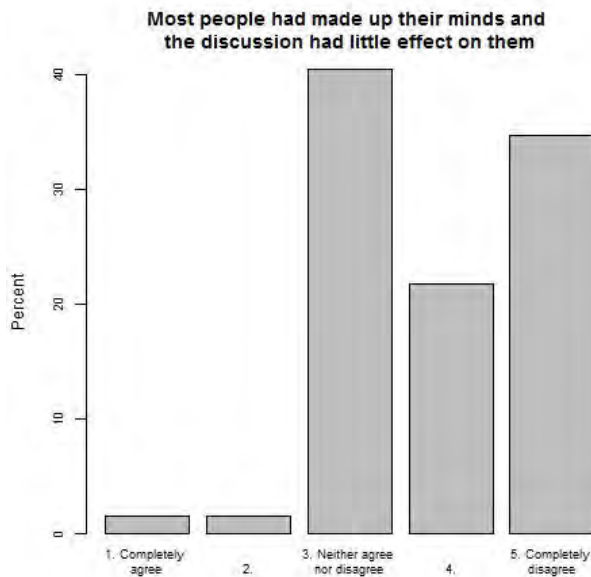
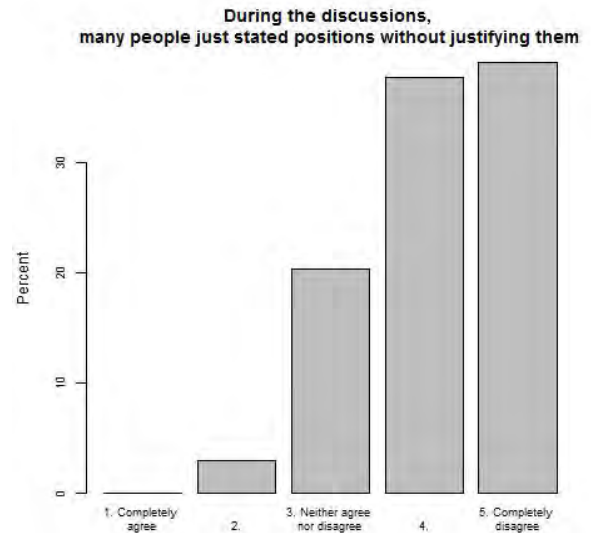
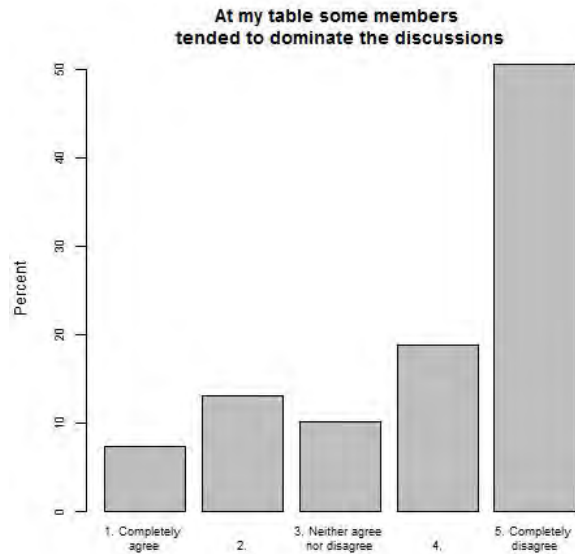
**How well the material pitched to you?**



Next we have a series of questions about the quality of the discussions – and for the most part these show similar trends to the previous weekends. The clear majority view was that the input of the experts was useful or very useful. There was strong support for the view that the facilitators did a good job. Generally, with a small number of exceptions, the members were happy that they were given ample speaking time at the table discussions and that fellow members respected what they had to say.



A majority of members (70 per cent) disagreed with the statement that some members tended to dominate the discussions a bit too much. The proportion of members who felt that other members tended to state positions without justifying them was sharply down on the previous weekend; more than eight out of ten members disagreed with that statement. Over half of the members disagreed with the statement that members had made up their minds before the discussion.



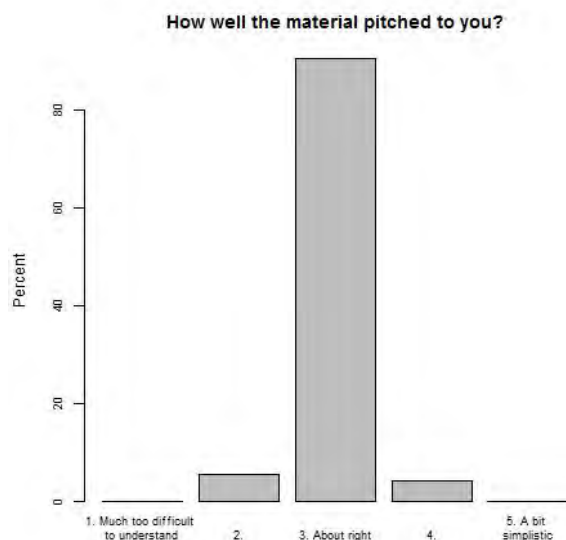
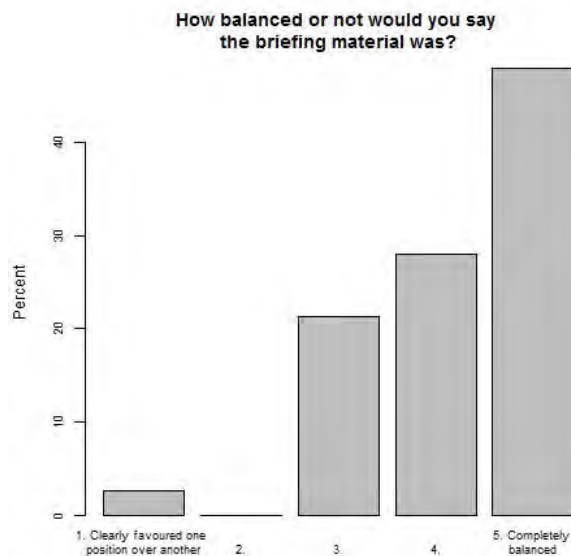
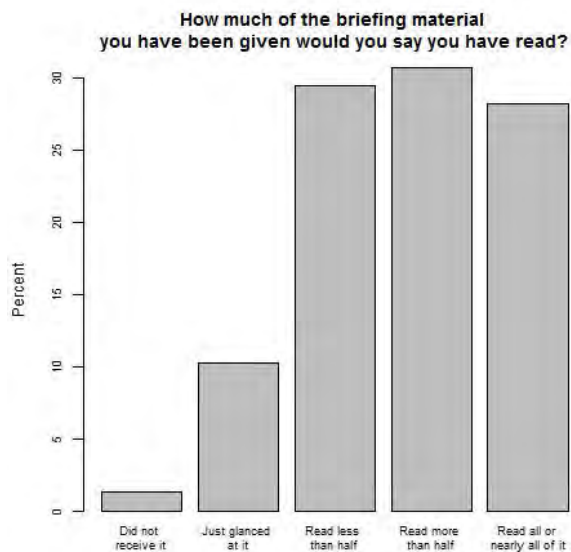


Finally, overall levels of satisfaction with this weekend's meeting were very high: as reported in all the previous surveys most members are happy to remain on as members for future meetings.

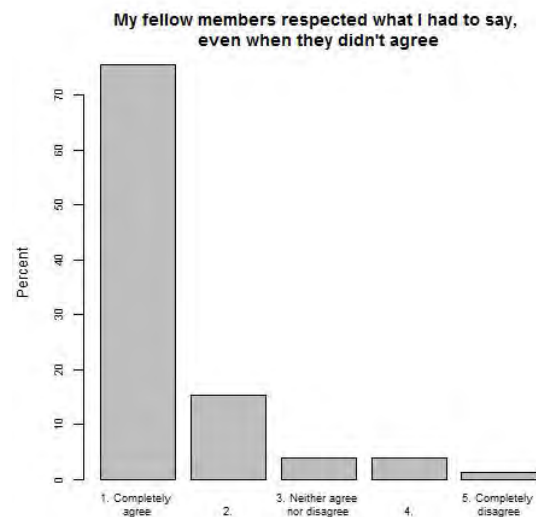
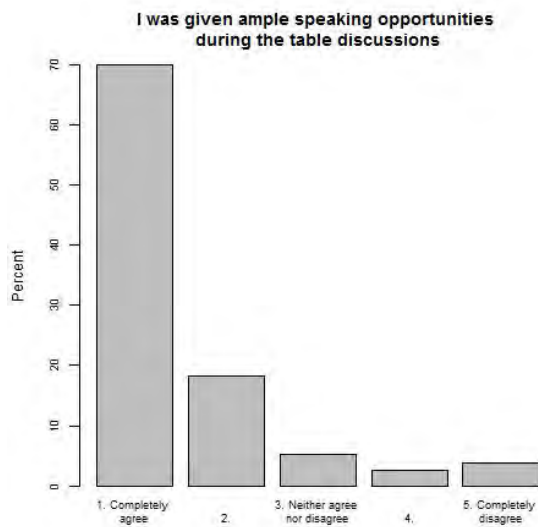
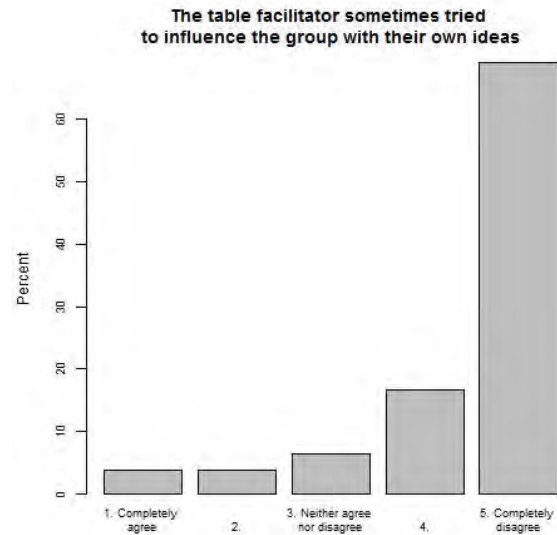
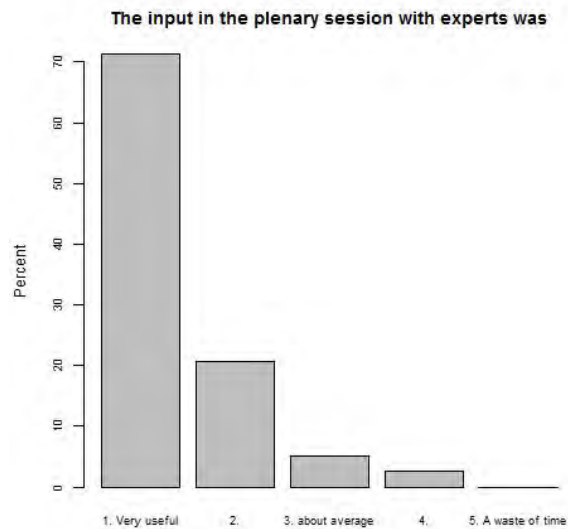


## Feedback report on Weekend 7 (8-9 July, 2017)

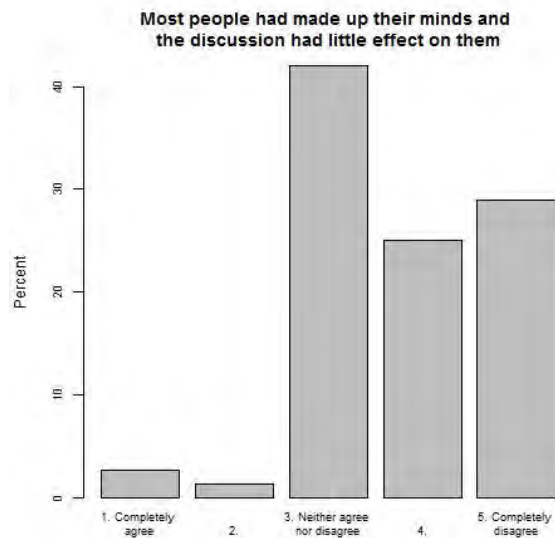
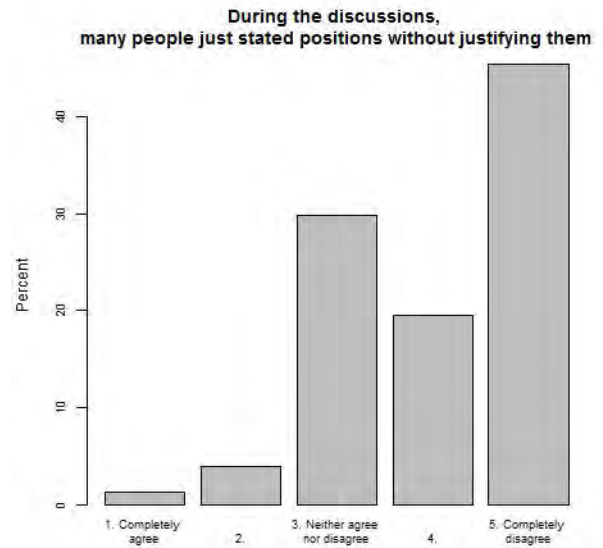
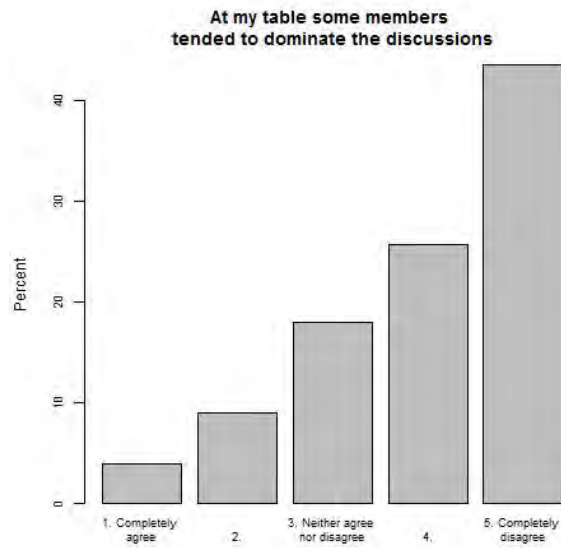
The first set of questions were about the briefing materials. Compared to the previous weekends, there was a notable reduction in the numbers of members who said they had read most or all of the briefing material; on this occasion, just over half the members had. Much as in previous weekends, the views about the quality of the briefing material were positive: four out of five members felt that the briefing material was balanced, and the bulk of members felt that the briefing material was ‘pitched about right’.



On questions about the quality of the discussions the trends are pretty similar to previous weekends. 70% of members felt that the input of the experts was very useful. There was strong support for the view that the facilitators did a good job. Like in previous weekends, with a small number of exceptions, the members were happy that they were given ample speaking time at the table discussions and that fellow members respected what they had to say.



While, as before, a majority of members disagreed with the statement that some members tended to dominate the discussions, the proportion feeling there was some dominance has crept up a bit. Similarly, the proportion of members who felt that other members tended to state positions without justifying them was higher than on the previous occasion, with 30% of members undecided on the issue. Over half of the members disagreed with the statement that members had made up their minds before the discussion, but again there were a lot of members undecided on this issue.

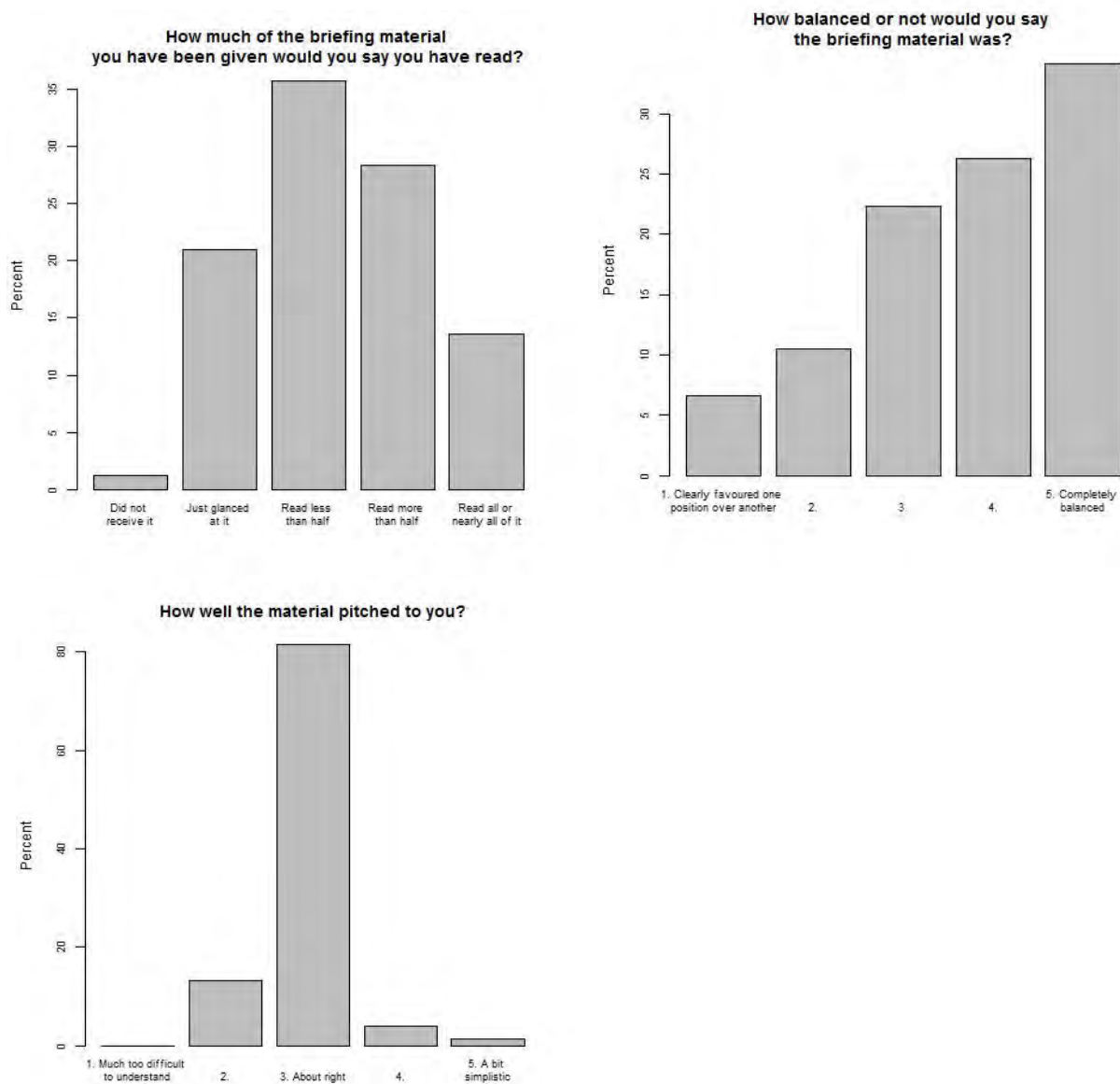


Finally, overall levels of satisfaction with this weekend's meeting were very high: as reported in all the previous surveys the bulk of members are happy to remain on as members for future meetings.

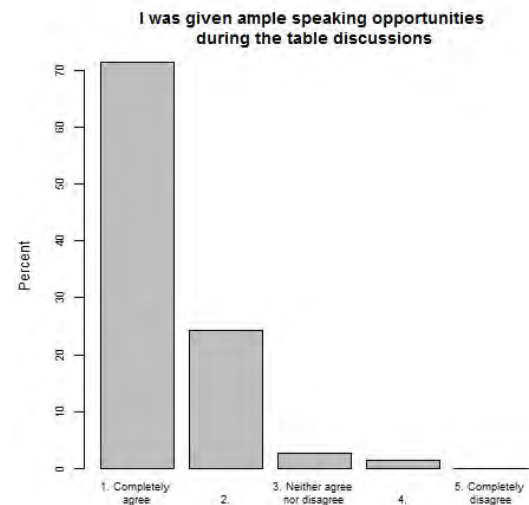
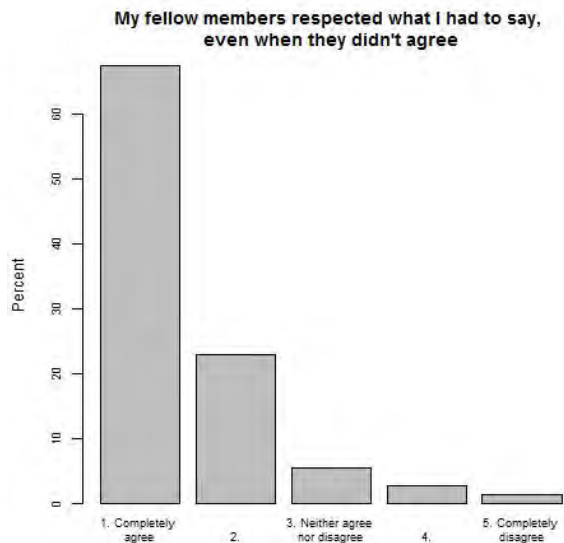
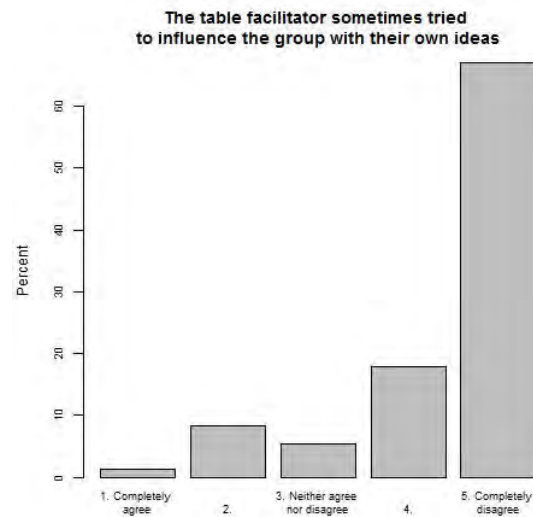
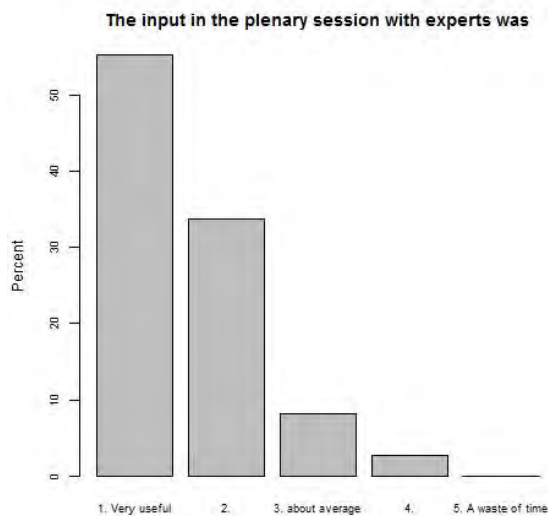


## Feedback report on Weekend 8 (30 September-1 October, 2017)

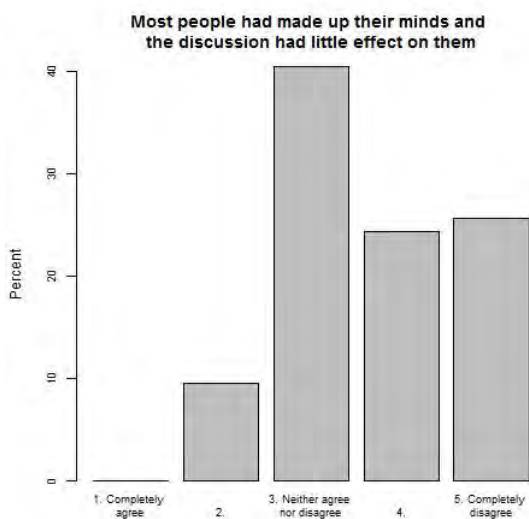
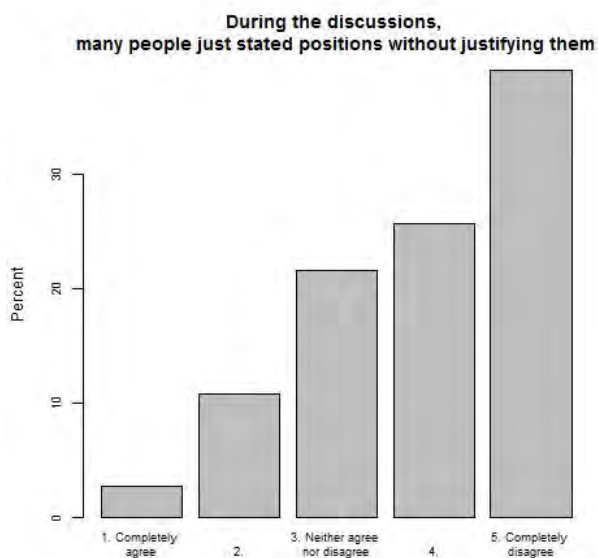
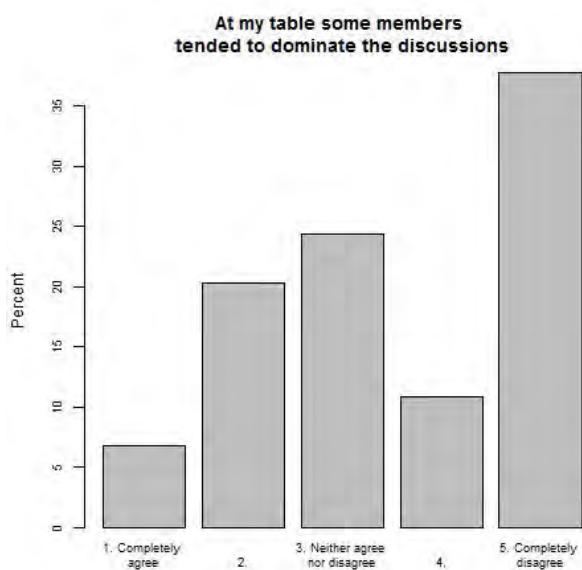
The first set of questions were about the briefing materials. Compared to the previous weekends, there was a further reduction in the numbers of members who said they had read most or all of the briefing material; on this occasion, less than half the members had. However, as in previous weekends, the views about the quality of the briefing material were again positive: the greater majority of members felt that the briefing material was balanced, and four-fifths said it was 'pitched about right'.



On questions about the quality of the discussions the trends are pretty similar to previous weekends. More than four out of five members felt that the input of the experts was useful or very useful. There was strong support for the view that the facilitators did a good job. Like in previous weekends, with a small number of exceptions, the members were happy that they were given ample speaking time at the table discussions and that fellow members respected what they had to say.

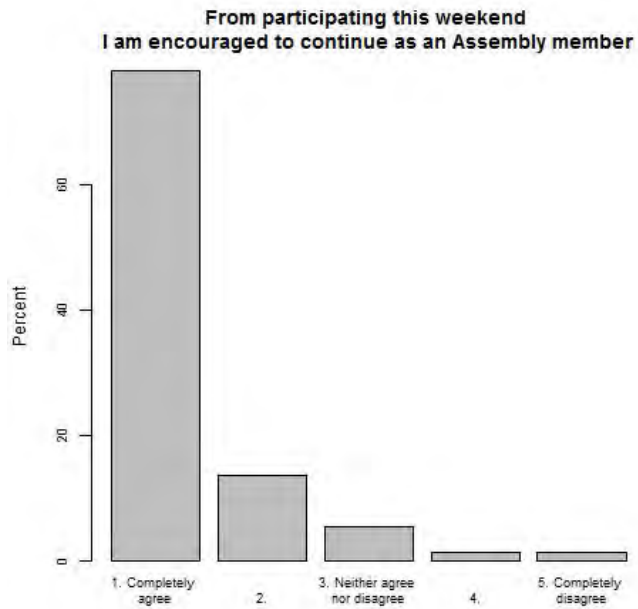


Views were pretty mixed on the issue of whether some members tended to dominate the discussions: 45% disagreed, but the proportion agreeing has risen to a quarter of the membership. Similarly, the proportion of members who felt that other members tended to state positions without justifying them was slightly higher than on the previous occasion. Just under half of the members disagreed with the statement that members had made up their minds before the discussion, but as is previous weekends there were a lot of members undecided on this issue.



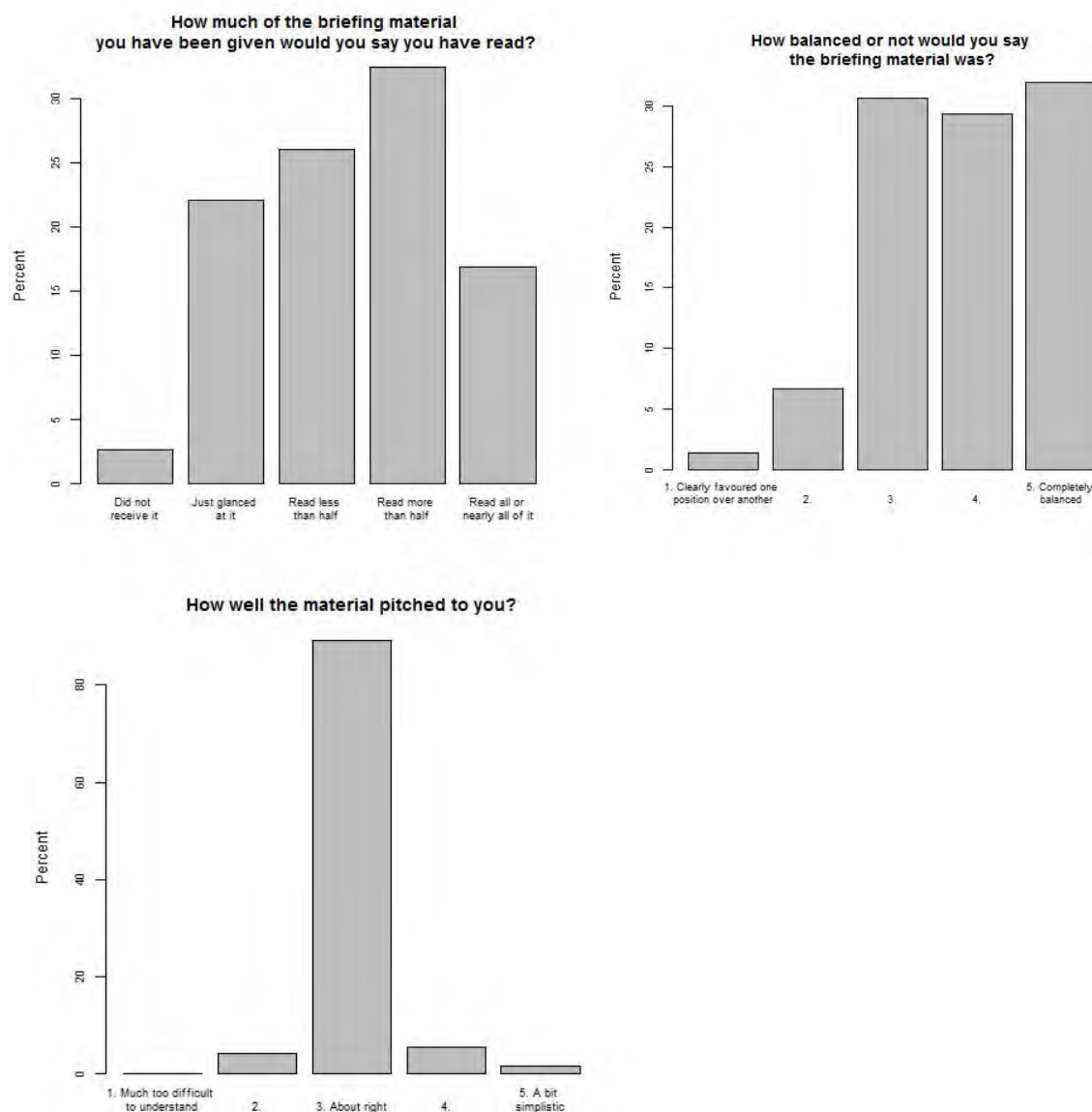


Finally, overall levels of satisfaction with this weekend's meeting were as high as in previous weekends: as reported in all the previous surveys the bulk of members are happy to remain on as members for future meetings.

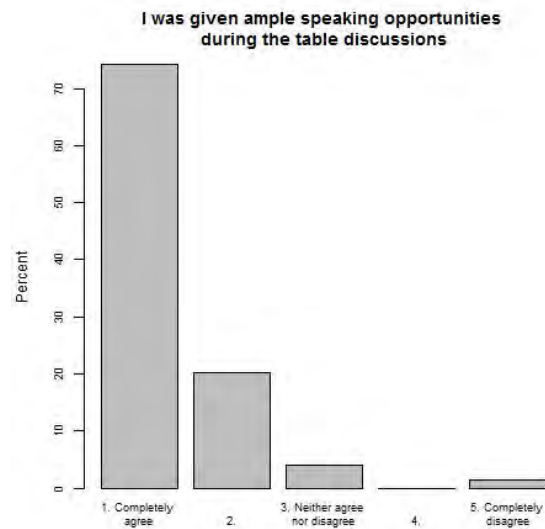
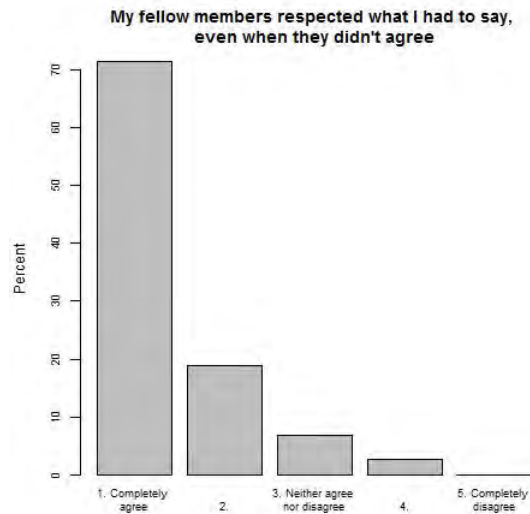
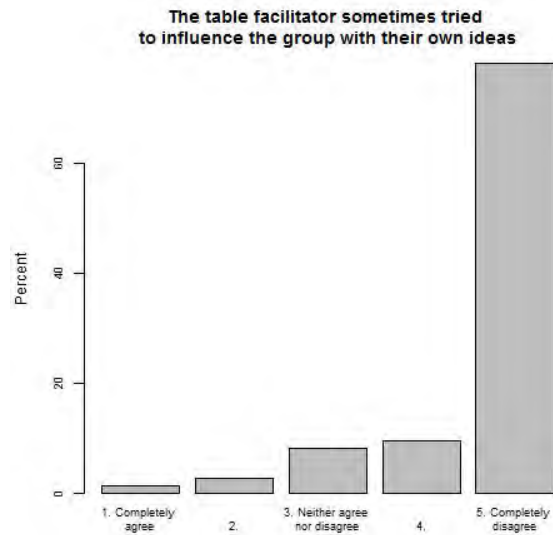
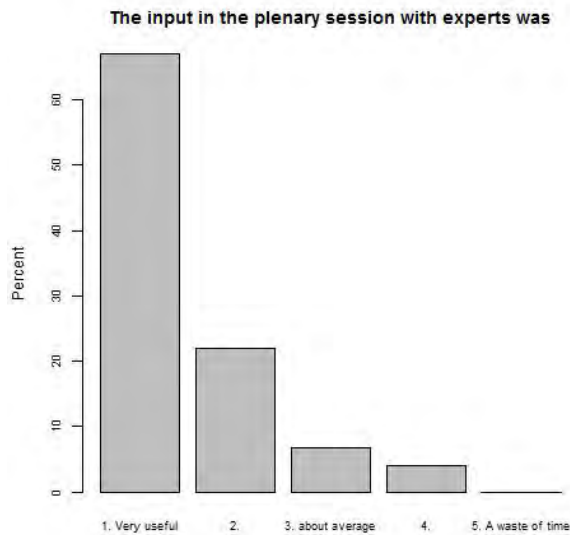


## Feedback report on Weekend 9 (4-5 November 2017)

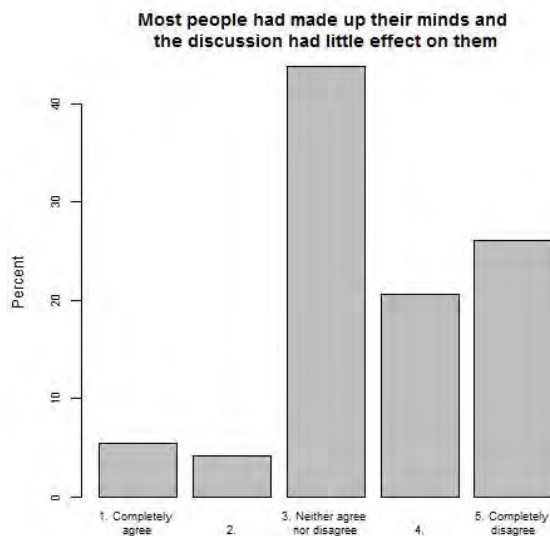
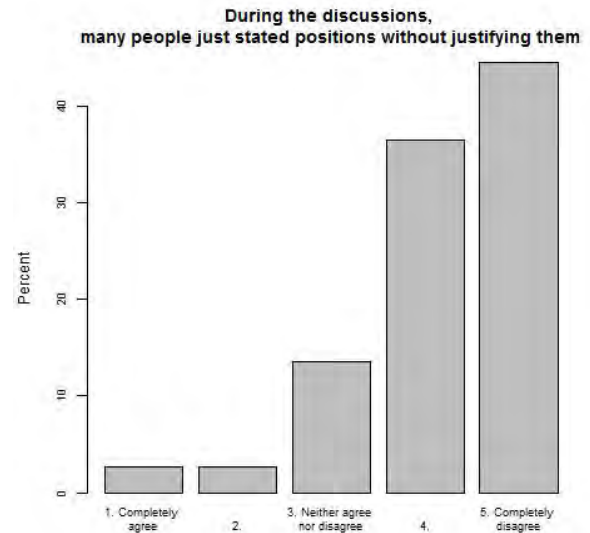
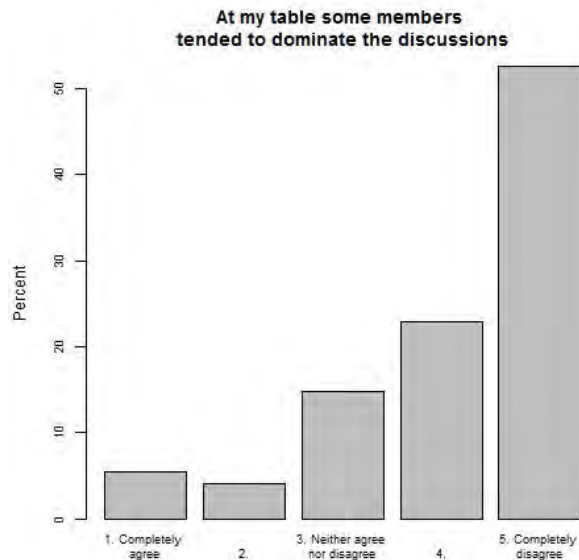
The first set of questions were about the briefing materials. Compared to the previous weekend, there was a slight improvement in the numbers of members who said they had read most or all of the briefing material; on this occasion, just over half the members had. As in previous weekends, the views about the quality of the briefing material were again positive: the greater majority of members felt that the briefing material was balanced (though there were a significant number who were undecided), and four-fifths said it was ‘pitched about right’.



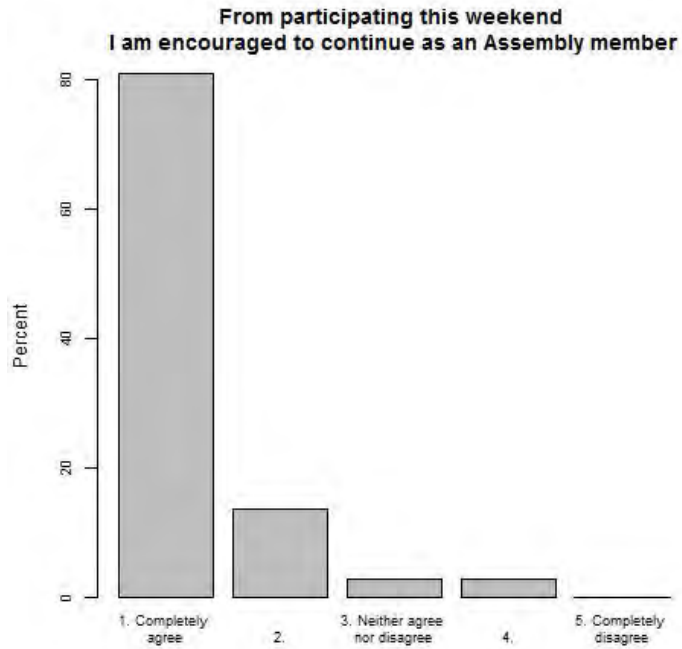
On questions about the quality of the discussions the trends are pretty similar to previous weekends. More than four out of five members felt that the input of the experts was useful or very useful. There was strong support for the view that the facilitators did a good job. Like in previous weekends, with a very small number of exceptions, the members were happy that they were given ample speaking time at the table discussions and that fellow members respected what they had to say.



In strong contrast to the previous session, the greater bulk of members were of the view that there was no domination of discussions by some members: seven out of ten felt there was no domination. Similarly, the proportion of members who felt that other members tended to state positions without justifying them was lower than on the previous occasion. Just under half of the members disagreed with the statement that members had made up their minds before the discussion, but as in previous weekends there were a lot of members undecided on this issue.

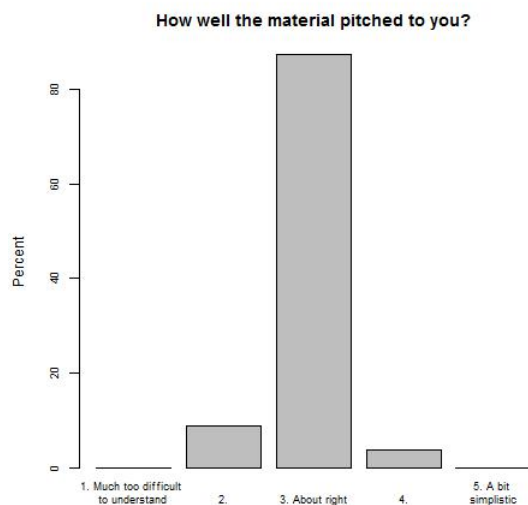
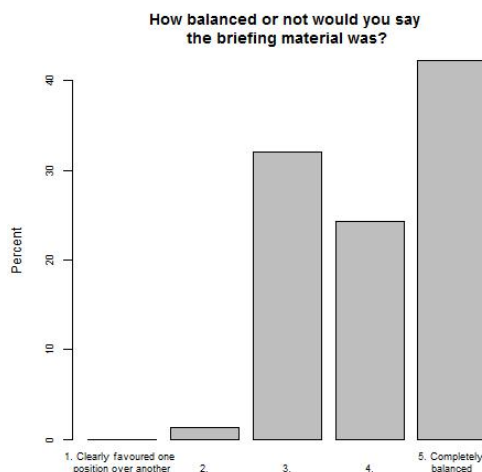
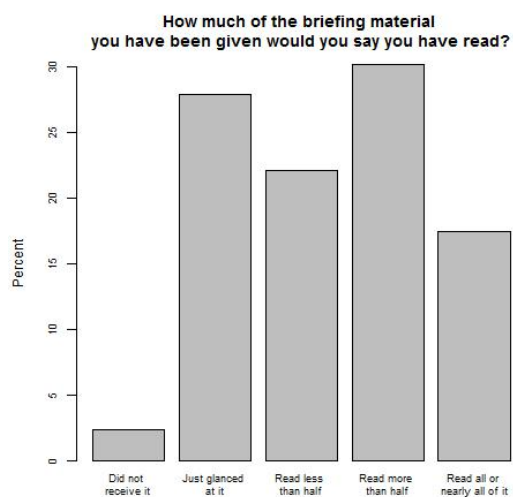


Finally, overall levels of satisfaction with this weekend's meeting were as high as in previous weekends: as reported in all the previous surveys the bulk of members are happy to remain on as members for future meetings.

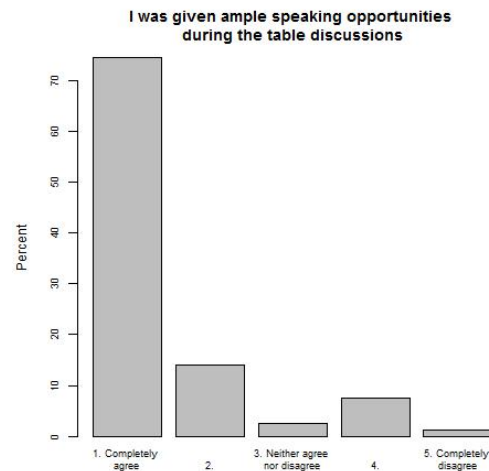
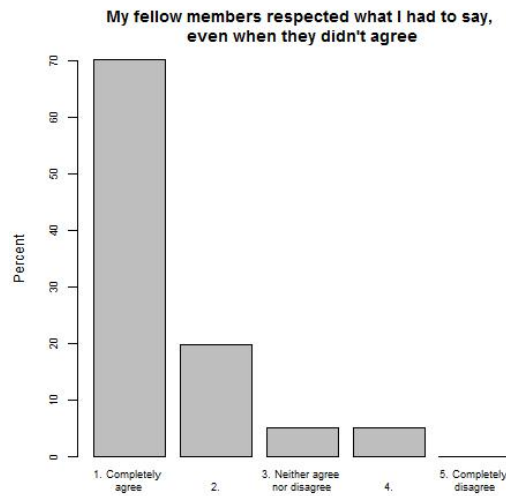
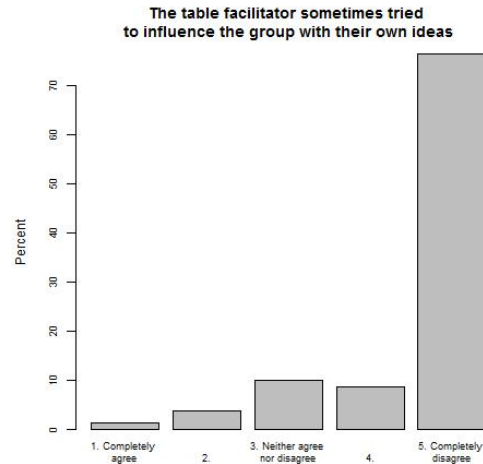
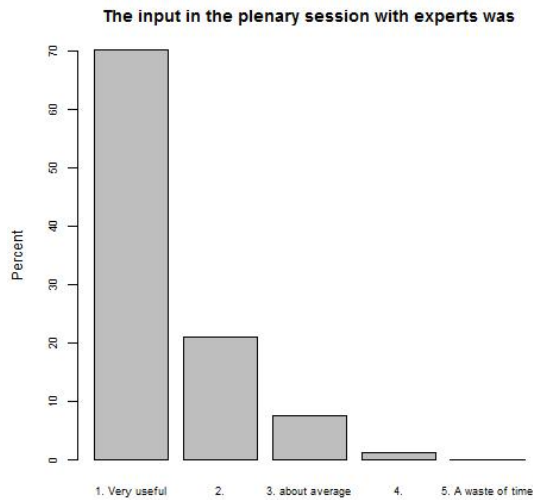


## Feedback report on Weekend 10 (13-14 January 2018)

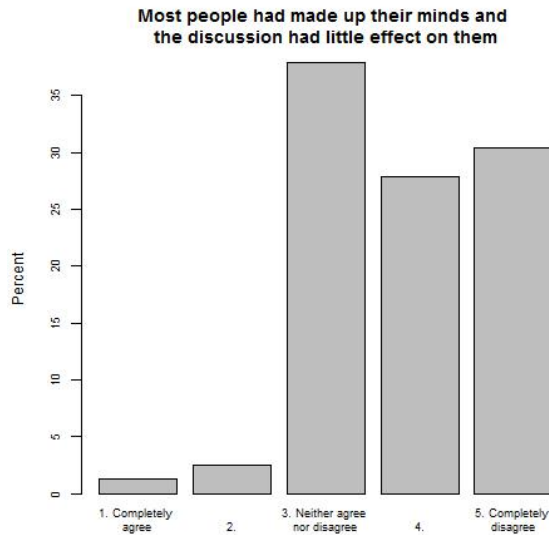
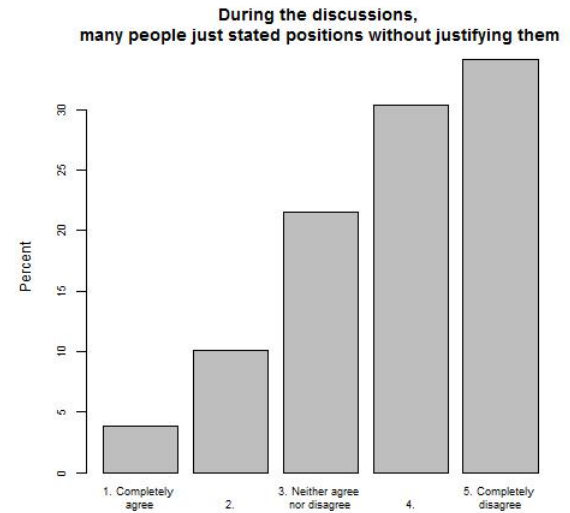
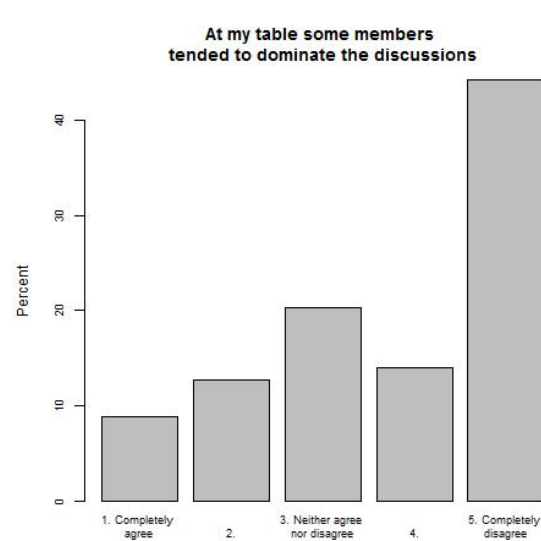
The first set of questions were about the briefing materials. As in the previous weekend, about half of the members said they had read most or all of the briefing material; though there was a notable increase in the portion of members who had just glanced at it (27%). Once again, the views about the quality of the briefing material were again positive: the greater majority of members felt that the briefing material was balanced, and the vast bulk of members said it was ‘pitched about right’.



On questions about the quality of the discussions the trends are similar to previous weekends. Nine out of ten members felt that the input of the experts was useful or very useful. There was strong support for the view that the facilitators did a good job. Like in previous weekends, with a very small number of exceptions, the members were happy that they were given ample speaking time at the table discussions and that fellow members respected what they had to say.



Views on the issue of whether some members dominated discussions were slightly more divided than in the previous week: but half of the members overall felt there was no domination. The proportion of members who felt that other members tended to state positions without justifying them was similar to the previous weekend. Over half of the members disagreed with the statement that members had made up their minds before the discussion, but as is previous weekends there were a lot of members who were undecided on this issue.





Finally, overall levels of satisfaction with this weekend's meeting were as high as in previous weekends: as reported in all the previous surveys the bulk of members are happy to remain on as members for the next meeting.

