How do we recover from COVID-19 and create a better future for all in Bristol?

Report from Bristol's Citizens' Assembly

JUNE 2021

involve

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

BRISTOL ONE CITY

Bristol's Citizens' Assembly

The Citizens' Assembly was a group of 60 people broadly reflective of the population of Bristol, who came together over four weekends to consider how we recover from COVID-19 and create a better future for all in Bristol. They are:

Alex
Alfie
Andrew
Andy
Aqsa
Barb
Beckie
Ben
Cabdi
Carly
Christine
Claire
Dan
Debbie
Diarmaid
Edwina
Ella
Elliott
George
Graham
Harry
Ioannis
Jason D
Jason H
Jennifer
John
Joseph
Lauren
Laurie
Louise
Luisa
Lynn
Mai
Mariana
Mariia
Michele
Neil
Nick
Oliver
Peter
Rhodri
Roanne
Roger
Roxana
Ruby
Samuel
Sila
Sophi
Stephen
Steven
Thomas
Toby
Vanessa
Vasiliki
Warren
Xiaona
Zoe

Who was involved

Involve

The Involve Foundation is the UK's leading public participation charity, with a mission to put people at the heart of decision-making. Involve ran the citizens' assembly – facilitating and designing the process by which the assembly members learn, consider and come to recommendations about the topic. They also wrote this report on the outcomes of the citizens' assembly.

Sortition Foundation

The Sortition Foundation promotes the use of sortition (random selection) in decision-making. They were responsible for recruiting people to take part in the citizens' assembly. Their aim was to ensure the citizens' assembly was broadly reflective of the Bristol community.

Bristol City Council

Bristol City Council commissioned the citizens' assembly and will receive its recommendations.

Foreword

When we set out to deliver Bristol's first citizens' assembly in 2020, we could not have known what the year ahead had in store for us all. The pandemic shifted the goalposts in practically all areas of our work, but this process offered an opportunity to meaningfully engage our citizens in the city's recovery.

Sitting in on some of the sessions and speaking with assembly members, the process surpassed my expectations. As Mayor, my role is to make space for others, equipping them with the resources they need and empowering them to deliver change. This is something we have done with real impact in recent years through the One City Approach. Seeing the diverse communities of Bristol brought together through the citizens' assembly adds a new dimension to what we're building here in the city.

This work has been led brilliantly by Deputy Mayor Asher Craig and Councillor Paula O'Rourke, alongside a dedicated team of council officers. I thank them, alongside the Sortition Foundation and Involve, for delivering this piece of work. It adds another string to our bow when it comes to engagement and the report presented here will inform the direction of our administration going forwards.

The biggest thanks, however, must go to the assembly members, who put time and effort into tackling the most challenging issues facing the city. The recommendations developed by the assembly and set out in this report have been disseminated to decision makers across the city and we are now in the process of working through their implementation. I hope the group recognises the impact they've had - the variety of experiences they brought to the table will allow us to better drive change that works for everyone.

Mayor, Marvin Rees

We want to say a big ‘thank you’ to the assembly members, the session facilitators and all the speakers who gave up their time to take part in Bristol’s first citizens’ assembly. The members’ response to taking part, and their enthusiasm for being involved in a democratic process to shape Bristol’s future following the pandemic has been impressive.

It was a privilege to observe the assembly members at work and witness their commitment to respond to the important question **‘How do we recover from COVID-19 and create a better future for all in Bristol?’.**

This assembly has given us a way of listening to the diverse views of the people of Bristol, capturing these and feeding them into the city’s recovery and renewal planning. The members held lively and constructive discussions, listened to and learned about new issues, challenged each other’s and their own views, made informed decisions and reached agreement on a set of 17 recommendations and 82 actions.

We in turn have listened closely to the assembly members and their recommendations and actions will help inform the city-wide Economic and Recovery Strategy as well as the council’s new corporate strategy as a key input into shaping the future of our city.

Deputy Mayor, Asher Craig.

A year ago, Asher Craig and I shook hands across the Cabinet floor and agreed to make a different way of deliberative democracy happen. Bristol’s Citizens’ Assembly has put our people at the heart of decision making, giving community members the information to make sound decisions, recommendations, and propose actions to help create the city that they want in the future. The process has been invaluable in gauging informed public opinion on the questions facing us on health and wellbeing, transport, and climate change. Feedback from the members told us they were positive about their involvement throughout and committed to being engaged in a deliberative democratic process and having their voices heard.

One assembly member said: “This has been an incredible and insightful experience to help bring the city toward a new direction for everyone to enjoy and prosper post COVID-19. We have heard speakers from housing to green energy to transport, with all the information that we could possibly need and the guidance to help us make informed recommendations. I was able to voice my opinions and share my experiences that helped create a more balanced picture of Bristol as a whole and keep equity in mind when making decisions.”

Councillor Paula O’Rourke, Party Group Leader, the Green Party

As Co-Chairs of the Economy and Skills Board, we welcome the actions and recommendations of this report from the citizens' assembly, especially as we look to deliver the One City Economic Recovery and Renewal Strategy. Together, we can work to build us back strongly and quickly from this global pandemic. Connecting with residents to discuss, debate and offer real solutions for our recovery and climate ambitions is at the heart of the one city approach. It will also help us to create a better more prosperous future for Bristol, not just now, but over the next 30 years, creating a city of hope that is fair, healthy, economically successful and sustainable for all.

So, we would like to thank everyone involved in setting up the assembly as well as those who took part in the four sessions, for your time, your knowledge, your enthusiasm and determination to see Bristol continue to thrive.

Councillor Craig Cheney and James Durie, Co-Chairs of the Bristol One City Economy and Skills Board

Executive Summary

Bristol's Citizens' Assembly brought together 60 residents from Bristol - reflective of Bristol's local diversity in terms of age, sex, disability, ethnicity, geography, deprivation, and employment - in order to help shape the city's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The citizens' assembly was asked to make recommendations in response to the question:

> **"How do we recover from COVID-19 and create a better future for all in Bristol?"**

The citizens' assembly met over four weekends from January to March 2021, with a total of 30 hours of meetings. In order to help answer the above question they were asked to conduct deep dives into three topics that had been identified through engagement with residents as particularly important to the future of Bristol:

1. **Climate change**: How do we rapidly reduce the impact of our homes on climate change?[1]
2. **Transport**: What changes should we make to our neighbourhoods to make how we travel easier, healthier and better for the environment?[2]
3. **Health**: How should we tackle health inequalities in Bristol?[3]

For each topic, assembly members heard evidence from speakers, discussed their own views and experiences, and developed recommendations for the council and its partners.

This report describes in detail the work of the citizens' assembly, including its oversight structures, how members were recruited, the structure and content of the assembly meetings, and what assembly members thought about the experience of taking part.

It also outlines the recommendations that the assembly members reached under each of the topics. Each recommendations includes:

- A statement of **what** the recommendation is;
- A list of actions for **how** the recommendation should be implemented;
- A justification for **why** the recommendation is important.

The report also includes the results of a ballot of assembly members carried out after the final weekend, demonstrating their level of support or opposition to each recommendation, as well as a prioritisation of recommendations for each topic.[4] 95% of assembly members completed the ballot. The assembly's recommendations have been presented to:

- The One City Economy Board, to help inform the city's recovery strategy; and,
- Bristol City Council's Cabinet, as a key input in shaping future strategy and actions.

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[1] Find out more: https://bristol.citizenspace.com/ycof-1/climate-change/
[2] Find out more: https://bristol.citizenspace.com/ycof-1/transport/
[3] Find out more: https://bristol.citizenspace.com/ycof-1/health/
[4] Note, some ballots total 101% due to rounding

Summary of recommendations

The following table summarises the recommendations and level of support they received from assembly members.

Recommendation	Support	Oppose	Abstain
How do we rapidly reduce the impact of our homes on climate change?			
Recommendation 1: Council is to lead on training and upskilling the workforce by securing investment, ensuring high standards, harnessing innovation and making the most of local creativity and entrepreneurship such that the green industry is measurably prepared to carry out required improvements within 5 years.	100%	0%	0%
Recommendation 2: Council to take leadership and responsibility for meeting its emissions targets in the housing stock by working in partnership with the business, education and community sectors, creating a programme of implementation to drive community changes.	94%	6%	0%
Recommendation 3: Create innovative financing options including grants, and/or loans to support home owners and landlords to improve the energy efficiency of every home in Bristol.	95%	0%	5%
Recommendation 4: Reduce the fragmentation of all the different sustainability schemes and initiatives by creating and promoting an independent One Stop Shop that contains objective, trustworthy information, in order to provide support right through the process.	93%	2%	6%
Recommendation 5: The Council should introduce a set of tiered Bristol standards (tiers from minimum requirements to best practice aspiration standards) relating to energy consumption and efficiency for all retrofits, building improvements, developments and new builds (domestic and commercial) that are clear and well communicated, and linked to planning regulations.	87%	5%	7%
Recommendation 6: Develop a pilot programme for a street or neighbourhood to showcase what could be achieved if a citywide approach to reaching net zero was taken, with control, coordination and cooperation at a local level.	91%	4%	6%

What changes should we make to our neighbourhoods to make how we travel easier, healthier and better for the environment?			
Recommendation 7: Create an inclusive, transparent and accountable process where the council engages together with citizens, businesses and stakeholders to better communicate our climate commitments through a sustainable transport system.	93%	4%	4%
Recommendation 8: Urgently reduce air pollution levels caused by vehicle use to safe and legal levels	93%	2%	6%
Recommendation 9: By 2030, make Bristol the best city internationally to travel around, by prioritising sustainable, safe, healthy, accessible alternatives to the car for all.	89%	4%	7%
Recommendation 10: Fundamentally reimagine the places we live so that they are people centred (i.e. create liveable neighbourhoods).	91%	4%	6%
Recommendation 11: Get people involved and engaged in the planning and implementation of transport initiatives. Make the process accessible, responsive and fun!	89%	4%	7%
How should we tackle health inequalities in Bristol?			
Recommendation 12: Prioritise a healthy and inclusive environment for all Bristol citizens and require businesses to act with corporate social responsibility	96%	0%	4%
Recommendation 13: Empower local communities in the decision making process to deliver the services and activities that they want in order to promote healthy lifestyle choices	95%	0%	6%
Recommendation 14: Increase access to diverse and high quality employment opportunities to close the gaps within health inequalities.	95%	0%	6%
Recommendation 15: Increase awareness and access to health information, education and services targeted according to local need	95%	0%	6%
Recommendation 16: All departments of the Council must take on the mandate to reduce health inequalities and improve the health of all citizens in the city with a focus on accountability, partnership and transparency when measuring and using public health data	89%	0%	11%
Recommendation 17: Invest in an equitable start to life from pre-birth to young adults (up to 25)	93%	2%	6%

01 – Introduction

Bristol's Citizens' Assembly brought together 60 randomly selected residents of Bristol for four weekends during January to March 2021. Its purpose was to discuss and respond to the important question 'How do we recover from COVID-19 and create a better future for all in Bristol?'

The assembly worked on three specific topics of discussion:

- Climate change and housing – How do we rapidly reduce the impact of our homes on climate change?
- Transport – What changes should we make to our neighbourhoods to make how we travel easier, healthier, and better for the environment?
- Health and social care – How should we tackle health inequalities in Bristol?

For each of those topics, the citizens' assembly was asked to develop a set of recommendations, with related actions and a clear rationale, which has been handed over to the Bristol City Council Cabinet and One City Partnership Board for a formal response.

Background

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused great disruption to people's lives and livelihoods. The health and economic impacts have fallen unequally and often hardest on people who already faced disadvantage.

Bristol City Council and the One City Office, including the One City Economy Board, are working to plan the city's recovery with a clear objective of enabling businesses to rebuild after financial loss, and getting the city moving safely as we adjust to new ways of living our lives.

The Council has sought to work with communities to ensure their diverse perspectives, ideas and priorities are heard on an equal footing with businesses and other stakeholders, as the city defines a shared vision for Bristol's future and a recovery that will deliver that vision.

In July 2020, the council launched a programme of citizen engagement called 'Your City Our Future' (YCOF). A series of focus groups during July was followed by a citywide survey of citizens during August and September, which received over 6,500 responses.[5] The focus groups and survey asked citizens about their experiences during lockdown – which changes they liked and which they disliked – and what they would like Bristol to be like in

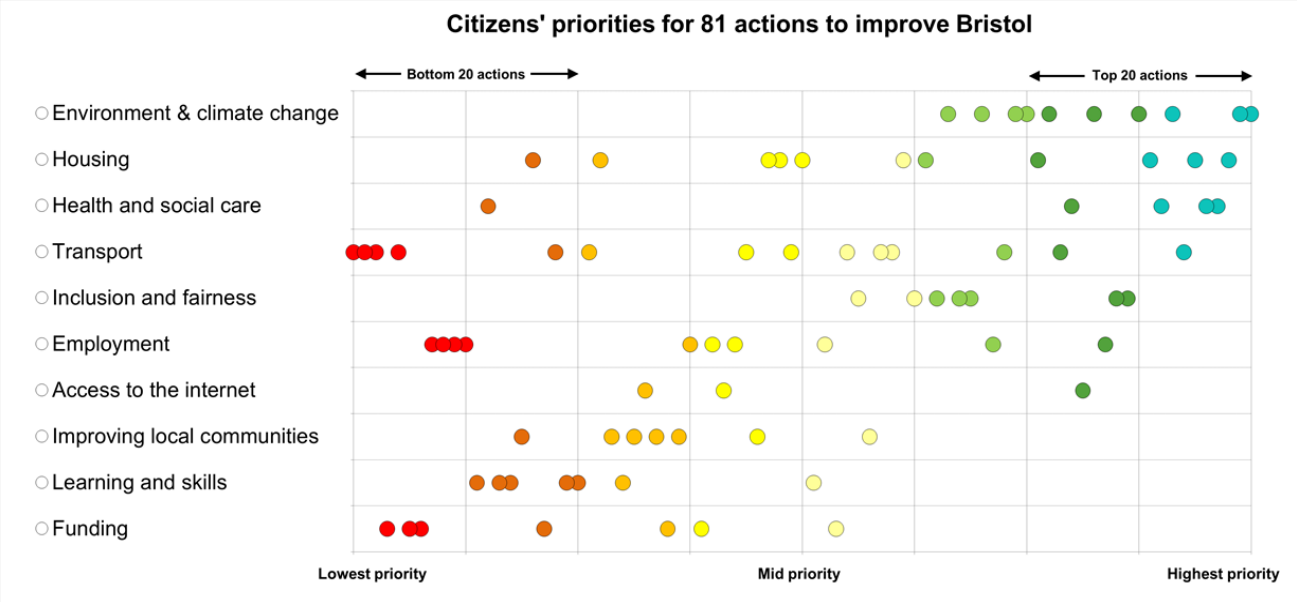
[5] https://bristol.citizenspace.com/bristol-city-council/your-city-our-future/

future. The feedback received provided valuable information about citizens' aspirations and priorities and identified themes on which there is some consensus and other issues where there are divergent views.

The citizens' assembly was the second stage of the 'Your City Our Future' programme. The focus of the assembly was determined by the priorities identified by the survey. The recommendations of the assembly will help to shape the ongoing recovery efforts and will form part of the evidence base for a refresh of the Council's Corporate Strategy during the second half of 2021. It will also feed into a review and update of Bristol's long term 'One City Plan' to 2050, which will next be refreshed in March 2022.

The topics

The 'Your City, Our Future' citywide survey during August and September 2020 identified a number of issues that were of a high priority to residents of Bristol. Four of those high priority issues – climate change, housing, transport, and health inequalities, were identified as a starting point to thinking about what specifically the citizens' assembly should look at in relation to the overarching question 'How do we recover from COVID-19 and create a better future for all in Bristol?'



From there, there was a process of refining those broad topics down to questions that could be answered by a citizens' assembly[6]. This process was facilitated by Involve, with input from the Pilot Deliberative Democracy Steering Group, the consultation and engagement officers, and the relevant service leads with responsibility for policy development within

[6] See 'How to run a citizens' assembly: a handbook for local authorities based on the Innovation in Democracy Programme' https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/896502/IiDP_handbook_-_How_to_run_a_citizen_assembly.pdf

Bristol City Council. The final selection was based on what was identified as impactful, timely, and for which there was agency within the council and its local partners to act on the recommendations.

Assembly sessions

Bristol's Citizens' Assembly started on Saturday 16 January and Sunday 17 January. This first weekend introduced the assembly members to the deliberative democracy process and how citizens' assemblies work. Nine speakers presented an overview of the three topic questions and some of the challenges, and assembly members developed a set of underpinning principles which would guide their deliberation and recommendations over the later sessions.

The second weekend saw the assembly split into three groups of 20 people each considering either climate change and housing, transport, or health inequalities. 33 speakers delivered panel presentations to provide participants with information to inform deliberations.

The third and penultimate weekend of the citizens' assembly saw each of the three groups listen to a final panel of topic-specific speakers. The information presented addressed specific areas that the participants felt that they needed to know more about. This allowed them to spend the remainder of the weekend deliberating and working together to further develop recommendations. Participants focused on putting together these recommendations in response to the questions. These were taken forward to the final weekend when the 60 participants came together for the last sessions to review and vote on the assembly's concluding recommendations.

This report sets out how the assembly worked and what actions it agreed. It has been written by Involve based on the work and recommendations of the citizens' assembly. We have sought to represent the citizens' assembly as faithfully as possible, reporting its process and conclusions and not adding our own interpretations or analysis.

02 – How the Citizens' Assembly Worked

This section describes the roles and responsibilities of those involved in the citizens' assembly, who the members are and how they were selected, and how the assembly process worked.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The organisation of the citizens' assembly was coordinated by Involve and officers in the Consultation and Engagement Team at Bristol City Council, overseen by the Pilot Deliberative Democracy Steering Group (the 'Steering Group') and an independent advisory group. The aim was to work collaboratively to agree the overall shape of the evidence and how it was presented. The Steering Group led on setting the broad scope and parameters of the Assembly, Involve led on designing and running the process, with support from council officers and the Advisory Group advised on appropriate content and evidence to be considered by the Assembly. Advisory group members were not invited to provide expert evidence to the assembly.

Pilot Deliberative Democracy Steering Group

The citizens' assembly was overseen by the Steering Group. Its members were responsible for key decisions surrounding the assembly such as:

- Subject matters for discussion
- Demographic profile for assembly member selection
- Membership and role of the Advisory Group
- Communications around the role of the assembly to the Cabinet, the public and stakeholders

The members of the Steering Group are:

- Cllr Asher Craig (Co-chair);
- Cllr Paula O'Rourke (Co-chair);
- Officers from:
    - Consultation and Engagement
    - Community Development
    - Mayor's Office
    - City Office

The Steering Group helped to inform the evidence base (both written, visual and speakers) that will be considered by the Assembly.

The Steering Group was not directly involved in the facilitation of the Assembly. This was carried out by Involve, as an independent facilitation partner.

Advisory Group

The role of the independent advisory group was to support the citizens' assembly process by providing advice and oversight to ensure:

- The assembly is focused on the key themes that have been highlighted, and
- The evidence and materials are comprehensive, accurate and balanced and perceived as such by the outside world, and
- Independence of the materials produced as background for assembly members.

The members of the Advisory Group are:

- Helen Manchester, City Fellows, University of Bristol
- Lizzi Testani, Bristol Green Capital Partnership
- Sue Arrowsmith, Transport consultant
- Pravanya Pillay, Babassa
- Anneka Sutcliffe, UK coordinator for XR's Relationships and Strategy Development Team
- Monira Ahmed Chowdhury, Head of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion at North Bristol NHS trust
- Mark Pepper, Ambition Lawrence Weston
- Heather Williams, Knowle West Alliance
- Kamina Walton, Rising Arts Agency
- Chiara Lodi, Black South West Network
- Peter Clasby, Care Forum
- Lucie Martin-Jones, Wecil

How speakers were selected

There were three types of speakers at the citizens' assembly.

1. Impartial specialists: people with expertise on the topic who can present the issues in a factual and impartial manner.
2. Advocates: people who represent a particular point of view on an issue, or who are advocating for a particular outcome.
3. Experts by experience: people whose lived experience can help to deepen assembly members' understanding of an issue, or who might be disproportionately impacted by a particular outcome.

In selecting speakers, the organisers worked with the Steering Group, Advisory Group, and service leads within the council to ensure there was balance between the three types of speakers. There was an emphasis in the selection process on ensuring a good foundation of impartial information, while also trying to represent a broad range of viewpoints and experiences of the issues.

2.1 The citizens' assembly members

The members of the citizens' assembly were recruited by the Sortition Foundation using a method called a civic lottery[7].

[7] To find out more about civic lottery (also known as sortition) visit https://participedia.net/method/5507

The Sortition Foundation randomly selected 12,000 Bristol addresses from the Royal Mail's address database.

In late November 2020 these households received invitations by post explaining the citizens' assembly and asking people to register their interest. The invitation highlighted that people would be supported with their accessibility needs, including help to access the online sessions and materials.

A high number of responses were received. Nearly 700 people who received the invitation went on to apply to join the assembly. From those responses, a representative sample of 60 assembly members was created to make up the citizens' assembly (a process called random stratified sampling). The 60 assembly members closely reflect Bristol's local diversity in terms of age, sex, disability, ethnicity, geography, deprivation, and employment (see Table 1). Where there are some small differences between the demographics of participants and the population, these are to avoid under-representing groups who make up a small proportion of the population.

Supporting participation

Assembly members were provided with support to fully participate in the online assembly process. Each participant underwent an onboarding process by which they had individual assessment of their needs and any access requirements, including childcare, interpretation, or other support such as suitable computer or internet connection to be able to take part online. Before the first assembly meeting, everyone had a chance for a warm up call to get used to using Zoom, and there was an online hub (using a platform called Basecamp) available to assembly members where they could access resources relating to the assembly and have informal discussions with each other. There were dedicated assembly member support staff available between and during assembly weekends, throughout the assembly process. Assembly members were each given a thank you gift of £300 in recognition of their involvement.

Table 1: Assembly members – recruitment demographics

Stratification criteria		Bristol population	Assembly Members	Comparison
Sex	Male	50%	50%	+/-0%
	Female	50%	50%	+/-0%
Age	16-24	19.3%	20%	+0.7%
	25-34	24.3%	20%	-4.3%
	35-64	40.5%	45%	+4.5%
	65+	15.9%	15%	-0.9%
Ethnicity	White British	78%	70%	-8%
	White: other	6%	10%	+4%
	Asian or Asian British	5.5%	6.7%	+1.2%
	Black or African or Caribbean or Black British	6%	5%	+1%
	Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	3.5%	5%	+1.5%
	Other ethnic background	1%	3.3%	+2.3%
Disability	No	92%	83.3%	-8.7%
	Yes	8%	16.7%	+8.7%
Geography	North	15.9%	13.3%	-2.6%
	South	18.9%	18.3%	-0.6%
	East	18.9%	16.7%	-2.2%
	West	20.9%	20%	-0.9%
	Central	25.4%	31.7%	+6.3%
Occupation	Professional occupation or technician	36.8%	35%	-1.8%
	Student	5.5%	8.3%	+2.8%
	Service occupation	14.9%	16.7%	+1.8%

Stratification criteria		Bristol population	Assembly Members	Comparison
	Operator or elementary occupation	9.5%	10%	+0.5%
	Skilled trade	4.5%	5%	+0.5%
	Not in the labour force: retired	15.4%	13.3%	-2.1%
	Not in the labour force: other	13.4%	11.7%	-1.7%
IMD	1-2	20%	23.3%	+3.3%
	3-5	30%	26.7%	-3.3%
	6-8	30%	30%	+/-0%
	9-10	20%	20%	+/-0%

2.2 The work of the citizens' assembly

The citizens' assembly met 12 times across 4 weekends between 16 January and 7 March, with two 2.5 hour sessions on the Saturday, and one 2.5 hour session on the Sunday of each weekend. Figure 1. below shows how the process worked across the three topic strands.

The first weekend set the scene for the assembly, explaining how the process would work, why it was happening, and what would be done with its recommendations.

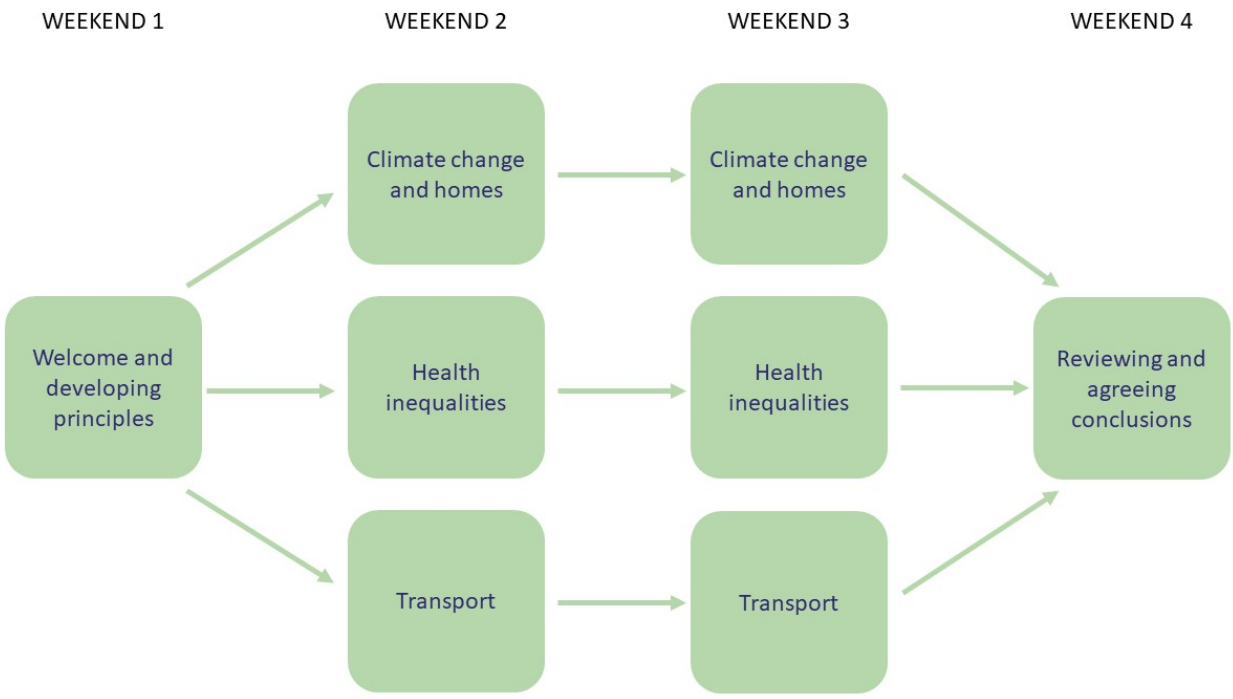
During the middle two weekends, 6 and 7 February and 27 and 28 February, the assembly members were split into three groups of 20 to each look in detail at one of the topics, hear from experts, advocates, and residents of Bristol, discuss what they had heard, and begin to develop recommendations.

The final weekend brought all 60 members back together as a single group to finish deliberating on and drafting their recommendations.

The process was designed by Involve with input from the Steering Group and the Advisory Group, and council officers. Each meeting was led by a lead facilitator from Involve. Small groups of six to seven assembly members were supported by independent facilitators trained in facilitating deliberative processes.

The section below summarises the purpose of each of the meetings. Further detail on the evidence presented and the structure of the deliberation can be found in appendix 1 on page 68. Documentation of all the presentations made to the assembly can be found at https://bristol.citizenspace.com/bristol-citizens-assembly/

Figure 1: How the citizens' assembly worked



Weekend 1 (Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 January 2021)

Meeting 1

The first meeting of the citizens' assembly focused on welcoming the assembly members to the process, providing important background information and developing the conversation guidelines that would ensure conversations throughout the assembly process are constructive.

Meeting 2

The second meeting focused on the opportunities and challenges facing Bristol, and how residents have been impacted. Its purpose was to inform considerations for key principles for recovering from the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Meeting 3

The third meeting focused on developing a set of principles to guide decision making to achieve a better future for all in Bristol.

The first weekend ended with a plenary feedback of principles from the small groups.

Weekend 2 (Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 February 2021)

The second weekend of the citizens' assembly saw members split into three groups of 20 members, to each look in detail at one of the topics. Across all three topics, weekend 2 focused on understanding the problem, and beginning to look at some of the possible solutions.

Below, we look in more detail at each topic in turn.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND HOUSING

Topic question: How do we rapidly reduce the impact of our homes on climate change?

Meeting 1 - purpose:

- To introduce the topic and agenda for the weekend
- To understand the contribution of heating homes to climate change
- To understand the range of different solutions for reducing the impact of homes on climate change

Meeting 2 - purpose:

- To consider different perspectives on the solutions / mechanisms for reducing the impact of homes on climate change
- To reflect on challenges, opportunities and solutions, insights, and outstanding questions

Meeting 3 - purpose

- To consider different perspectives on the solutions / mechanisms for reducing the impact of homes on climate change
- To further reflect on challenges, opportunities and solutions, insights, and outstanding questions
- To develop and capture initial ideas for recommendations on the topic question

TRANSPORT

Topic question: What changes should we make to our neighbourhoods to make how we travel easier, healthier and better for the environment?

Meeting 1 - purpose:

- To introduce the topic and agenda for the weekend
- To understand how neighbourhoods have developed, and the impact on how we travel, the environment and health
- To understand how neighbourhoods can be designed differently

Meeting 2 - purpose:

- To explore examples of where neighbourhoods have already been redesigned, and the benefits and challenges
- To reflect on challenges, opportunities and solutions, insights, and outstanding questions

Meeting 3 - purpose:

- To consider different perspectives on the benefits and challenges of redesigning neighbourhoods
- To further reflect on challenges, opportunities and solutions, insights, and outstanding questions
- To develop and capture initial ideas for recommendations on the topic question

HEALTH INEQUALITIES

Topic question: How should we tackle health inequalities in Bristol?

Meeting 1 - purpose:

- To introduce the topic and agenda for the weekend
- To understand how health varies across the population, why health inequalities arise and the prevalence in Bristol
- To understand how inequalities impact individuals, communities and society

Meeting 2 - purpose:

- To explore the different ways in which health inequalities can be addressed;
- To reflect on challenges, opportunities and solutions, insights, and outstanding questions.

Meeting 3 - purpose:

- To consider how the system currently works and how that can make it challenging to tackle health inequalities
- To further reflect on challenges, opportunities and solutions, insights, and outstanding questions
- To develop and capture initial ideas for recommendations on the topic question.

Weekend 3 (Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 February 2021)

The purpose of weekend 3 was to fill any gaps in evidence or understanding identified at weekend 2, and for assembly members to begin the process of refining, developing and prioritising ideas for how to answer the question for each topic. Each strand followed a similar process, with meeting 1 featuring a final panel of speakers, and the subsequent meetings being based around group discussions. Below, we provide the details for all three together.

Meeting 1 - purpose:

- Welcoming assembly members back, filling gaps in evidence and adding final ideas to the longlist of recommendations.

Meeting 2 - purpose:

- Agreeing the focus for the recommendations and beginning to draft them

Meeting 3 - purpose:

- Developing the recommendations further, reviewing them between groups and finalising

By the end of meeting 3, assembly members had developed a first draft of all 17 recommendations across the 3 topic strands, including draft actions and rationales.

In the 5 days between weekend 3 and weekend 4, all the draft recommendations were shared with assembly members. The purpose of this was twofold: assembly members could comment on the recommendations they were working on so that any thoughts and ideas that they didn't have sufficient time to develop could still be captured; and it gave an opportunity for members to preview the work of the other two topic strands and begin to see the assembly's recommendations as a whole.

In the intervening time, members were also asked to select which 10 underpinning principles from the full list of 28 developed at the beginning of the assembly process they felt were the most important. The final list can be seen in the next section in the order in which they were ranked, from highest to lowest priority.

Weekend 4 (Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 March 2021)

Weekend 4 brought all 60 assembly members together again as a single group. The main focus of this weekend was to review the recommendations from across the assembly, finalise and agree upon the detail of the recommendations, and present those recommendations to representatives from the Council.

Meeting 1 - purpose:

- Hear about and reflect on all of the recommendations across the assembly

Meeting 2 - purpose:

- Review any comments and finalise the recommendations

Meeting 3 - purpose:

- Present the final recommendations and hear from representatives from the Council and sponsoring politicians

How the voting process worked

Immediately after the end of the citizens' assembly on Sunday 7 March 2021, assembly members received an online voting form. The form contained all 17 recommendations and asked assembly members to indicate whether they strongly supported, supported, opposed, or strongly opposed each one. For each recommendation, there was also an option to abstain.

In addition to their level of support for each recommendation, members were also asked to prioritise two recommendations from each topic as the most urgent and important for the council to deliver on.

The recommendations in full are presented in the next section.

03. Recommendations of Bristol's Citizens' Assembly

This section presents the underpinning principles agreed by assembly members, and the recommendations that the assembly members arrived at under each topic.

Each recommendation includes:

- A statement of **what** the recommendation is;
- A list of actions for **how** the recommendation should be implemented;
- A justification for **why** the recommendation is important.

The report also includes the results of a ballot of assembly members carried out after the final weekend, demonstrating their level of support or opposition to each recommendation, as well as a prioritisation of recommendations for each topic.

The response rate to the ballot was 95%[8] [9].

[8] This is slightly up on the response rate at the time of publishing the interim report, which was 93%.
[9] Due to drop offs, the final number of assembly members, and therefore the number the response rate is based on, is 58.

Underpinning principles

PRINCIPLES PRIORITISED BY OVER HALF OF ALL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS*[10]

1. Reducing inequality – greatest action needs to be taken for those with greatest need - 78% (45 votes)
2. Affordable housing, inclusive housing policies, and no homelessness – 60% (35 votes)
3. Sustainability: environment and economic – 55% (32 votes)
4. Young people at the heart of COVID recovery and involved in decision-making – 54% (31 votes)
5. Accessibility of essential services for all – 53% (31 votes)
6. Prioritise wellbeing and mental health – 50% (29 votes)
7. Urgency of the climate crisis – 50% (29 votes)

PRINCIPLES PRIORITISED BY OVER A THIRD OF ALL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

8. Green transport connected across the city – 43% (25 votes)
9. Work with communities and initiatives that already exist – 43% (25 votes)
10. Accountability – 40% (23 votes)
11. Long term focus – 38% (22 votes)
12. Openness and transparency – 38% (22 votes)
13. Inclusivity – 36% (21 votes)
14. Be radical, make hard decisions – 36% (21 votes)
15. Protect the arts and culture – 35% (20 votes)

[10] Each assembly member was asked to pick the 10 principles they thought were most important.

ADDITIONAL PRINCIPLES AGREED BY THE ASSEMBLY

16. Evidence-based decisions – 30% (17 votes)
17. Incentivise rather than penalise – 29% (16 votes)
18. Ambition - 28% (16 votes)
19. Local support for all areas of Bristol, not thinking of Bristol as one generic place – 28% (16 votes)
20. Green recovery – 28% (16 votes)
21. 15 minute city – 24% (14 votes)
22. Fairness – 20% (11 votes)
23. Specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and timely – 19% (11 votes)
24. Equity – 19% (11 votes)
25. Ongoing learning – 16% (9 votes)
26. Positive impact on Bristol and beyond – 14% (8 votes)
27. Ongoing civic engagement – 12% (7 votes)
28. Learn from the positive as well as the negative – 10% (6 votes)

*Response rate: 100% (58 votes)

“How do we rapidly reduce the impact of our homes on climate change?”

Recommendation 1

Council is to lead on training and upskilling the workforce by securing investment, ensuring high standards, harnessing innovation and making the most of local creativity and entrepreneurship such that the green industry is measurably prepared to carry out required improvements within 5 years

Actions

1. Support people currently in relevant industries (building, energy, advice, etc.) to reskill through accredited and subsidised training courses, on the job training
2. Prioritise support to local (focus within Bristol) companies and SMEs – incentives for training, with reskilled companies becoming ambassadors of change.
3. Collaborate with other organisations to set high quality green standards for companies and require approval/accreditation on retrofit/energy improvements
4. Encourage new people to come into the industry – develop, organise and promote a BTEC/accredited course for people to be trained in conjunction with each new policy and innovation; including quality apprenticeships and outreach activities; focus promotion at under-represented groups (but don't exclude anyone)
5. Learn from other cities and countries where green technologies are the norm and report on what regulatory frameworks and investment plans could be applied to the Bristol region

Rationale

The local industry and infrastructure needs to be scaled up to meet targets, so that more efficient options (e.g., air source heat pumps) become the default. To do this, we need to get more people into greener jobs, which will promote and provide opportunities for those industries affected by COVID, future-proof the housing stock and the economy.

Ballot result

Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain
53%	47%	0%	0%	0%

Recommendation 2

Council to take leadership and responsibility for meeting its emissions targets in the housing stock by working in partnership with the business, education and community sectors, creating a programme of implementation to drive community changes

Actions

1. Initiate talks with business, education and community partners and work with them to establish and deliver a plan on achieving the targets on home improvements (net zero), ensuring it's not left to individuals
2. Focus support in areas of high deprivation, fuel poverty and poor quality housing, to ensure fairness, while promoting successful schemes as good practice
3. Identify a singular, independent, existing non-profit agency to take on oversight
4. Monitor performance and publicly report on progress against targets, every 6 months, with the opportunity for Council scrutiny: reporting must be something visual and easy to understand.

Rationale

Council is the only authority in the region who can organise and take responsibility for the scaling and speed of change necessary to meet the ultimate 2030 emissions targets.

Ballot result

Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain
49%	46%	6%	0%	0%

Recommendation 3

Create innovative financing options including grants, and/or loans to support home owners and landlords to improve the energy efficiency of every home in Bristol

Actions

1. Provide interest free loans for home sustainability improvements. With repayment over the long term, possibly linked to council tax. Principles should be similar to a student loan, only paid back when you earn over a certain threshold.
2. Provide grants for lower income households. Prioritize grants to ensure equality (means tested). Set clear and transparent criteria around the grant system. Assure safeguards are in place for fair accountability.
3. BCC to define, create and regulate different levels of financial options for home efficiency improvement. The standard option should be for home improvement to achieve the target of net zero by 2030. Beyond this there will be a range of interest charged options as a choice for those that wish to make improvements past the base level.
4. Provide a central channel/platform for tenants to communicate with the council that they want to make sustainability improvements so that the council can require and support the landlord to do this.
5. BCC to explore establishing a centralised green housing fund to supply the above.

Rationale

Financial support to make home efficiency changes to meet net zero target is going to be essential as not everyone will be able to afford this. This needs to be fair whether you own or rent – it's about every home. Everybody in the city needs equal access to finance.

Ballot result

Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain
71%	24%	0%	0%	6%

Recommendation 4

Reduce the fragmentation of all the different sustainability schemes and initiatives by creating and promoting an independent One Stop Shop that contains objective, trustworthy information, in order to provide support right through the process

Actions

1. Create a One Stop Shop for sustainability improvements that is both a website and physical shop with showrooms.
2. Create a staged approach to achieving sustainability improvements, beginning with a home survey (like the Cold Homes Energy Efficiency Survey Experts thermal imaging survey). Results to be integrated into the One Stop Shop process.
3. Market the One Stop Shop through a city wide marketing campaign. Promote the One Stop Shop as part of the wider Net Zero brand/identity. Have an annual festival, or presence/stall, touring van with volunteers from each community at local community events.
4. Involve young people in the One Stop Shop through creating an education pack for information to bring the One Stop Shop and its principles into schools.

Rationale

All the information is simplified and available in one place making it easier and reducing the steps. Associated marketing creates a buzz around the topic so that more people will be engaged if it's fun and exciting.

Ballot result

Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain
55%	38%	2%	0%	6%

Recommendation 5

The Council should introduce a set of tiered Bristol standards (tiers from minimum requirements to best practice aspiration standards) relating to energy consumption and efficiency for all retrofits, building improvements, developments and new builds (domestic and commercial) that are clear and well communicated, and linked to planning regulations

Actions

1. Develop and introduce standards for all existing properties (e.g. for home-owners, landlords, and social housing) and to be incorporated into new building regulations.
2. Implement a set of standards which are required of all landlords and rented properties; these should be higher than current standards i.e. to rent a property out it should have to meet a minimum environmental standard.
3. Establish a system for the council to conduct checking and signing-off that the standards have been met.
4. Communicate independent and trustworthy information about different types of energy and environmental improvements, their impacts on the environment and the investment costs, running costs, and savings to allow comparison of different options and possibilities. (The One Stop Information Centre could do this.)
5. Create a ‘green dot’ or similar branding/logo to show you meet the standards as a trader, landlord, property owner or builder, with builders being trained to understand and meet these.

Rationale

It would decrease inequality and promote energy justice and reduce fuel poverty, because landlords would have to improve conditions for tenants.

It would ensure homeowners would have to take reasonable steps towards meeting the new energy consumption and efficiency policies.

It will provide all the information the population needs to make these changes.

It would create jobs and help Bristol recover from COVID-19.

It would work towards the zero-carbon target for 2030. We are in a climate emergency, so this kind of action is needed.

Ballot result

Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain
46%	42%	4%	2%	7%

Recommendation 6

Develop a pilot programme for a street or neighbourhood to showcase what could be achieved if a citywide approach to reaching net zero was taken, with control, coordination and cooperation at a local level.

Actions

1. Introduce an awareness campaign so that local people can understand what is proposed and can come forward and bid to be the pilot project – the enthusiasm and desire to do it has to come from them. Consult local people as a key element in getting everyone together and working with them, identifying small and big wins, and what is realistic for people, including clear information about the investment costs, running costs and savings.

2. Select a street / neighbourhood that enables a combination of owner occupied, social housing and private rental buildings to showcase what can be achieved across all of these types of property. Use existing methods of energy saving and have a clear timeframe for implementing the changes (e.g. 2 years). Provide financial assistance to make it affordable for people to participate to achieve this.

3. Appoint someone accountable with an oversight role, to avoid 'contracts to mates' and ensure there is learning from previous 'renewal areas' (e.g. Easton, Totterdown, St Werburgh's.)

4. Go beyond energy to look at the wider environment, looking at on-street charging for electric cars, tree cover, with the aim of creating the 'ideal environmental neighbourhood' 'future street' and making it a visually stimulating, lovely, livable place.

5. Hold a big party and week-long open event at the end of every street improvement pilot, to celebrate and also open it up for others to come and see, create a buzz, ensure it is joyful and fun, people are excited to do it, and that these kinds of changes are ambitious but doable.

Rationale

It will create jobs; be fair and inclusive; be a good way to normalise making greener home improvements; reduce bills; and create healthier homes.

When it is successful and achieves its aims, it can demonstrate that as a city Bristol can achieve zero-carbon by 2030, it makes it realistic. It sets a standard for the rest of the country. It is a good vehicle to obtain national assistance/funding from central government. There will inevitably be challenges along the way, but we can learn from these, as the constant evaluation and reporting will be essential.

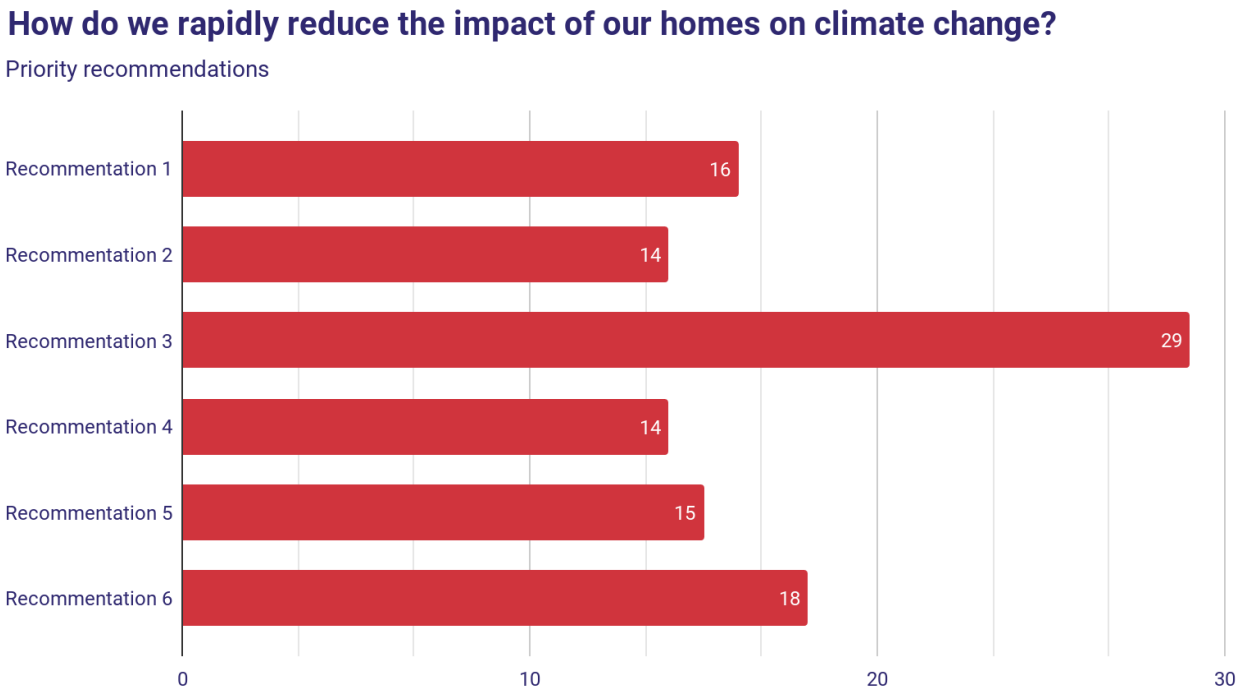
Ballot result

Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain
44%	47%	2%	2%	6%

Priority recommendations

Each assembly member was asked to prioritise the two recommendations in the climate topic that they considered to be more urgent and/or important for the council and partners to implement.

The following table shows how the recommendations were prioritised across the assembly.



“What changes should we make to our neighbourhoods to make how we travel easier, healthier and better for the environment?”

Recommendation 7

Create an inclusive, transparent and accountable process where the council engages together with citizens, businesses and stakeholders to better communicate our climate commitments through a sustainable transport system

Actions

1. Appoint a champion to work with the chair of the One City Transport Board to have responsibility for these recommendations, with a focus on accessibility in local communities.
2. Set yearly targets based on these recommendations, and assess them quarterly, with the One City commissioner/czar/champion reporting to One City board and council on progress.
3. Widen One City partners to include all employers with over 300 staff by promoting the benefits of being involved.
4. Establish a working group with key council services and utility suppliers e.g water, gas, broadband etc. to find ways of utilising maintenance budgets to focus on improving neighbourhoods.
5. Publish a clear and concise breakdown of how the transport budget is formed and what organisations contribute to it and how it is spent.

Rationale

Other cities such as Manchester and London have made similar appointments. In Manchester Chris Boardman produced his recommendations and the council were responsible and accountable for implementing them, with Chris Boardman being the public advocate for them. Need for them to champion walking and cycling.[11]

Targets need to be set and assessed regularly to help focus funding and ensure these recommendations are followed.

Currently One City partners don't include some of the biggest businesses in the city (e.g Ikea and Lloyds which have thousands of employees and customers). It's important that they are part of the conversation but they will need to understand the benefits.

During a presentation from Walthamstow they highlighted how they make best use of the maintenance budget to help improve neighbourhoods. For example, if a road is being resurfaced, what other work could the council do while they are there to make use of

[11] https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/media/1176/made-to-move.pdf

resources to benefit the area. Definite need for utility companies to work with council on planning works to limit disruption and share resources.

Across all the presentations, it was clear that funding for different transport projects came from a variety of different organisations, on both national and local level. While lots of this information is in the public domain, it is not collated in an accessible way. Also need to look at how information can be shared on a more local level e.g. improvement to a local bus stop.

Ballot result

Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain
40%	53%	2%	2%	4%

Recommendation 8

Urgently reduce air pollution levels caused by vehicle use to safe and legal levels.

Actions

1. Focus funding to areas with high air pollution levels.
2. Publish air pollution levels in neighbourhood's in clear, concise and accessible way e.g. signs with pollution levels on.
3. Promote innovative ways to increase carbon effective planting by investing in existing green spaces and better utilising available space in all buildings, businesses and houses, etc. (e.g. living roofs on bus stops).
4. Work with all schools to implement 'Bristol School Streets' – roads being closed during pick up and drop off times.

Rationale

Illegal levels of air pollution are killing people in Bristol. In order to reach carbon neutrality by 2030 there needs to be urgent change. The implementation of a Clean Air Zone is only the start and more needs to be done.

We are aware that there are other contributing factors to air pollution, such as wood burning stoves, however our focus has been on transport.

Implementation of 'Bristol School Streets' would need to be thoroughly assessed to avoid unintended consequences, such as displacement.

Ballot result

Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain
64%	29%	2%	0%	6%

Recommendation 9

By 2030, make Bristol the best city internationally to travel around, by prioritising sustainable, safe, healthy, accessible alternatives to the car for all

Actions

1. Reduce the number of car journeys in Bristol, with year on year targets, so that at least 80% of journeys in 2030 are by active travel and public transport by:
    a. Increasing provision of affordable buses;
    b. Establishing a city-wide bike, e-bike and cargo e-bikes, e-scooters scheme and car share schemes;
    c. Transferring 3-5% of road space to cycling, walking and green space every year;
    d. Transferring 3-5% of street car parking spaces in the city over to cycle parking and shared green space every year;
    e. Developing a school transport scheme (e.g. yellow school buses, e-scooters and more secure bike storage in schools).
2. Bring the buses back into public ownership e.g. Reading buses to improve provision for everyone including a single flat fare (regardless of peak or off peak times) that covers all public and active transport (e.g. funding for bike storage) in West of England Combined Authority (WECA) by 2023.
3. Create a budget to invest in active travel, with annual incremental targets so that by 2030 it is equal to what is spent on roads, with a dedicated fundraising unit.
    a. Funding for segregated cycle lanes,
    b. Subsidised bikes (free to people on low incomes/benefits), secure bike storage (residential and in the centre),
    c. training people to ride bikes safely,
    d. and maintenance and continued improvements of active travel infrastructure
4. Ensure more remote and deprived areas are served by public and active transport network; increase the number of interchanges to support connectivity around the city without having to go via the centre.
5. Bristol City Council and WECA to establish a disability and mobility working group, with the aim of increasing provision to all areas of the city and ensuring that transport is truly accessible (e.g. enforcing Equality Act compliance).

Rationale

The urgency of the climate crisis demands radical change.

The right to healthy, safe and affordable travel options.

Reducing road traffic fatalities among children must be a priority (globally, road traffic injuries are the leading cause of death in 10–19 year-olds).

Current situation is negative for (all road users) pedestrians, drivers, cyclists and public transport users, who should be able to travel around the city with ease.

Other cities are leaders in alternative transport initiatives and no reason why Bristol shouldn't be (Oslo, Melbourne).

Progress is being made in other areas to reduce carbon but not private vehicles so we need public and active transport to rival the cost and convenience of car use.

Bringing public transport into public ownership will allow us to improve provision by making it more accountable and responsive to people's needs.

Ballot result

Strongly support	**Support**	**Oppose**	**Strongly oppose**	**Abstain**
53%	36%	4%	0%	7%

Recommendation 10

Fundamentally reimagine the places we live so that they are people centred (i.e. create liveable neighbourhoods)

Actions

1. Demonstrate the benefits of liveable neighbourhoods by implementing 5 pilot schemes in the most deprived neighbourhoods in place by end of 2021
2. Implement a city-wide community consultation plan which educates about liveable neighbourhoods so that by the end of 2022 all residents have the opportunity to commit to make their neighbourhood a liveable neighbourhood and to define their neighbourhood's particular priorities (e.g. reducing through-traffic, parks and green spaces, play streets).
3. Introduce, by law or through policy changes, a presumption that all neighbourhoods should be liveable to allow communities to make the changes they would like to see, for example through removing bureaucracy to closing streets for playing out or street gatherings and through streamlining planning and consultation processes and training community liaison officers to.
4. Create and maximise green space, greenery and pocket parks in existing neighbourhoods, ensuring that transport infrastructure repairs, maintenance and new transport schemes must improve the amount and quality of green space available where possible by using the Highways Maintenance budget.
5. Creatively reintroduce and support local services and utilising existing services and local businesses, ensuring that they are accessible (e.g. local police, public access to school libraries and mobile libraries).

Rationale

There are many benefits associated with the reduction of through traffic and the giving back of space to pedestrians.

These benefits include better air quality, more social connection, more exercise, better health outcomes, reduced car usage and increased pedestrian safety. Importantly, there is no evidence that reducing through traffic simply displaces it, nor that local businesses suffer.

40% of UK emissions are from transport, and many car journeys we make are unnecessary. Liveable neighbourhoods will reduce our emissions and put the interests of residents back at the heart of our neighbourhoods.

Ballot result

Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain/DNV
58%	33%	4%	0%	6%

Recommendation 11

Get people involved and engaged in the planning and implementation of transport initiatives. Make the process accessible, responsive and fun!

Actions

1. Offer multiple options, modes and levels of participation in the process in order to promote engagement with diverse opinions.
2. Put transparent and publicly accessible evidence-based data at the forefront of communication around decision-making, and in communications with the public use data that makes an impact (e.g., case studies, the average Bristol car journey is less distance than a hedgehog typically walks in a night, 80% of public space is given over to roads).
3. Introduce a city-wide reduced-traffic festival closing road networks in local high streets, with linked funding for communities to implement their own road closures and associated car-free events (e.g., street parties, community gardening) in order to promote reduced car use.
4. Engage businesses in alternative transport initiatives, using data and examples of schemes implemented elsewhere in the UK to demonstrate the benefits; pedestrianisation is good for business.
5. Engage directly and specifically with the transport issues faced by children and young adults in education, many of whom are feeling forgotten about and are disengaged from society as a result of COVID-19.

Rationale

People feel that they have no say over transport decisions, and it is therefore not meeting their needs. There needs to be a refresh of the model of engagement to create an active and healthy dialogue with and between citizens, and listening and responding faithfully to the views expressed, rather than appeasing the vocal dissenters.

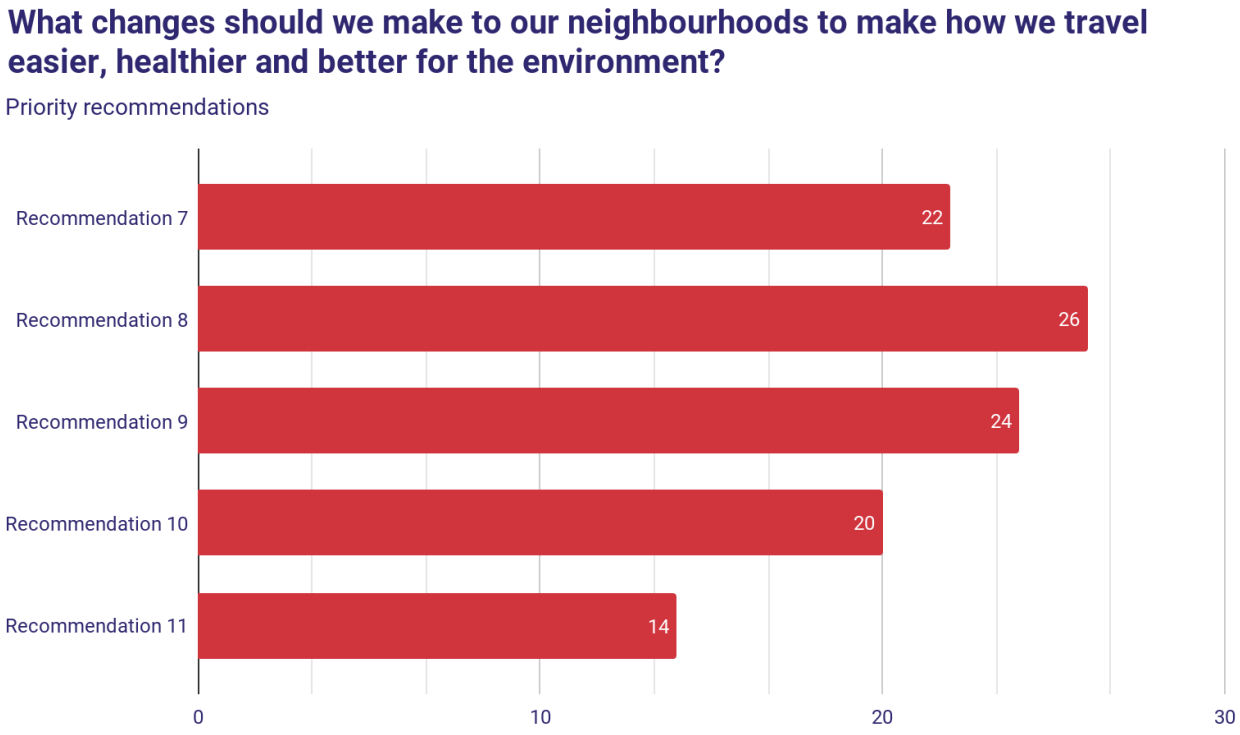
Ballot result

Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain/DNV
44%	46%	4%	0%	7%

Priority recommendations

Each assembly member was asked to prioritise the two recommendations in the transport topic that they considered to be more urgent and/or important for the council and partners to implement.

The following table shows how the recommendations were prioritised across the assembly.



“How should we tackle health inequalities in Bristol?”

Recommendation 12

Prioritise a healthy and inclusive environment for all Bristol citizens and require businesses to act with corporate social responsibility

Actions

1. Require local planning agreements such as Section 106 and Master Plans to prioritise communities' health needs.
2. Investigate Scandinavian housing models and conduct a feasibility study to ensure inclusion, address homelessness and improve the efficiency of poor housing stock where necessary.
3. Inclusive and affordable access to green spaces, sports fields, outdoor gyms with free exercise activities and educate people on where these are and how to use them.
4. Legally protect, maintain and commit to increasing green spaces and community facilities (such as toilets) and create an affordable bus route to join communities to green spaces.
5. Conduct a feasibility study to determine if developers and businesses could be made to invest a set proportion of profits back into the community and to be accountable for this.

Rationale

Urban planning and neighbourhoods should encourage engagement between the generations to build communities and reduce social isolation.

The local environment is important for everyone's physical and mental health.

In Sweden they have a way of making sure the generations interact by the way the houses are designed. In Denmark, everyone has access to a green area, shared green space.

These actions will improve and impact people's mental health.

Ensuring access to leisure facilities for youth will improve mental health, physical health and wellbeing.

Ballot result

Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain
56%	40%	0%	0%	4%

Recommendation 13

Empower local communities in the decision making process to deliver the services and activities that they want in order to promote healthy lifestyle choices

Actions

1. Create a support plan made available for all Bristol citizens who require one based on a person centered approach.
2. Create local representative groups (using sortition, just like the citizens' assembly) to let communities take control of issues, directly connecting community groups to power (the council and relevant partners).
3. Fund and support existing community led organisations that are getting results and mirror their effective practices with new areas and communities.
4. Create a child and youth panel to include young people in the decision making process in establishing drop-in centres and re-establishing youth clubs. Provide support from professionally trained youth workers and relevant young people from the community to share their experience.
5. Community kitchens/shops/gardens should be funded to showcase and celebrate good affordable food (e.g. The Grand Iftar in Easton). These hubs can be used as a social/cultural space as well as promoting healthy eating through classes and by example.

Rationale

Trying to fit people's needs into existing services and doing, not asking, doesn't work.

Listen to communities needs because they know what they want/need and developing resources in the area can help communities take ownership for where they live and reduce inequality across communities.

This local community democracy will drive engagement and promote a sense of belonging.

Youth having a place they can call their own gives young people a sense of belonging, ownership and empowerment and a refuge from potential family problems which could contribute to mental health problems.

Establishing something for the youth to reduce health issues in the future and educate young people on healthy choices for long term impact.

Ballot result

Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain/DNV
55%	40%	0%	0%	6%

Recommendation 14

Increase access to diverse and high quality employment opportunities to close the gaps within health inequalities.

Actions

1. Incentivise businesses with good quality, accredited apprenticeships, training and career pathways through match-funding of wages, contributing towards training/college, support with access costs, and strengthening what currently exists, target areas of high deprivation with rent subsidies to create hubs where needed
2. Initiate PR exercise around different types of jobs – better promotion of jobs that are seen as lower skilled (e.g., carpenter vs desk jobs) but aren't
3. Raise aspirations in children and young people: better connect all primary and secondary schools with businesses to increase exposure to different opportunities e.g. through internships and or work experience, practical experience
4. Increase support to existing career advice services in school and adult education, emphasising development of soft skills or non-academic subjects as a route into real world opportunities
5. Language barrier: create a vocational-conversion package that enables those with high-skills but limited English to access the market whilst upskilling minimising the potential negative health impacts for this group

Rationale

We know that employment is one of the indicators for better health outcomes.

Ballot result

Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain
55%	40%	0%	0%	6%

Recommendation 15

Increase awareness and access to health information, education and services targeted according to local need

Actions

1. Put in place local and direct management of health needs utilising existing data (e.g. target GP funding based on local area need, instead of per capita).
2. Engage with a diverse range of community leaders (faith leaders, community organisation leaders, play professionals, etc.) to better understand different communities. Find out what's not working so far and how to improve e.g. listening exercises, local citizen's assemblies etc. then tailor local health related policy accordingly.
3. Replicate and communicate good practice. Identify which services and organisations are already out there and doing a good job and what more is needed then replicate good practice.
4. Utilise 91 Ways as a facilitator of good nutrition through the sharing of food heritage- embed into school curriculum (One Bristol Curriculum).[12]
5. Individuals with complex needs: provide funding for homelessness organisations for post-COVID-19 recovery strategy.

Rationale

Understanding the different needs of different groups for an inclusive and targeted approach because we know this is the most effective approach from the data provided.

Ballot result

Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain
44%	51%	0%	0%	6%

[12] https://91ways.org/

Recommendation 16

All departments of the Council must take on the mandate to reduce health inequalities and improve the health of all citizens in the city with a focus on accountability, partnership and transparency when measuring and using public health data

Actions

1. Every Council department takes responsibility for the health of Bristol citizens – where necessary budgets and resources need to come together to facilitate such decisions.

2. Establish an information network relevant to all stakeholders and users, (including those with protected characteristics[13]), using faster, better data. Use a flow of information which is available to as many people as need it, including community groups. This will promote holistic decision-making and joined up budgets.

3. Work together internally and actively listen to community organisations and partners to create, gather and use data with clear information flows up and down, using all forms of media appropriate for the different social groups within Bristol.

4. Allocate funds to preventative measures – we recognise that prevention and small actions now pay dividends later.

5. Establish an independent body to review health inequality information. Use information such as the One City Plan to provide data metrics, and in combination with the citizens assembly reflect and report on health inequalities – disseminate information on relevant media and audiences.

6. Ensure that Bristol continues to improve its inter-racial coherence and fairness in health provision by ensuring meaningful BAME representation and where necessary over-representation in all quarters of health research, data use, management, and information dissemination.[14]

Rationale

We have seen examples of good solutions but for nought if we can't have objective criteria and see how things get better, giving evidence for sustainable future plans across the council as a whole.

[13] All protected characteristics – (gender, minority groups, sexuality, disability LGBTQ+) children and young people, adults and the elderly. (We object to the word vulnerable, by the way – we are not incapable or weak)
[14] Following on from the Runnymede report on racial inequalities – where we were 7th from bottom.

If we have both bottom up information and opinion (from communities) and data such as costs and use, we can link what people feel and say, for example about shutting swimming pools, with data and ‘value’. If shutting a swimming pool was only under one silo its true ‘value’ is not apparent. Its value for physical (eg exercise, recovery from operations, obesity), education and mental health (eg bringing families together, fitness) may be missed.

We want oversight of “health” which is not solely the council and NHS and is widely recognised to exist and have citizen input using appropriate media by – age and ethnicity and can include BCFM, Ujima, BBC, Tiktok, facebook, community centres and other physical, audio, visual and social platforms and networks.

Ballot result

Strongly support	**Support**	**Oppose**	**Strongly oppose**	**Abstain**
49%	40%	0%	0%	11%

Recommendation 17

Invest in an equitable start to life from pre-birth to young adults (up to 25)

Actions

1. Address food poverty in children by increasing access to and awareness of culturally diverse nutritional food throughout the school year to avoid attention and learning deficits and improve mental and physical health. A strategy should be in place to achieve this by Christmas 2021.
2. Make existing charities and youth organisations the first point of contact for young people and families. Fund these local and grassroots groups to provide well trained youth leaders to build relationships in the community and deliver a wider range of joined up services.
3. Invest in children and young people's mental health using technologies appropriate to them, which are easily found and advertised digitally, which have an immediate response, and use local organisations to deliver.
4. Advocate to educate parents and train teachers, support staff and peers in schools (or home-school settings) to recognise challenging lives and have difficult conversations about mental health to catch issues early.

Rationale

A focus on early life has the most benefit over a lifetime. Harm has been done to young people through COVID which needs attention through a holistic approach.

We note the very successful holistic examples such as St Paul's nursery, an ex Sure Start centre which now feels like a community hub with a food bank, nutrition training, prenatal, parenting courses, financial advice work etc. For the evidence base in early years and children's health over COVID look at emerging studies like "Born in Bradford".[15]

Ballot result

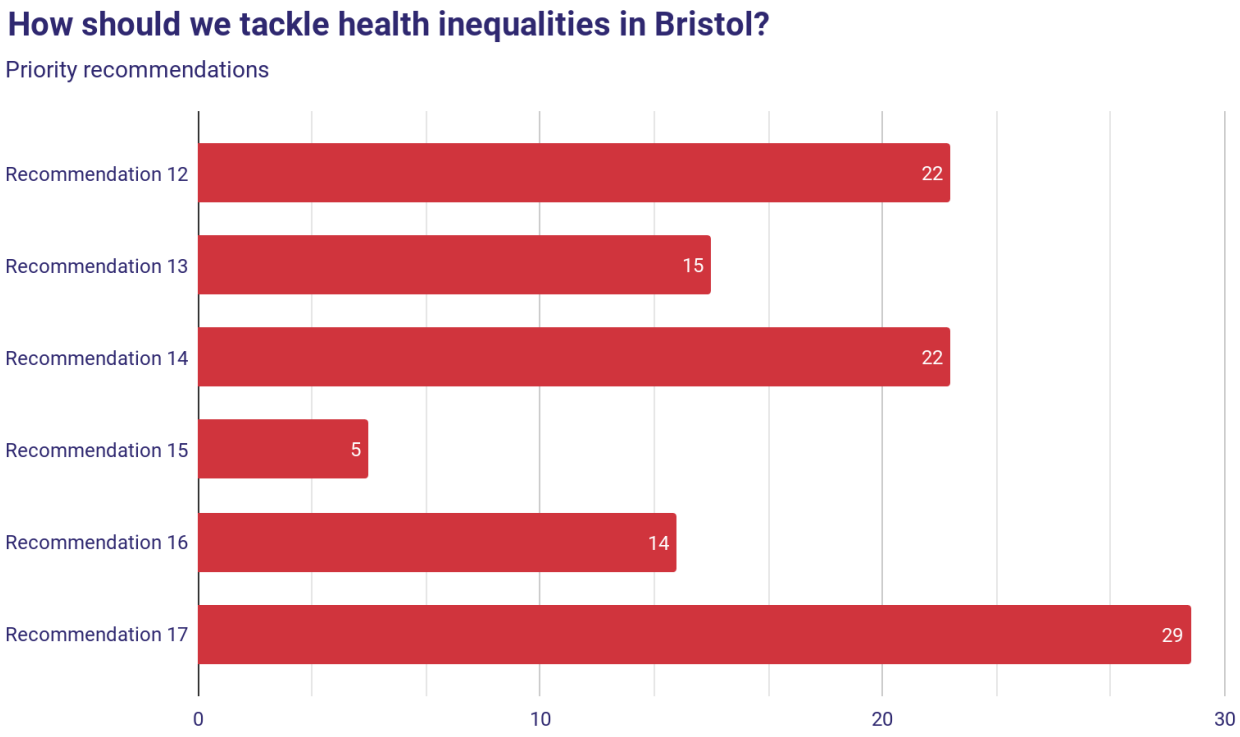
Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Abstain
64%	29%	2%	0%	6%

[15] https://borninbradford.nhs.uk/

Priority recommendations

Each assembly member was asked to prioritise the two recommendations in the health topic that they considered to be more urgent and/or important for the council and partners to implement.

The following table shows how the recommendations were prioritised across the assembly.



04 – Members' Views on the Assembly

This section presents feedback from assembly members about their experience taking part, their opinions about citizens' assemblies, and their attitudes towards local decision making.

Throughout the assembly, we used questionnaires to capture assembly members' experience of participating. The questionnaires served a number of purposes:

- to help us understand the experience of taking part in the citizens' assembly
- to provide us with feedback that we could use when planning subsequent weekends
- so that we can evaluate the process and outcomes of the citizens' assembly
- to provide feedback to help Bristol City Council plan future engagement with citizens

Assembly members completed eight questionnaires during the course of the assembly. You can see the results of each of those in full in appendix 3.

Below, we capture some of the key insights into what it was like to take part in Bristol's Citizens' Assembly, and what impact participation has had on assembly members' attitudes to local decision making.

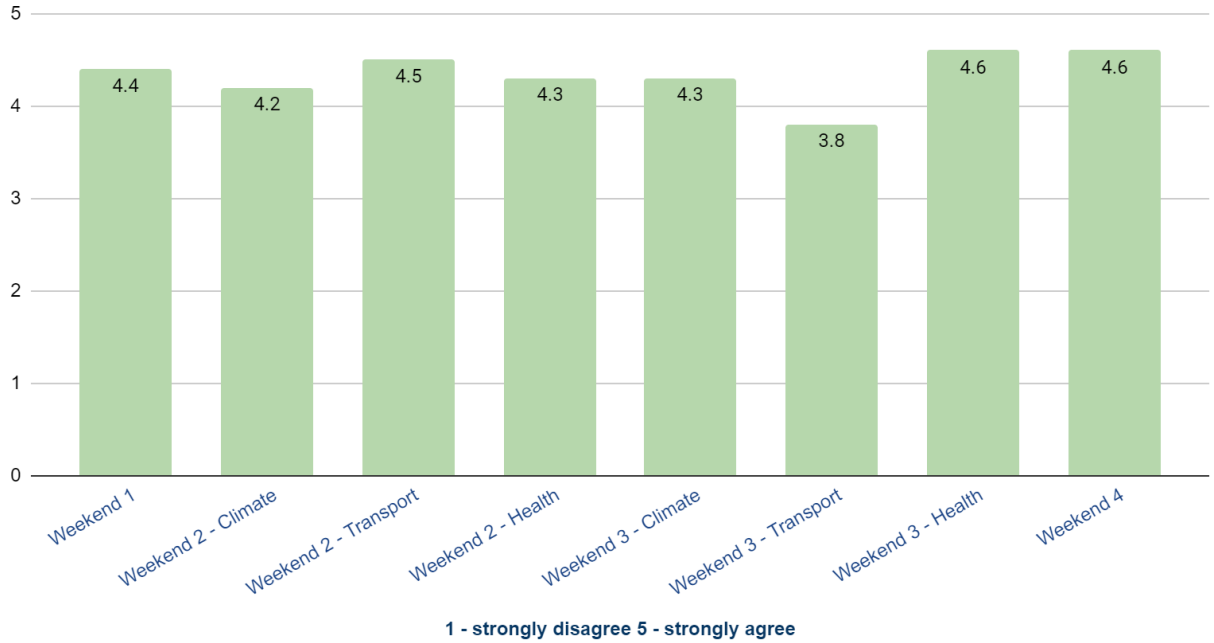
4.1 Assembly members' experience of taking part

Below we present member's perceptions of a number of features of the assembly:

1. The extent to which the information presented was fair and balanced between different viewpoints;
2. The extent to which the information presented was clear and easy to understand;
3. The extent to which members felt they had the opportunity to express their views in the group discussions;
4. The extent to which members felt their views were respected by other assembly members, even if they didn't agree;
5. The extent to which assembly members felt that one or more members dominated the small group discussions.

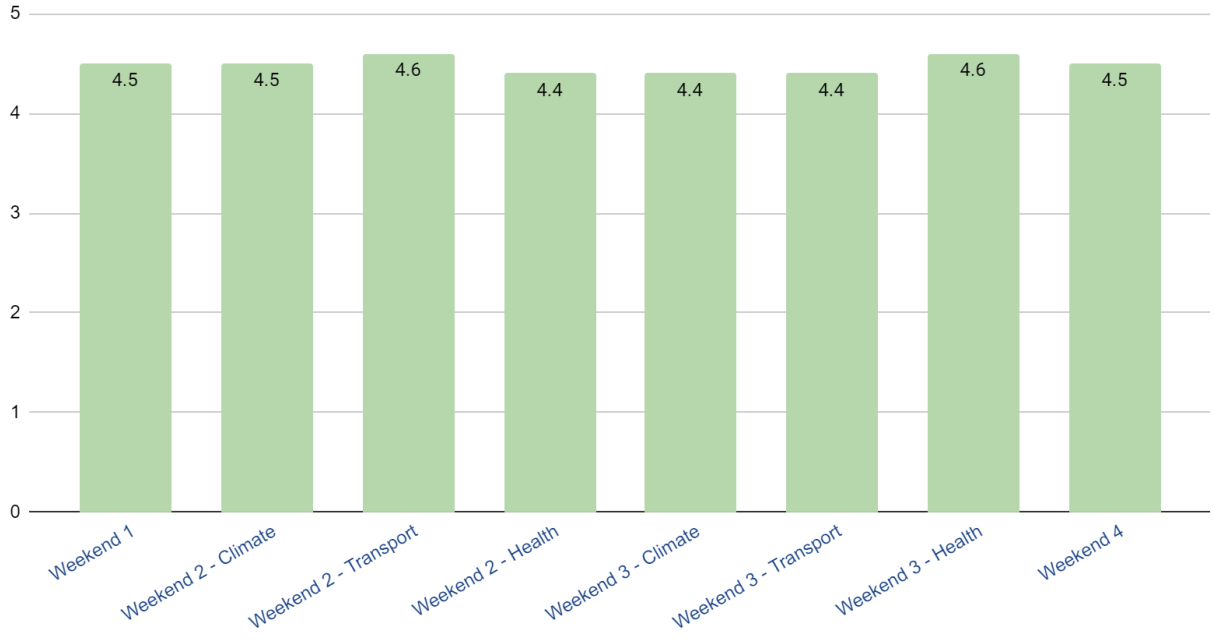
For each, members were asked to indicate their level of agreement with the statement on the left hand side of the chart, along a scale from strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5). The charts below show the average score for each of the weekends.

The information I have received has been fair, and balanced between different view points

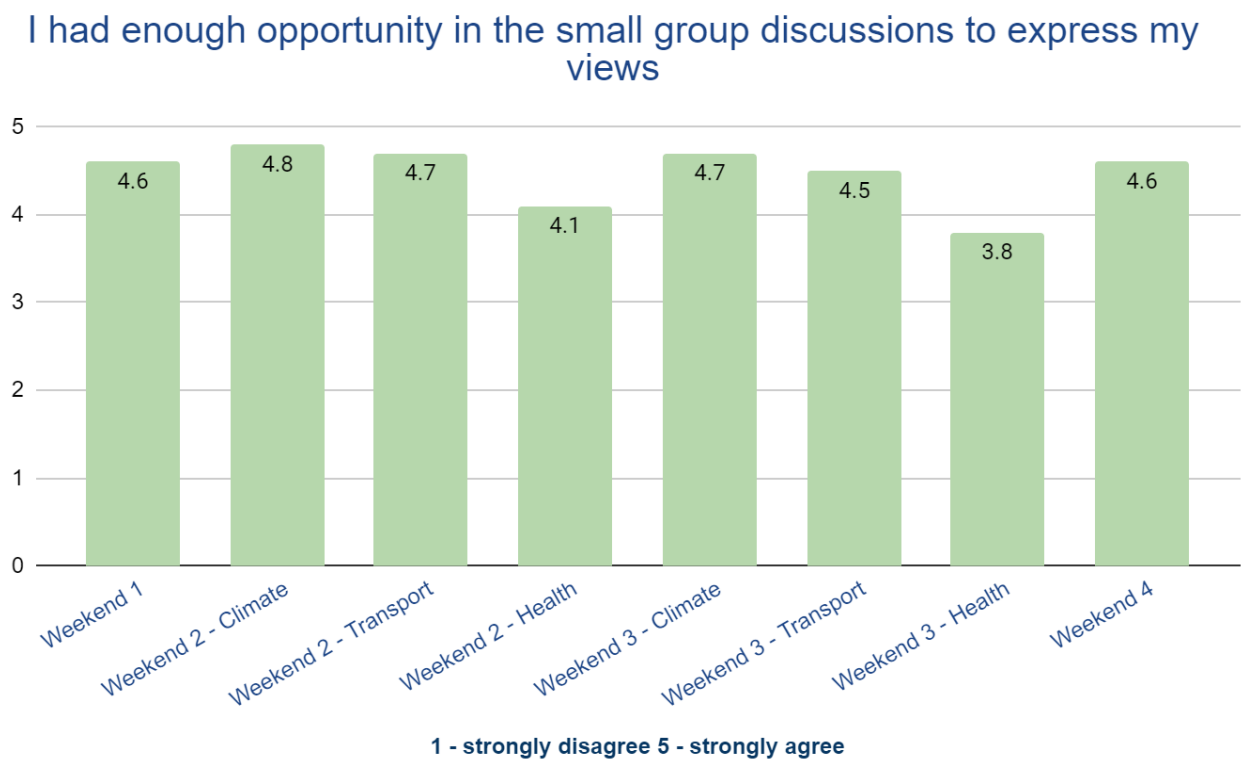


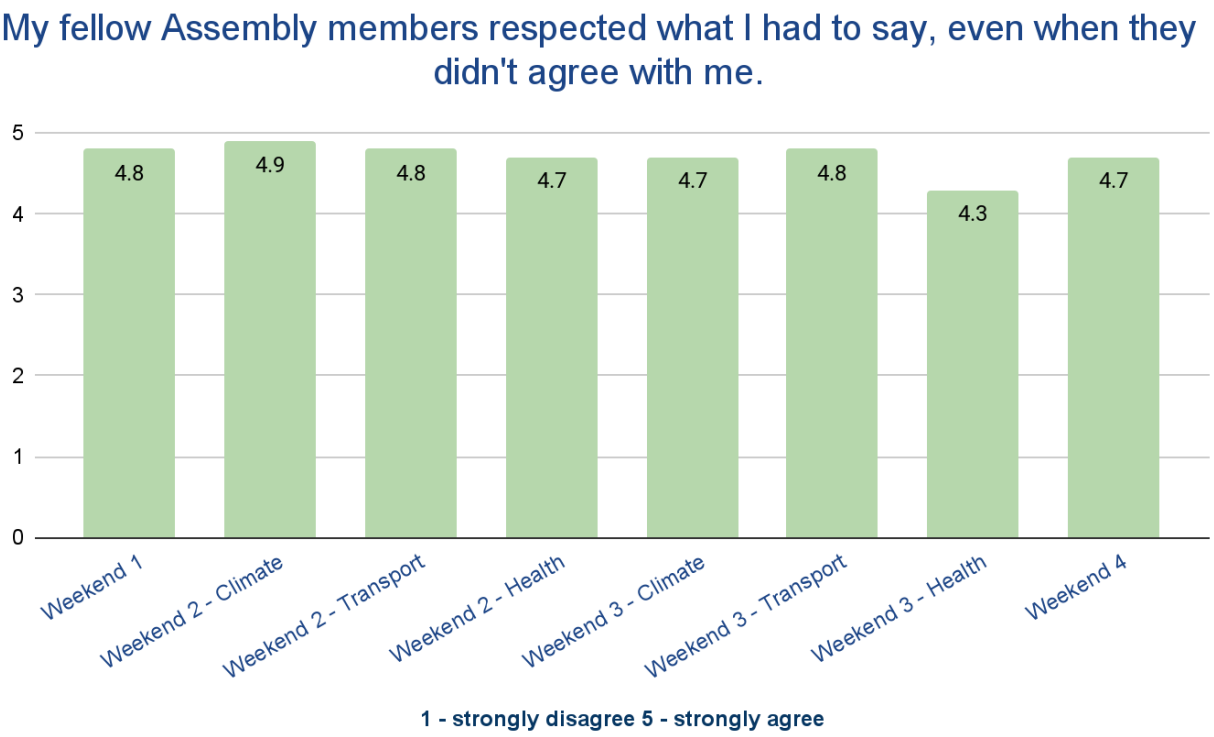
1 - strongly disagree 5 - strongly agree

I have understood almost everything that was presented by the speakers



1 - strongly disagree 5 - strongly agree


I had enough opportunity in the small group discussions to express my views
5
4
3
2
1
0
4.6
4.8
4.7
4.1
4.7
4.5
3.8
4.6
Weekend 1
Weekend 2 - Climate
Weekend 2 - Transport
Weekend 2 - Health
Weekend 3 - Climate
Weekend 3 - Transport
Weekend 3 - Health
Weekend 4
1 - strongly disagree 5 - strongly agree

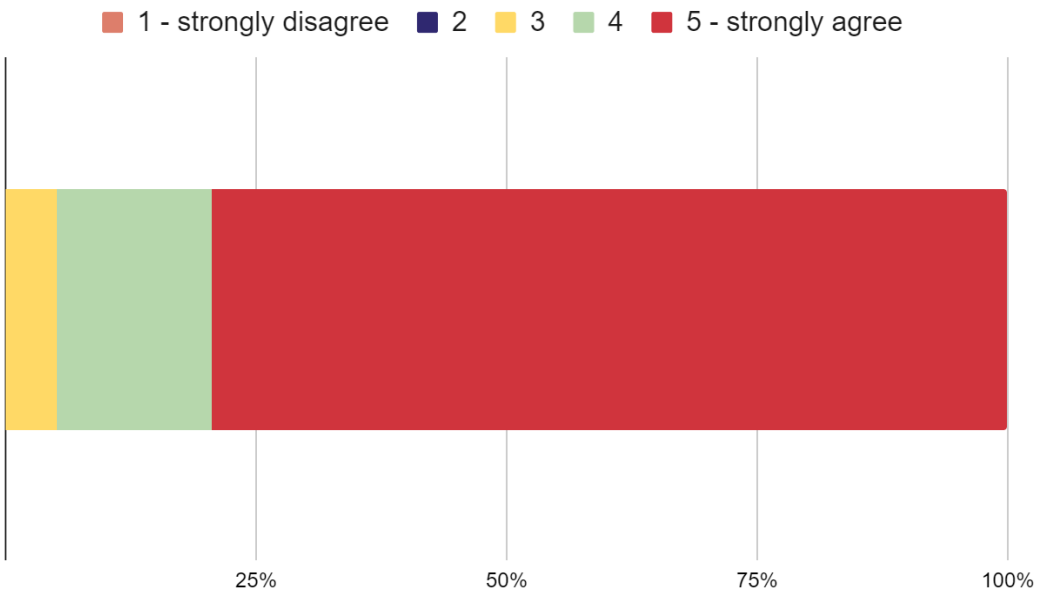

My fellow Assembly members respected what I had to say, even when they didn't agree with me.
5
4
3
2
1
0
4.8
4.9
4.8
4.7
4.7
4.8
4.3
4.7
Weekend 1
Weekend 2 - Climate
Weekend 2 - Transport
Weekend 2 - Health
Weekend 3 - Climate
Weekend 3 - Transport
Weekend 3 - Health
Weekend 4
1 - strongly disagree 5 - strongly agree

4.2 What do assembly members think about citizens' assemblies?

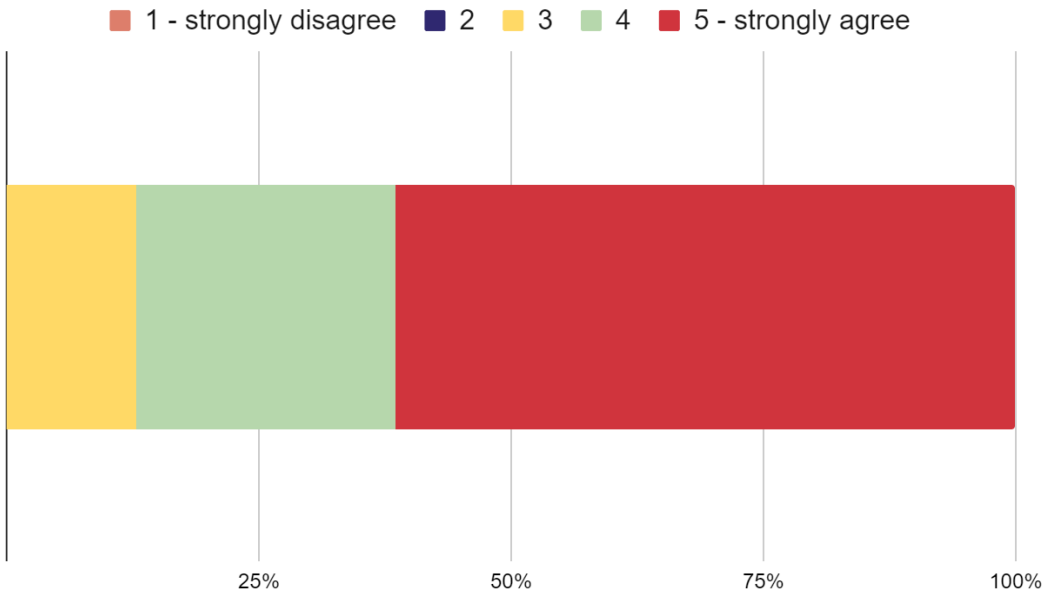
At the end of the final weekend, assembly members were asked some questions about citizens' assemblies, whether they thought they should be used more frequently in the future, and what impact they think being part of the citizens' assembly will have on how much they participate in local decision making in the future.

For each question, they were asked to indicate how strongly they agreed or disagreed.

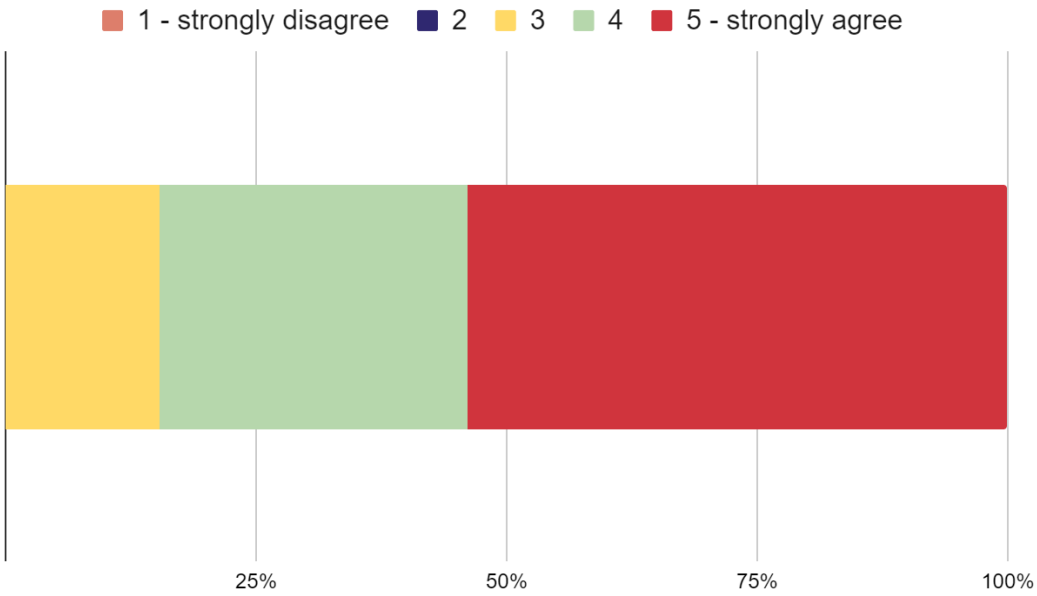
Processes like citizens' assemblies should be used more by Bristol City Council to inform their decision making



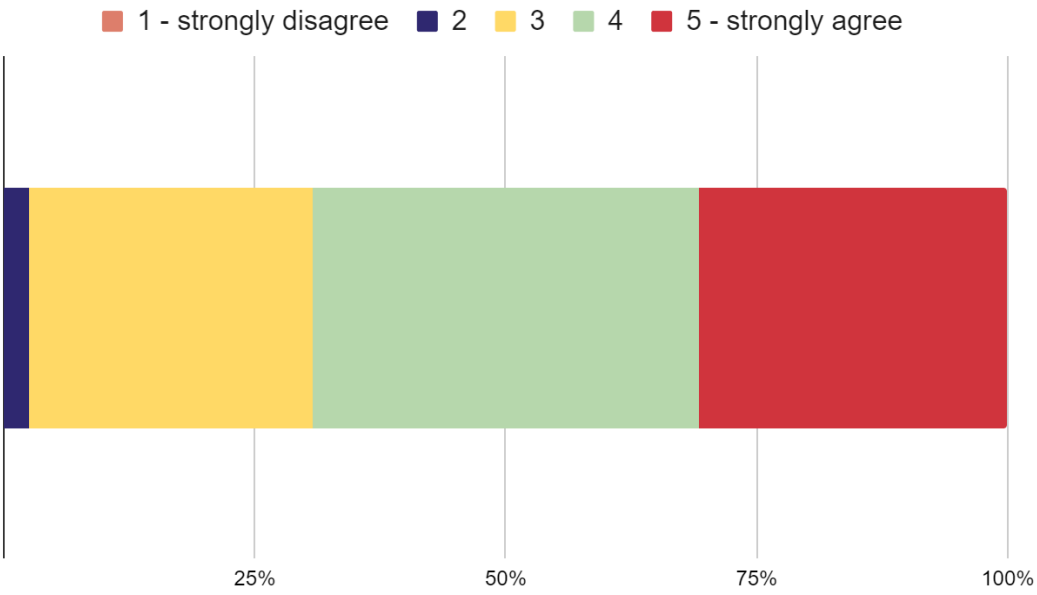
Taking part in this citizens' assembly has made me want to be more involved in other aspects of decision making that affect my local area.



Taking part in this citizens' assembly has made me feel more confident to engage in decision making that affects my local area.



I think there will be improvements as a result of this citizens' assembly.



Afterword

Conclusion

The Bristol Citizens' Assembly on recovering from COVID-19 and creating a better future for the city focussed on the three topics of climate change, health inequalities and transport. The time and energy members dedicated during the process has demonstrated a real enthusiasm and appetite to want to understand and inform what is happening in Bristol.

The City Office and Bristol City Council committed to trialling deliberative democracy through the citizens' assembly and this work continues through the review of the 17 recommendations and 82 actions. These will inform strategy to recover from the challenges of the pandemic and will be a key input in shaping our future strategy and actions.

Next Steps

This report will be formally received at the June Cabinet meeting.

The recommendations will be reviewed by the council's Cabinet, Corporate Leadership Board and the relevant services to look at legal, resourcing and other considerations. One City Thematic Boards will also review them. Upon completion of the initial review we will share a response to each recommendation and information on what happens next. Bristol City Council and the City Office commit to providing an update on progress every six months. This will be available on the Bristol Citizens' Assembly webpages.

We are grateful for members motivation in helping shape the future of our city and hope that you enjoyed being part of the assembly.

Bristol City Council

Appendices

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Appendix 1

Detailed Process Report

Weekend 1 (Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 January 2021)

Meeting 1

Meeting purpose

- Setting out the Context, Process and establishing ways of working

The first meeting of the citizens' assembly focused on welcoming the assembly members to the process, providing important background information and developing the conversation guidelines that would ensure conversations throughout the assembly process are constructive.

It began with an introduction to the assembly and an explanation of how it would work, before moving assembly members into small groups to get to know each other and begin developing conversation guidelines.

The first of the panels was a welcome to the assembly by Mayor of Bristol Marvin Rees, Deputy Mayor Cllr Asher Craig, and Cllr Paula O'Rourke, who introduced why the assembly had been called and how Bristol City Council will use what it produces.

This was followed by a presentation by Jon Toy from Bristol City Council who talked about the Your City Our Future process leading up to the assembly, and what the assembly was being asked to consider as a result.

Following these presentations, assembly members discussed what they had heard in small groups and agreed on what questions they thought were most important to ask the speakers. The morning ended with a plenary Q&A, where each of the nine small groups put their top priority question to the speakers.

Meeting 2

Meeting purpose

- Exploring the opportunities and challenges facing Bristol – informing considerations for key principles for recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The second meeting focused on the opportunities and challenges facing Bristol, and how residents have been impacted.

The first panel covered the three topic areas of the assembly, as well as some of the overarching issues impacting on COVID recovery. It featured four quick-fire presentations:

- Climate change – Simeran Bachra, UK Cities Manager, CDP
- Health – Sally Hogg, Consultant in Public Health, Healthy People, Healthy Place at Bristol City Council

- Transport – Steve Melia, Senior Lecturer in Transport and Planning, University of the West of England
- Inequalities and challenges before and since COVID – Dave Gordon, Professor of Social Justice, Director of the Bristol Poverty Institute and Director of the Townsend Centre for International Poverty Research at the University of Bristol

The second panel featured three quick-fire presentations about how different groups have been impacted by the opportunities and challenges facing Bristol:

- How residents are impacted – Nick Smith, Strategic Intelligence and Performance Team, Bristol City Council
- How residents are impacted: a perspective from the Deaf community – David Melling, Director of Centre for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People
- How residents are impacted: a young person's perspective – Tyreke Morgan, resident of Bristol

Following each of these panels, assembly members went into small group discussions with their facilitators to reflect on the presentations and identify what key points they thought were important to consider when thinking about creating a better future for all in Bristol.

The day ended with a short wrap up, where the lead facilitator summarised what had been covered, and reminded assembly members of the details for the third meeting.

Meeting 3

Meeting purpose

- Development of principles for recovering from COVID-19 and creating a better future for all in Bristol

The third meeting focused on developing a set of principles to guide decision making to achieve a better future for all in Bristol. The morning started with a brief introduction by the lead facilitator. Draft conversation guidelines, based on suggestions put forward by the small groups at Meeting 1, and consolidated overnight by the organisers, were presented back to the assembly members. There was an opportunity for feedback, before the conversation guidelines were agreed by all assembly members. The conversation guidelines can be viewed in appendix 2.

Following this, there was a short report-back from the previous day. A representative from each of the nine small groups reported back on what their group identified as the key points to consider when thinking about creating a better future for all in Bristol.

This led into the first small group session of the day – assembly members began to discuss what principles should guide the recovery from COVID- 19COVID-19 and achieve a better future for all in Bristol. Discussions started with assembly members thinking about what a

better future for all in Bristol would look like, before then thinking about the principles that would help achieve it. Those principles would then be used later in the assembly process to help guide the recommendations from the assembly members.

The first weekend ended with a plenary feedback of principles from the small groups.

Weekend 2 (Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 February 2021)

The second weekend of the citizens' assembly saw participants members split into 3 groups of 20 members, to each look in detail at one of the topics. Across the all three topics, weekend 2 focused on understanding the problem, and beginning to look at some of the possible solutions.

Before the weekend, assembly members were sent a template for taking notes as they listened to the speakers. The template consisted of four headings – challenges, opportunities & solutions, insights, and questions. Assembly members were encouraged to use those headings to organise their notes as they heard from speakers. The same headings were used in the small group discussion to help organise the deliberation.

Below, we look in more detail at each topic in turn.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND HOUSING

Topic question: How do we rapidly reduce the impact of our homes on climate change?

Meeting 1

Meeting purpose

- To introduce the topic and agenda for the weekend
- To understand the contribution of heating homes to climate change
- To understand the range of different solutions for reducing the impact of homes on climate change

The first meeting of the second weekend featured two panels.

Panel 1: Understanding the problem & why we need to act

- Climate change, impacts, strategy, and emergency response – Ann Cousins, co-Chair of Environment Board Environmental Sustainability Board
- Why do we need to act? – Lorraine Whitmarsh, Professor of Environmental Psychology at the University of Bath
- Bristol and Bristol residents' carbon footprint – Alex Minshull, Sustainable City and Climate Change Service Manager, Bristol City Council

Panel 2: How do we make it happen? Introduction to the solutions

A presentation of the potential solutions for rapidly reducing the impact of how we heat our homes on climate change.

- What are the potential solutions?; what are the opportunities and challenges of introducing them? – Simon Roberts, Chief Executive, Centre for Sustainable Energy

After each panel, there was a small group discussion and a Q&A with the speakers, where the assembly members had the opportunity to ask questions about their presentations.

Meeting 2

Meeting purpose

- To consider different perspectives on the solutions / mechanisms for reducing the impact of homes on climate change
- To reflect on challenges, opportunities and solutions, insights, and outstanding questions

The second meeting of weekend two began with a small group discussion that encouraged assembly members to reflect on what they had heard in the first meeting. Facilitators recorded the key points coming up using the note-taking template. Any outstanding questions that assembly members felt had not been answered in the previous session were noted by the facilitators.

This discussion was followed by a panel of speakers covering different perspectives on the solutions and mechanisms on heating homes and climate change.

Panel 3: How do we make it happen? Perspectives on solutions and mechanisms: Part 1.

- Social landlords – Alison Napper, Asset Manager and Review Manager, Bristol City Council
- An innovative approach: the Energiesprong approach – Matt Wood, Bristol Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Energiesprong
- The Local Authority led delivery approach – Hannah Spungin, Operations Programme Manager for the Energy Service, Bristol City Council

This panel was followed by a ‘speaker carousel’ in which each speaker spent a few minutes in each of the three small groups. This was an opportunity for assembly members to talk to the speaker and ask them questions about their presentation.

The day ended with an open and free-flowing discussion between assembly members in small groups. Facilitators kept a record of key points using the note taking template.

Meeting 3

Meeting Purpose

- To consider different perspectives on the solutions / mechanisms for reducing the impact of homes on climate change
- To further reflect on challenges, opportunities and solutions, insights, and outstanding questions

- To develop and capture initial ideas for recommendations on the topic question

The third and final meeting of weekend two kicked off with a panel of speakers who provided some more perspectives on the mechanisms for making the change to how homes are heated.

Panel 4: How do we make it happen? Perspectives on the solutions / mechanisms: Part 2

- Solutions and economic recovery – Lucy Pedler, Director at Green Register
- Community-led approach – David Tudgey and Emilia Melville, Bristol Energy Network

This panel was followed by a small group discussion where assembly members agreed what they would like to know more about. They prioritised two questions to take from their group back to the plenary Q&A. Lower priority questions were recorded by the group facilitator.

The small groups returned to plenary and a volunteer from each one asked their agreed questions of the speakers in turn.

The weekend concluded with a small group discussion in which assembly members reflected on what they had heard and began developing ideas for recommendations that they might make in response to the topic question: How do we rapidly reduce the impact of our homes on climate change?

Those ideas would form the starting point for developing recommendations in weekend three.

TRANSPORT

Topic question: What changes should we make to our neighbourhoods to make how we travel easier, healthier and better for the environment?

Meeting 1

Meeting Purpose

- To introduce the topic and agenda for the weekend
- To understand how neighbourhoods have developed, and the impact on how we travel, the environment and health
- To understand how neighbourhoods can be designed differently

The first meeting of the second weekend was focused around the topics of neighbourhoods and transport, understanding the reasons why neighbourhoods need to change to be easier to travel around, healthier, and better for the environment, what the challenges are, and some of the potential solutions.

The meeting featured two panels.

Panel 1: Understanding the current situation

A panel of speakers covering how neighbourhoods have developed, how we use them and what impact that has on travel, health and the environment

- Transport and the City: What's gone wrong and why we need to fix it – Miriam Ricci, Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Transport and Society, University of the West of England, Bristol
- The impact of transport and neighbourhood design on health – Adrian Davis, Professor of Transport and Health at Edinburgh Napier University

Panel 2: How neighbourhoods can be designed differently

A panel of speakers covering how neighbourhoods can be designed differently

- Introduction to livable neighbourhoods: how the 20 minute neighbourhood approach can help us achieve our climate commitments – Daisy Narayanan, Director of Urbanism, Sustrans
- Introduction to livable neighbourhoods, their benefits and design principles – Jon Usher, Head of Partnerships, Sustrans
- How liveable neighbourhoods fits with the strategic picture: What Bristol City Council and WECA is already planning – Adam Crowther, Head of City Transport at Bristol City Council

Each panel was followed by a Q&A session with the speakers. For panel one, this was done in plenary following small group discussions to agree and prioritise questions. For panel two, it was done as a ‘speaker carousel’, giving each speaker a few minutes with each group in a less formal setting.

Meeting 2

Meeting Purpose

- To explore examples of where neighbourhoods have already been redesigned, and the benefits and challenges
- To reflect on challenges, opportunities and solutions, insights, and outstanding questions

The second meeting of weekend two began with a small group discussion that encouraged assembly members to reflect on what they had heard in the first meeting. Facilitators recorded the key points coming up using the note-taking template. Any outstanding questions that assembly members felt had not been answered in the previous session were noted by the facilitators.

Following this discussion, assembly members heard from the third panel of the day, which showcased examples of where changes to neighbourhoods were already being made, both within and outside of Bristol.

Panel 3: Examples of where it’s already happening

A panel of speakers covering examples of where it’s already happening from Waltham Forest and Bristol.

- Liveable neighbourhoods in Waltham Forest – Clyde Loakes, Councillor, Waltham Forest
- Examples from Bristol – Richard Goldthorpe, Placeshaping Manager, Bristol City Council

After the panel, the assembly members went into small groups to discuss what they had heard and to agree on what they would like to ask the speakers. Once back in plenary, a volunteer from each group put the agreed upon questions to the speakers.

The day ended with an open and free-flowing discussion between assembly members in small groups. Facilitators kept a record of key points using the note taking template.

Meeting 3

Meeting Purpose

- To consider different perspectives on the benefits and challenges of redesigning neighbourhoods
- To further reflect on challenges, opportunities and solutions, insights, and outstanding questions
- To develop and capture initial ideas for recommendations on the topic question

The third meeting of the second weekend began with a panel looking at a range of different perspectives on the benefits and challenges of redesigning our neighbourhoods.

Panel 4: Perspectives on benefits and challenges of implementation

A panel of speakers covering different perspectives on the benefits and challenges of re-designing neighbourhoods in Bristol.

- Environmental benefits and climate change – Jess Read, independent walking and cycling engineer
- Accessibility – David Redgewell, Trustee of Bristol's Equalities Forum and public transport consultant
- Health – Bianca Rossetti and Carly Urbanski, Bristol Aging Better
- Safety – Lyndsey Melling, Liveable Bristol
- Young people – Maryan Sayidall, resident of Bristol

After this panel, assembly members had an opportunity to discuss what they had heard and ask questions in a speaker carousel format, where speakers – in pairs – joined each group in turn.

After the Q&A, assembly members returned to their small groups to discuss what they had heard and begin developing ideas for recommendations in response to the topic question: What changes should we make to our neighbourhoods to make how we travel easier, healthier and better for the environment?

This discussion concluded the second weekend, and the ideas developed would form the starting point for developing recommendations in weekend three.

HEALTH INEQUALITIES

Topic question: How should we tackle health inequalities in Bristol?

Meeting 1

Meeting purpose

- To introduce the topic and agenda for the weekend
- To understand how health varies across the population, why health inequalities arise and the prevalence in Bristol
- To understand how inequalities impact individuals, communities and society

The first meeting of the second weekend was focused around establishing what is meant by health inequalities and understanding their impact on communities, individuals, and society.

The meeting featured two panels.

Panel 1: What are health inequalities?

A panel of speakers covering what health inequalities are, why they arise and how they impact people in Bristol.

- What are health inequalities, and why do they arise? – Christina Gray, Director of Public Health at Bristol City Council[16]
- The prevalence of health inequalities in Bristol – Adwoa Webber, Head of Clinical Effectiveness at Bristol, North Somerset, and South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (BNSSG)

Panel 2: What impact do health inequalities have?

A panel of speakers covering the impact health inequalities have on individuals, communities and society.

- How Communities experience health inequalities: experiences from VCSE – Elaine Flint, Co-Director at Wellspring Settlement
- The impacts of health inequalities in people: food inequality – Andy Street, Feeding Bristol
- The costs of health inequalities for people – David Gordon, Professor of Social Justice at the University of Bristol.

Each panel was followed by a Q&A session with the speakers. For panel one, this was done in plenary following small group discussions to agree and prioritise questions. For

[16] Christina Gray was called away at short notice and was unable to attend. Her presentation was given by Adwoa Webber

panel two, it was done as a ‘speaker carousel’, giving each speaker a few minutes with each group in a less formal setting.

Meeting 2

Meeting Purpose

- To explore the different ways in which health inequalities can be addressed
- To reflect on challenges, opportunities and solutions, insights, and outstanding questions

The second meeting of weekend two began with a small group discussion that encouraged assembly members to reflect on what they had heard in the first meeting. Facilitators recorded the key points coming up using the note-taking template. Any outstanding questions that assembly members felt had not been answered in the previous session were noted by the facilitators.

Following this discussion, assembly members heard from the third panel of the day, which introduced some of the approaches to addressing health inequalities.

Panel 3: How can health inequalities be tackled?

A panel of speakers covering how health inequalities can be tackled.

- Preventative health approaches – Sally Hogg, Consultant in Public Health, Bristol City Council
- Impact of education, employment and skills – Jane Taylor, Head of Employment, Skills, and Learning at Bristol City Council
- Impact of housing and built environment – Marcus Grant, WHO Healthy Cities

After the panel, the speakers took part in a speaker carousel Q&A session, giving them time in small groups to answer assembly members’ questions.

The day ended with an open and free-flowing discussion between assembly members in small groups. Facilitators kept a record of key points using the note taking template.

Meeting 3

Meeting Purpose

- To consider how the system currently works and how that can make it challenging to tackle health inequalities
- To further reflect on challenges, opportunities and solutions, insights, and outstanding questions
- To develop and capture initial ideas for recommendations on the topic question

The third meeting of the second weekend began with a panel looking at how the health system works, and why that can make health inequalities challenging to tackle.

Panel 4: How the system currently works

A panel of speakers covering how the system currently works and why that can make it challenging to tackle health inequalities.

- Perspective of Council: how decisions are made, money is spent and how the system works – Ben Moseley, Head of the Executive Office, Bristol City Council
- Perspective of Clinical Commissioning Group: how decisions are made, money is spent and how the system works – Seb Habibi, Programme Director, Bristol North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group

After this panel, assembly members went into their small groups to discuss what they had heard, and to agree and prioritise questions for the speakers. Back in plenary, a volunteer from each group asked their chosen questions in turn.

After the Q&A, assembly members returned to their small groups to discuss what they had heard and begin developing ideas for recommendations in response to the topic question: How should we tackle health inequalities in Bristol?

This discussion concluded the second weekend, and the ideas developed would form the starting point for developing recommendations in weekend three.

Weekend 3 (Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 February 2021)

Between weekend two and weekend three, the organisers at Involve collated all of the ideas generated by the small groups into a longlist, grouping them together according to broad themes. The purpose of weekend three was to fill any gaps in evidence or understanding identified at weekend two, and for assembly members to begin the process of refining, developing and prioritising ideas for how to answer the topic question for each topic. Each strand followed a similar process, with meeting one featuring a final panel of speakers, and the subsequent meetings being based around group discussions. Below, we provide the details of meeting one for each of the topics, and the process for meetings 2 and 3 for all three together. Where there was any difference in process or outcome in a topic strand, that's noted below.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND HOUSING

Topic question: How do we rapidly reduce the impact of our homes on climate change?

Meeting 1

Meeting purpose:

- Welcoming assembly members back, filling gaps in evidence and adding final ideas to the longlist of recommendations

Following a welcome and short warm up discussion in small groups, the third weekend of the citizens' assembly got going with the fifth and final panel of the assembly.

Panel 5: What are the steps towards effective action and how can we make it fair?

A panel of speakers exploring the challenges of rapidly reducing the impact of our homes on climate change and how the recommendations of the citizens' assembly can help to address them.

- Energy Justice and what would make the changes fair? – Ed Atkins, Lecturer in the School of Geographical Sciences at the University of Bristol
- A community view on how to make change appealing, engaging and fair – Roy Kareem, Green and Black Ambassador
- Citizen participation in implementing the changes – Alex Ivory, Climate Change Team Leader, Bristol City Council

The panel was followed by a 'speaker carousel' style Q&A, in which each speaker spent some time with each of the small groups in turn, answering questions and discussing what they had heard.

The morning was closed with a short discussion in groups reviewing the recommendations collated from weekend 2 and identifying if there was anything significant missing.

TRANSPORT

Topic question: What changes should we make to our neighbourhoods to make how we travel easier, healthier and better for the environment?

Meeting 1

Meeting purpose

- Welcoming assembly members back, filling gaps in evidence and adding final ideas to the longlist of recommendations.

Panel 5: What would liveable neighbourhoods mean in practice?

A panel of speakers exploring the challenges of redesigning neighbourhoods and how the recommendations of the citizens' assembly can help to address them.

- Scale and pace of changes needed to deliver our policies & commitments (eg climate, ecology, air pollution) – Andrew Linfoot, One City Environment Board
- How public transport can support the change – Chris Hanson, Operations Director, First West of England
- How communities could be involved in designing neighbourhoods (co-design principles / working with harder to reach communities) – Ellie Freeman, Action Greater Bedminster
- What criteria could be used for prioritising where we focus resources? – Jacob Pryor, Bristol City Council

The panel was followed by a 'speaker carousel' style Q&A, in which each speaker spent some time with each of the small groups in turn, answering questions and discussing what they had heard.

The morning was closed with a short discussion in groups reviewing the recommendations collated from weekend 2 and identifying if there was anything significant missing.

HEALTH INEQUALITIES

Topic question: How should we tackle health inequalities in Bristol?

Meeting 1

Meeting purpose

- Welcoming assembly members back, filling gaps in evidence and adding final ideas to the longlist of recommendations.

Following a welcome and short warm up discussion in small groups, the third weekend of the citizens' assembly got going with the fifth and final panel of the assembly.

Panel 5: What could be done in Bristol to tackle health inequalities?

A panel of speakers exploring the challenges of tackling health inequalities and how the recommendations of the citizens' assembly can help to address them.

- City Council perspective – Christina Gray, Director of Public Health at Bristol City Council.
- Health perspective – Professor Peter Brindle, Medical Director at Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group and Dr Charlie Kenward, Clinical Lead for Research and Effectiveness at the Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (BNSSG CCG).
- Community perspective – Dom Ellison, Chief Executive of WECIL

The panel was followed by a 'speaker carousel' style Q&A, in which each speaker spent some time with each of the small groups in turn, answering questions and discussing what they had heard.

The morning was closed with a short discussion in groups reviewing the recommendations collated from weekend 2 and identifying if there was anything significant missing.

ALL TOPIC STRANDS

Meeting 2

Meeting purpose

- Agreeing the focus for the recommendations and beginning to draft them

The meeting was opened by the lead facilitator, who provided an overview of the process for developing recommendations.

Moving into small groups, assembly members returned to the longlist that had been collated from ideas generated in weekend 2. The objective of this session was to identify and focus on the recommendations that they, as a group, could agree were the most important.

Between weekends 2 and 3, ideas had been grouped together and themed by the organisers at Involve. These themes provided a starting place for discussions, but groups were encouraged to revise them as they saw fit. They began by reflecting individually on which of those themes were the most important, to decide if there were ones that were too broad and needed to be separated out, or too narrow and needed to be combined with others. Assembly members shared their thoughts with each other, and from there began discussing what three or four themes were the most important.

Assembly members returned to the plenary to share the priorities that had been identified in their groups. A volunteer from each group gave feedback on what their group had discussed and the priority themes they had agreed upon. The lead facilitator noted their priorities on a virtual whiteboard.

Working together, assembly members identified where there was obvious overlap and duplication, and some themes were combined. The session ended with a shortlist of topics. The climate and housing and health inequalities strand ended up with six topics each, and the transport strand ended up with five. Each of the three small groups was assigned one – two of those topics each.

Moving back into small groups, the assembly members began drafting the wording of the recommendations based on the topics they had been assigned. To do this, they used a recommendation template consisting of:

- A single sentence statement of what the recommendation is;
- A list of sub-actions for how the recommendation should be implemented;
- A justification for why the recommendation is important.

The small groups got as far as they could with the draft recommendations in the available time, before the assembly session concluded for the day.

Meeting 3

Meeting purpose

- Developing the recommendations further, reviewing them between groups and finalising

Following a brief welcome from the lead facilitator, the morning began with the assembly members returning to their small groups to continue work on drafting the recommendations. This session was followed by a carousel in which small group facilitators moved between groups, introducing the recommendation/s their group had been working on. The facilitators collected feedback from the other two groups, noting it down in the shared document.

After a short break, facilitators returned to their original groups and reported back on the feedback they had received from the other groups. The small groups continued drafting the recommendations, taking account of the feedback they had received and the recommendations being worked on by the other groups.

By the end of the morning, assembly members had developed a first draft of all 17 recommendations across the three topic strands, including draft actions and rationales.

In the five days between weekend three and weekend four, all the draft recommendations were shared with assembly members. The purpose of this was twofold: assembly members could comment on the recommendations they were working on so that any thoughts and ideas that they didn't have sufficient time to develop could still be captured; and it gave an opportunity for members to preview the work of the other two topic strands and begin to see the assembly's recommendations as a whole.

In the intervening time, members were also asked to select which 10 underpinning from the full list of 28 developed at the beginning of the assembly process they felt were the most important. The final list can be seen in the next section in the order in which they were ranked, from highest to lowest priority.

Weekend 4 (Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 March 2021)

Weekend four brought all 60 assembly members together again as a single group. The main focus of this weekend was to review the recommendations from across the assembly, finalise and agree upon the detail of the recommendations, and present those recommendations to representatives from the Council.

Meeting 1

Meeting purpose:

- Hear about and reflect on all of the recommendations across the assembly

Following a short welcome from the lead facilitator, assembly members went into small groups that had been put together to ensure that there was a good mix of members from each of the three topic strands. Supported by facilitators, these small groups reviewed the recommendations for each of the three topic strands in turn. The review process started with members who had been part of that topic strand saying something about the recommendation and why it was important, after which other members could share their reactions to the recommendations. Any comments the members wanted to make for consideration when finalising the recommendations were recorded as comments within the document, to be addressed in the following meeting. This process was repeated for recommendations from all three topic strands.

Meeting 2

Meeting purpose:

- Review any comments and finalise the recommendations

Assembly members returned to the small groups they had been in during weekend three, when they had begun drafting their recommendations. The focus of this session was to arrive at the final recommendations to be presented back to everyone the following morning. During the session, with support of facilitators, assembly members reflected on discussions from the previous meeting, making any alterations to the wording they felt were required based on that feedback. Once the recommendations were complete, they were reviewed to ensure that they were written in clear language, weren't overly long, and were supported by a manageable number of actions. The rationale that accompanied the recommendation was also reviewed to ensure it was sufficiently short and clear.

The meeting closed with assembly members from each small group volunteering to present their recommendations to the assembly and representatives of the Council the following morning.

Meeting 3

Meeting purpose:

- Present the final recommendations and hear from representatives from the Council and sponsoring politicians

The final meeting of the citizens' assembly opened with a short welcome from Mayor of Bristol Marvin Rees.

The assembly members then presented each recommendation in turn. Once all the recommendations had been presented, the lead facilitator handed over to the Council representatives – Mayor Marvin Rees, Cllr Asher Craig, Cllr Paula O'Rourke – for initial reflections and to outline the next steps for the Council to respond to the recommendations.

Following these reflections, assembly members returned briefly to their small groups to discuss the reaction of the council representatives, and to agree on one or two questions they thought were important to put to the politicians. They returned to the plenary for a Q&A session with the politicians.

The meeting concluded with the lead facilitator explaining how the online voting process would work, before bringing the assembly to a close.

Appendix 2

Conversation guidelines

1. Step forward, step back
2. Make sure everyone has a chance to speak
3. No question is a bad question
4. Listen to what others are saying, think about it, respond to it and build the conversation
5. Think about things from other people's perspectives and try to understand where they are coming from
6. Respect other people's opinions and agree to disagree
7. Be respectful and choose your words with care
8. Be mindful of voices from different areas and different experiences
9. Talk one at a time
10. Try to be succinct and don't repeat the same point
11. Stay on topic
12. Don't dismiss what others say
13. Be open to changing your mind
14. Don't be afraid to disagree
15. Don't make things personal. If you disagree – challenge the idea, not the person
16. Focus on sharing views, not trying to win a debate
17. Be mindful some people are uncomfortable by conflict
18. Allow emotions to be present in the conversations, but not overrule them
19. Remember that body language online is different to face-to-face
20. Be forgiving of each other
21. Remember everyone is here in good faith and ultimately wants the same thing
22. Be kind

Notes for facilitators

1. Allow pauses to collect thoughts
2. Do a "round the group" every so often, so everyone gets a chance to speak - e.g., when there's a new theme
3. If some people are less comfortable speaking, invite them to contribute
4. Define the scope of the conversation before we get going
5. Summarise briefly as the discussion continues

Appendix 3

Additional equalities information

Bristol's Citizens' Assembly aimed to bring together a group of people who broadly reflect the diverse communities of Bristol. The selection process was designed to do this by looking at age, sex (male/female), ethnicity, disability, employment, deprivation and which area of the city people live in.

The purpose was to make sure the assembly matched the makeup of Bristol's overall population as closely as possible.

There are also four other characteristics that are commonly used when looking at how representative a group might be of a larger population. Though these characteristics were nor used in the selection process, Assembly members were asked about them in the evaluation surveys that followed each weekend.

The questions were optional and assembly members could answer as few or as many as they wanted.

Characteristic		Population data	Survey respondents*
Religion/ Faith (91% response rate)	No religion	37%	60%
	Buddhist	1%	0%
	Christian	47%	25%
	Hindu	1%	0%
	Jewish	0.2%	0%
	Muslim	5%	8%
	Sikh	0.5%	0%
	Prefer not to say	8%	6%
	Other	1%	2%

Sexual orientation (89% response rate)	Bisexual	No data**	4%
	Gay man	No data**	5%
	Gay woman/ Lesbian	No data**	4%
	Heterosexual/ straight	No data**	85%
	Prefer not to say	No data**	4%
	Other	No data**	0%
Gender reassignment (91% response rate)	Yes	No data**	0%
	No	No data**	96%
	Prefer not to say	No data**	4%
Pregnancy and maternity (89% response rate)	Yes	No data**	0%
	No	No data**	98%
	Prefer not to say	No data**	2%

*Some of the respondent data add up to over 100% due to rounding.

**There was no question related to this characteristic in the 2010 census so data on the general population is not available.

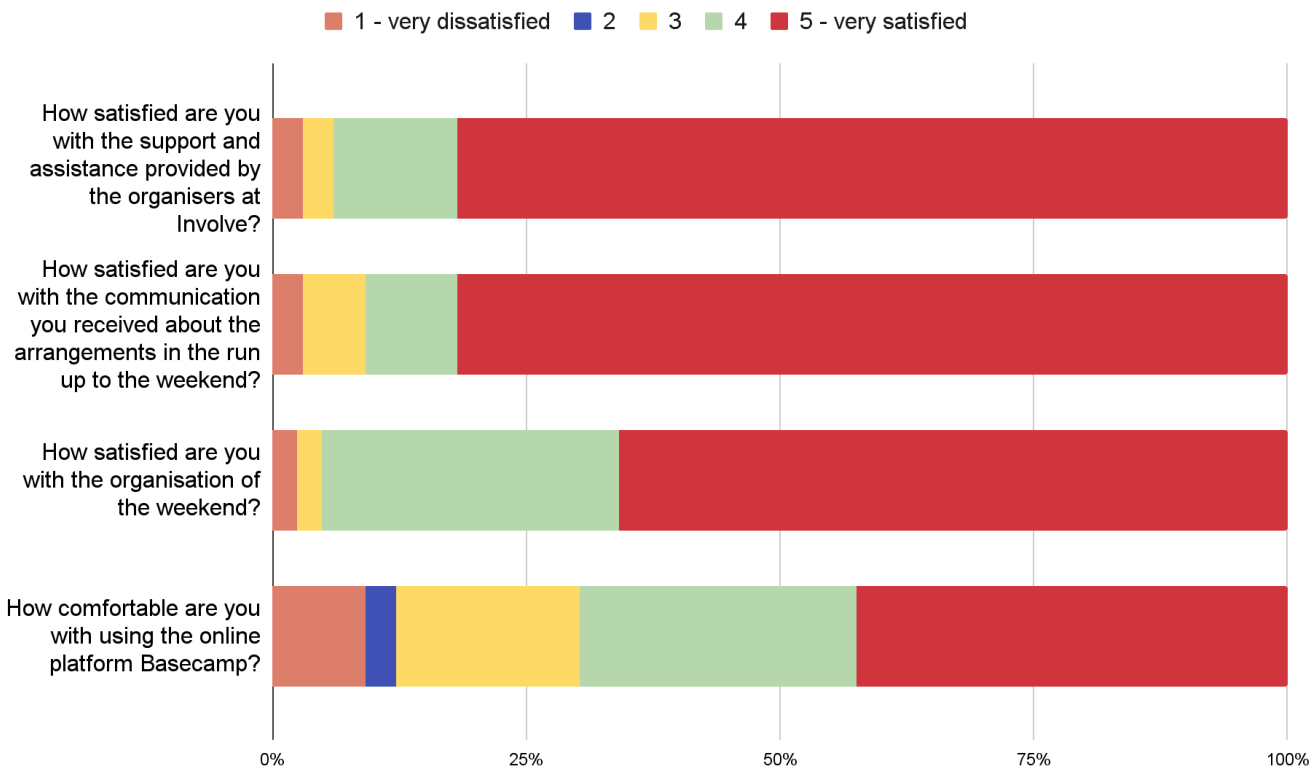
Appendix 4

Evaluation questionnaire results in full

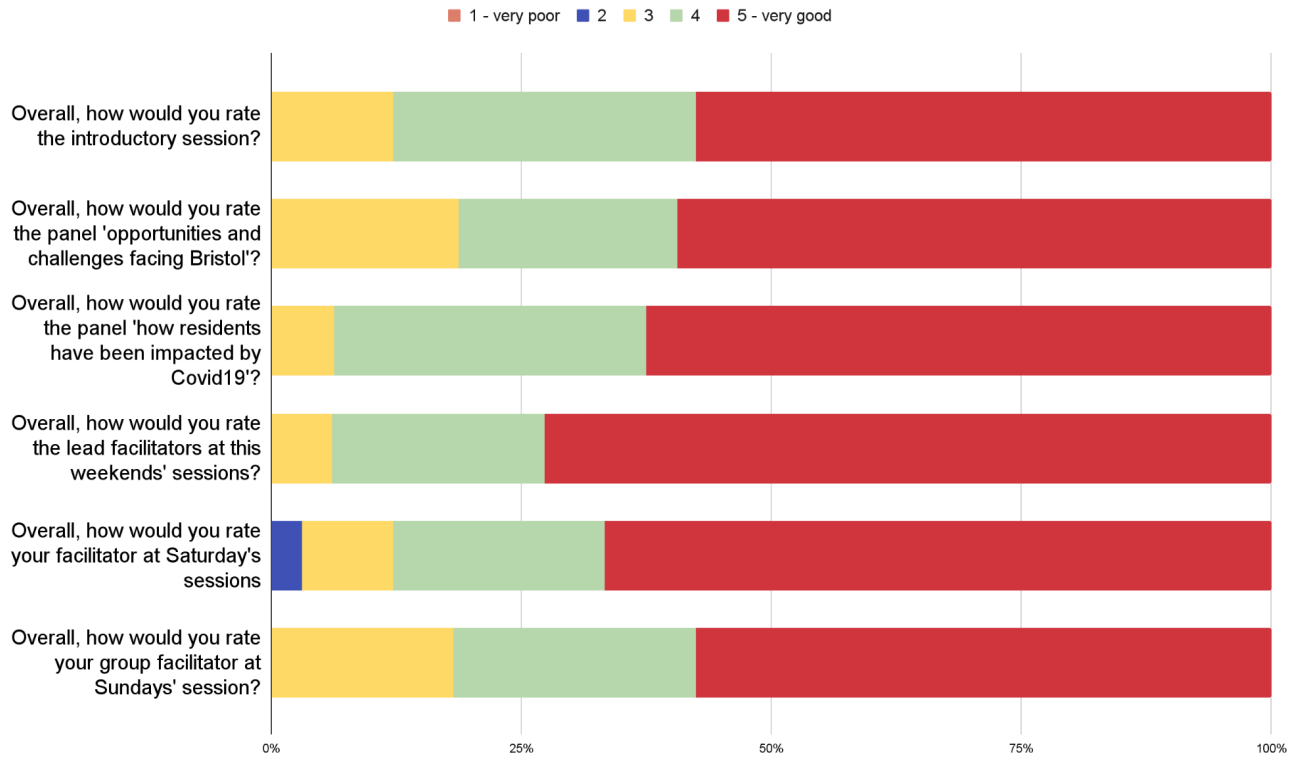
Bristol Citizens' Assembly - Member Experience Questionnaire | Weekend 1

Response rate: 54%

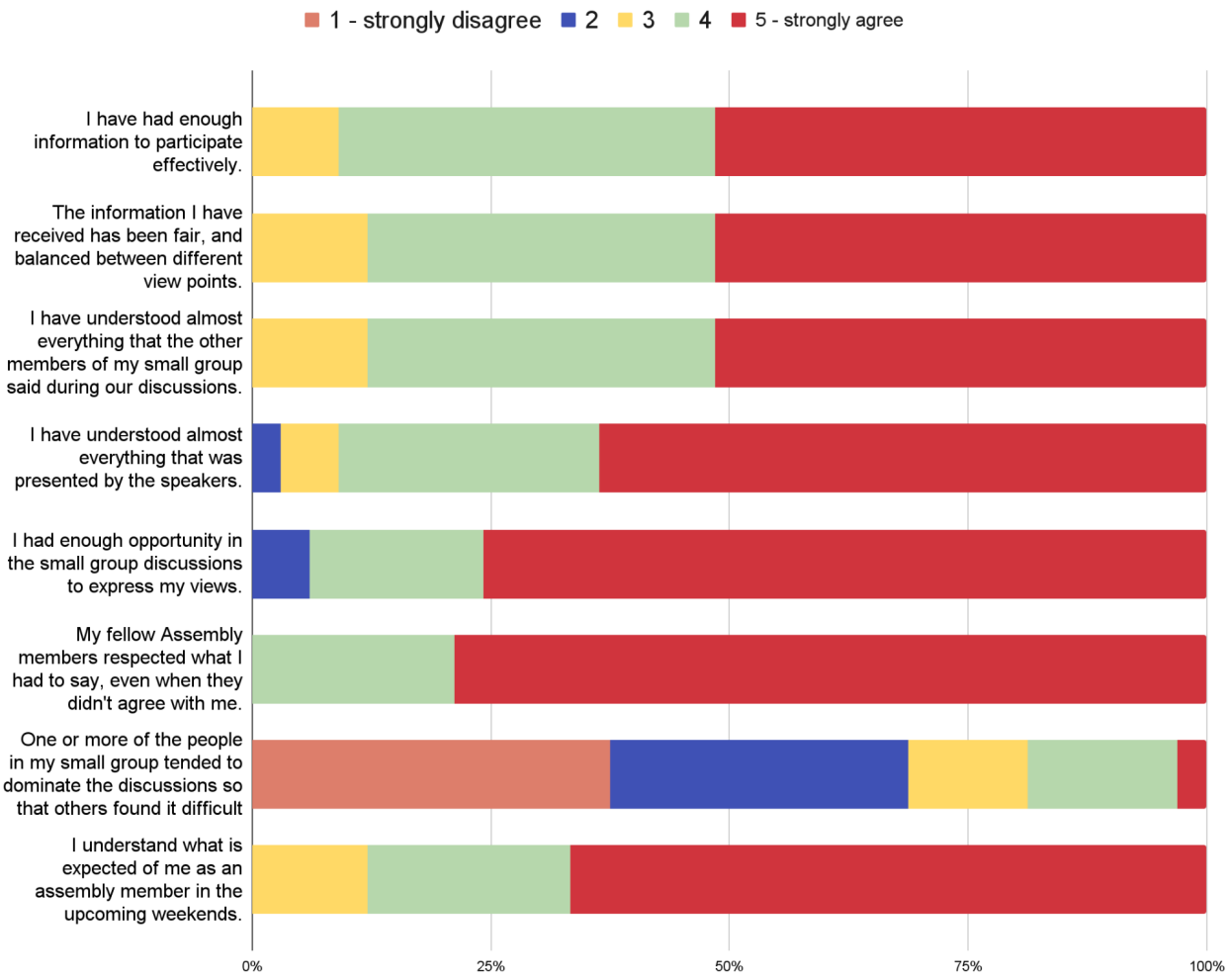
The following questions are about the support you received to take part in the citizens' assembly



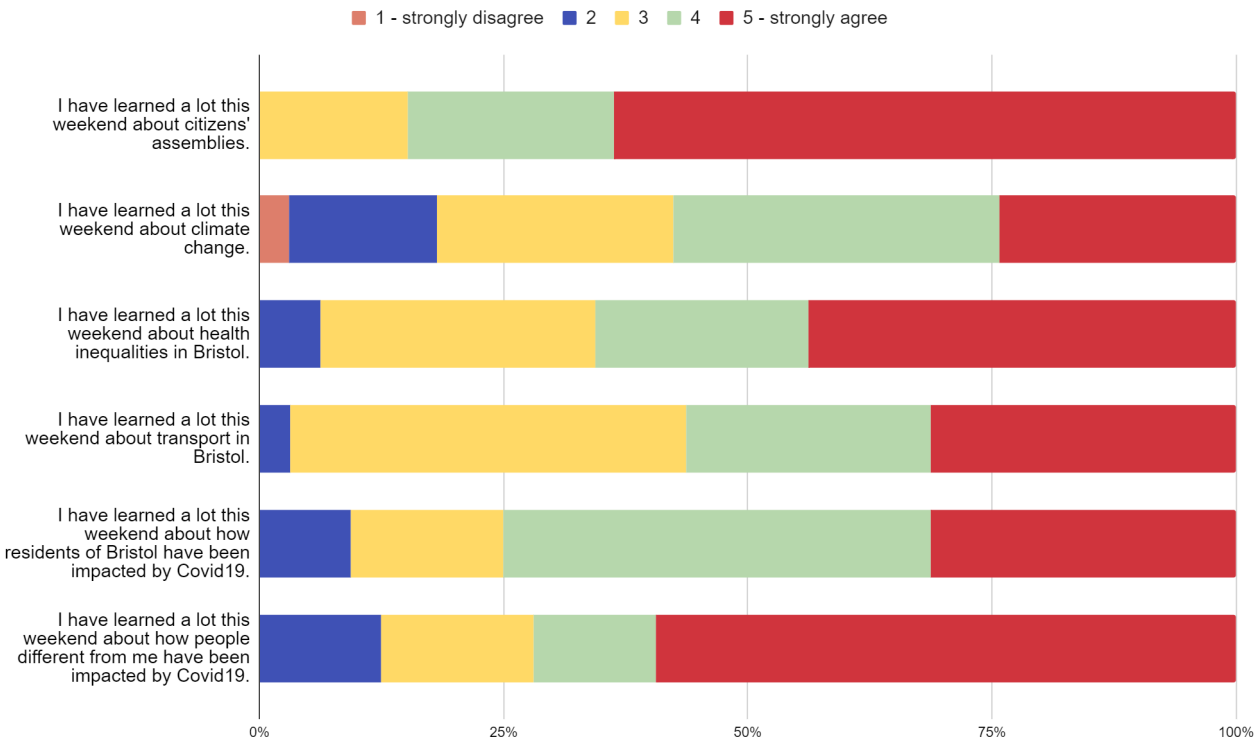
The following questions are about your overall impressions of this weekend



The following section asks about your experience participating in the citizens' assembly this weekend



The following section is about the topics covered at this weekend



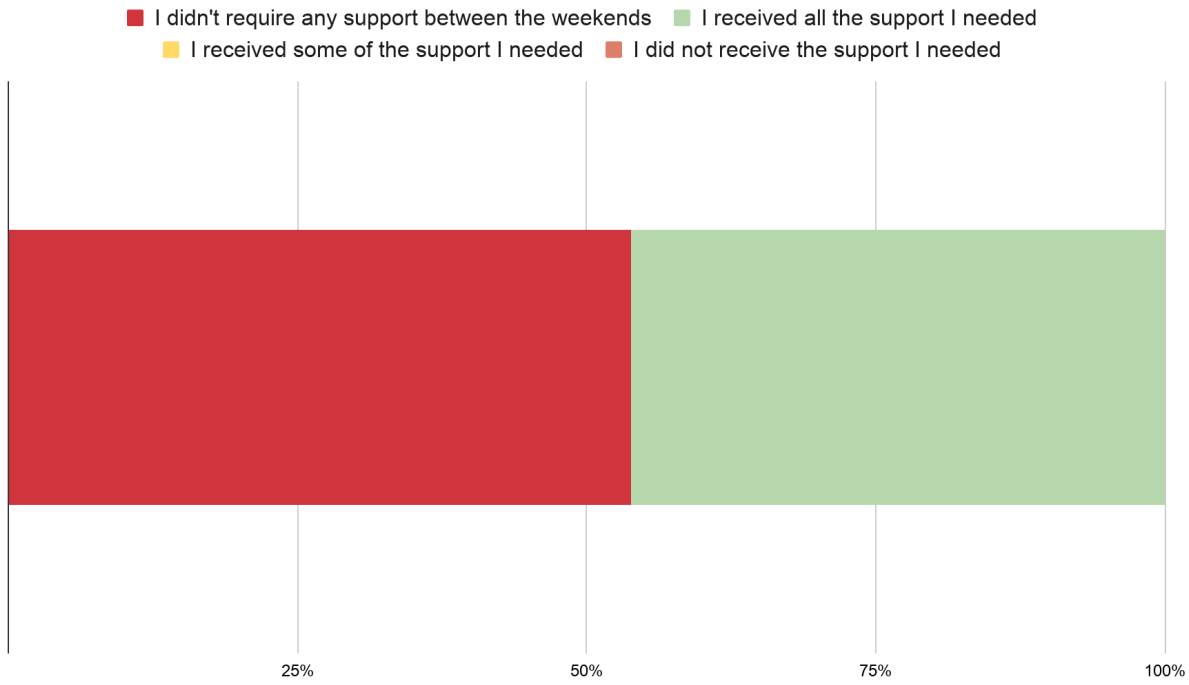
Bristol Citizens' Assembly - Member Experience Questionnaire | Weekend 2

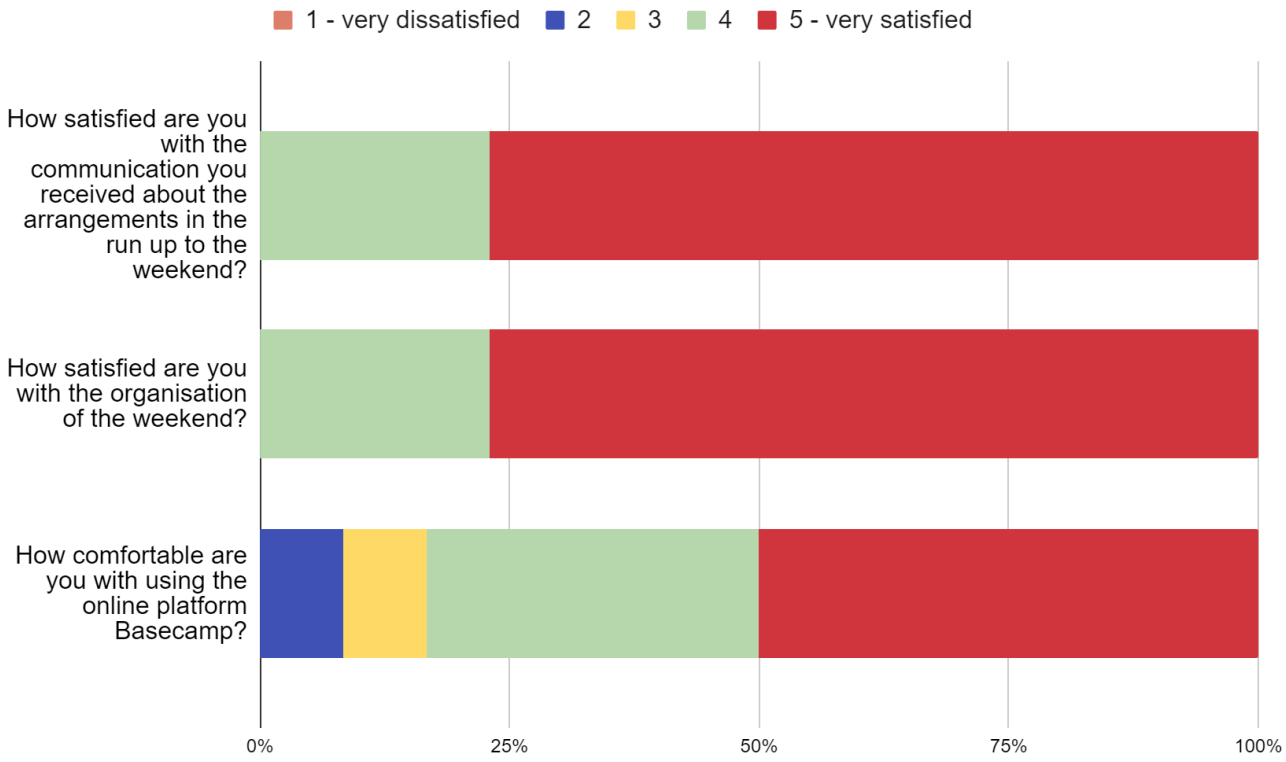
CLIMATE

Response rate: 65%

The following section is about the support you received to take part in the citizens' assembly

How satisfied are you with the support and assistance provided by the organisers at Involve between the last weekend and this weekend?




1 - very dissatisfied
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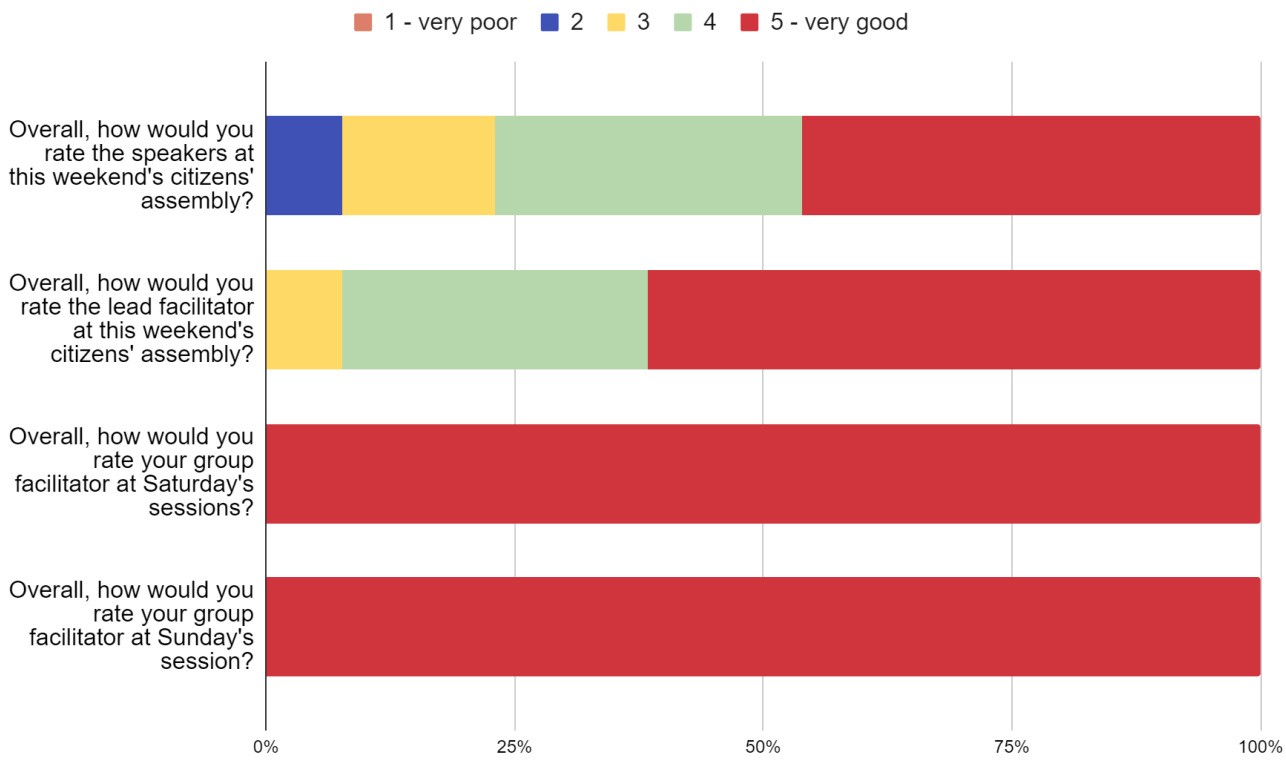
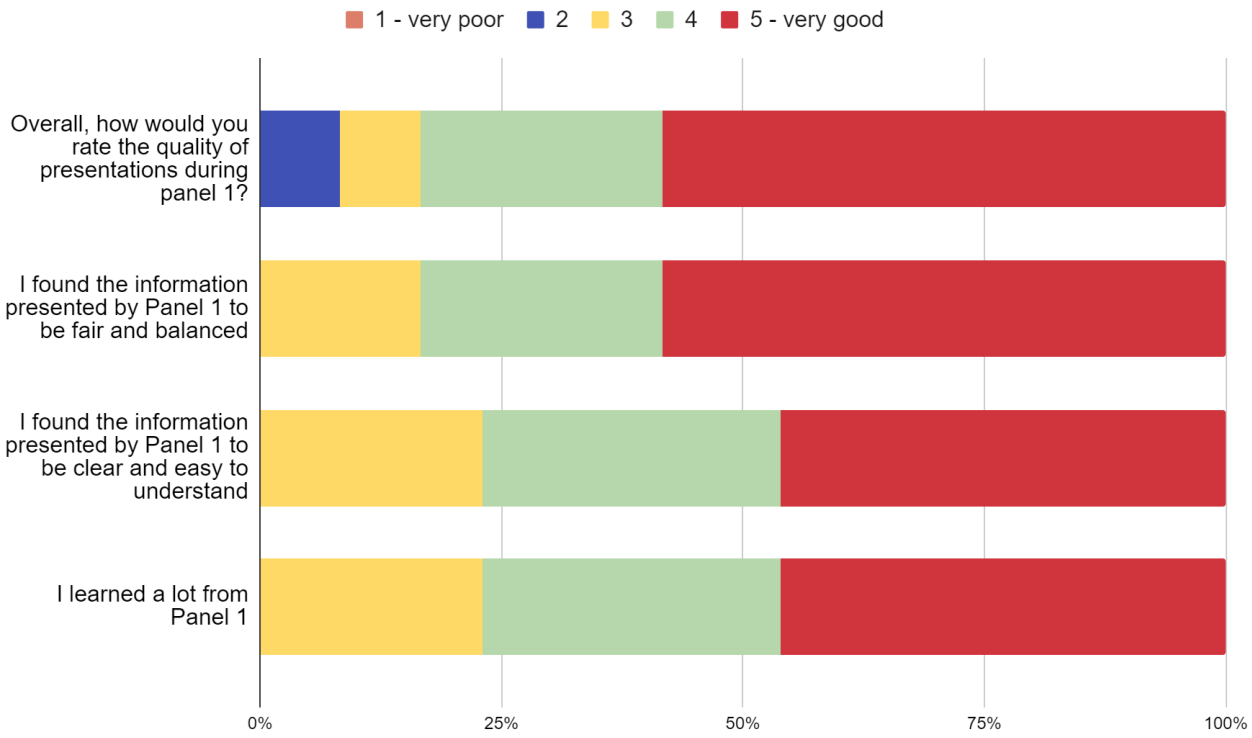
5 - very satisfied
How satisfied are you with the communication you received about the arrangements in the run up to the weekend?
How satisfied are you with the organisation of the weekend?
How comfortable are you with using the online platform Basecamp?
0%
25%
50%
75%
100%

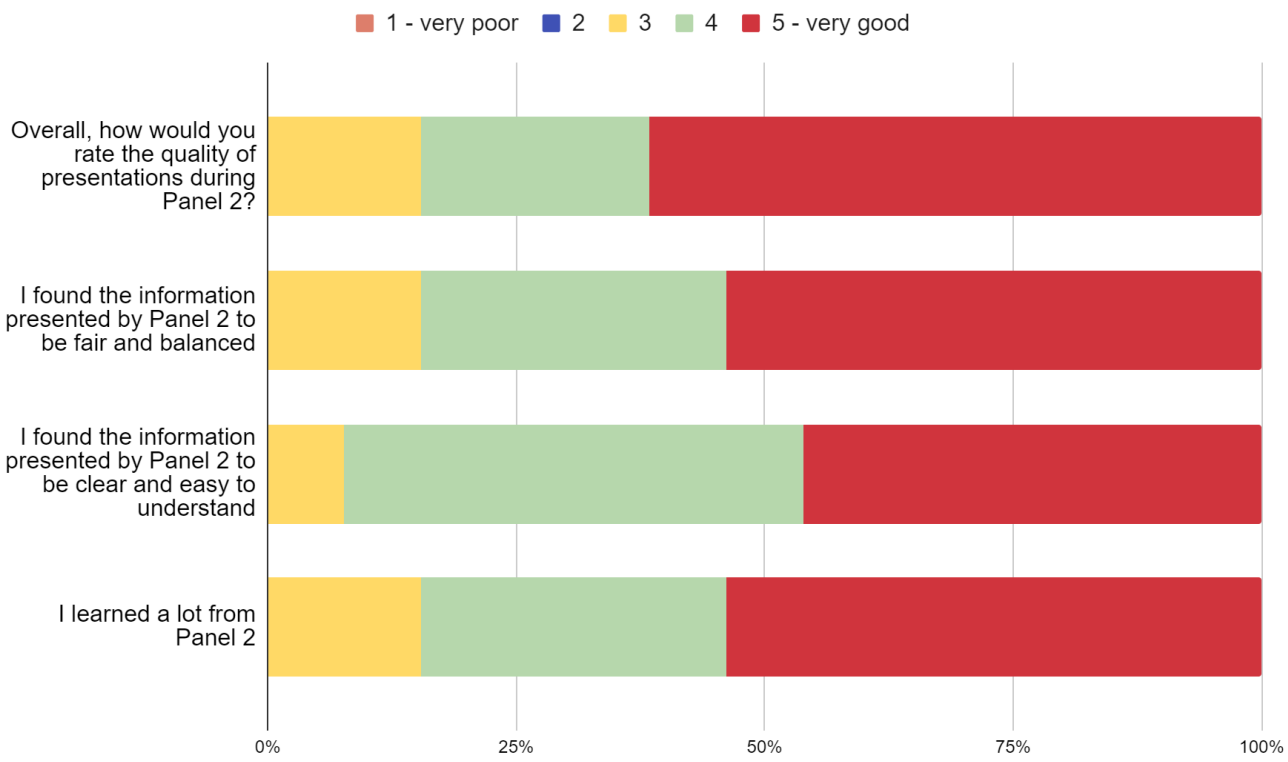
The following questions are about your overall impressions of this weekend



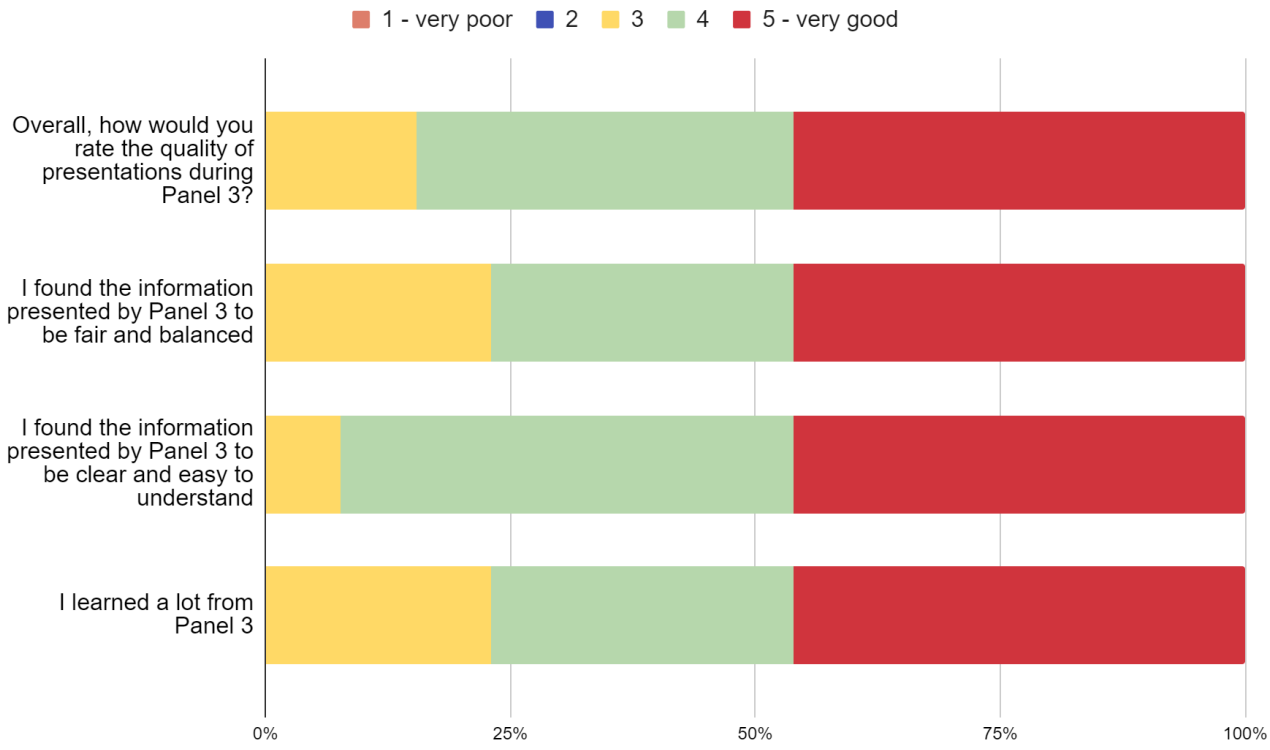
The following section asks you about your impression of Panel 1 'Understanding the problem'



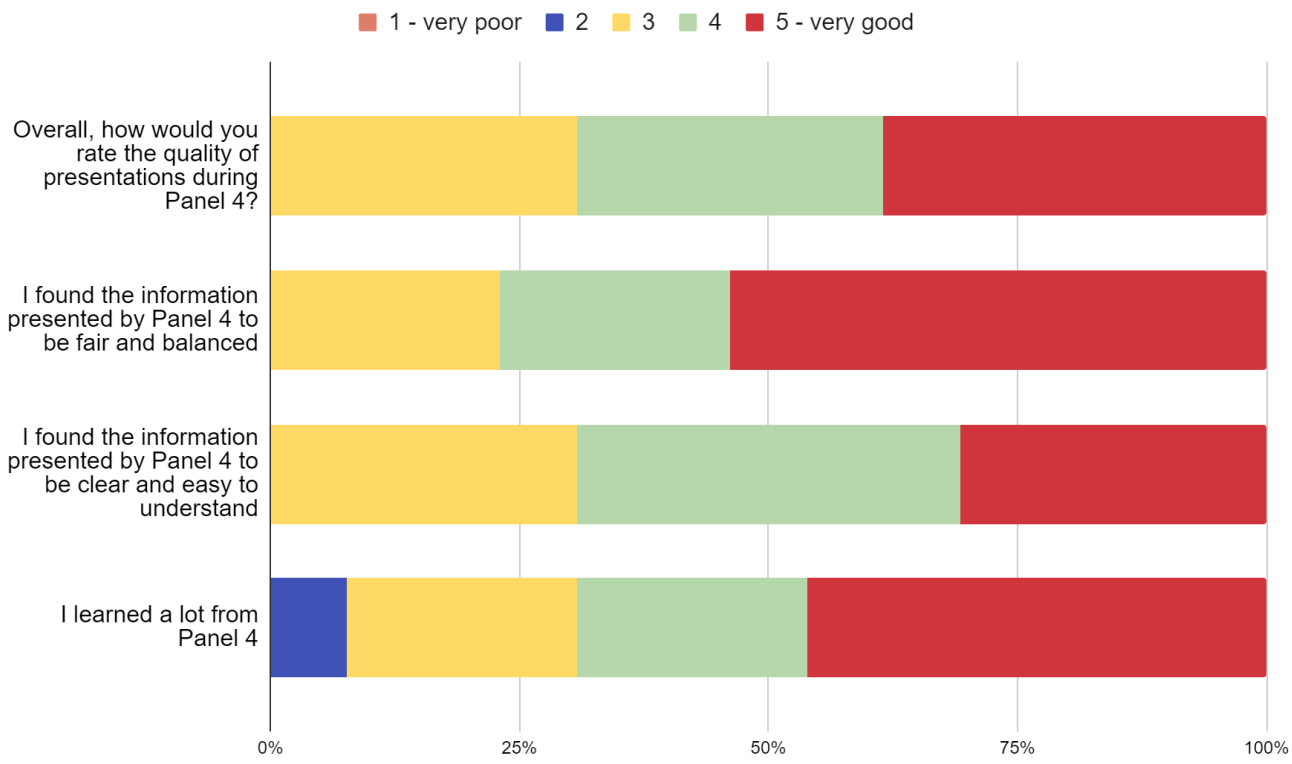
The following section asks you about your impression of Panel 2 'Introduction to the solutions'



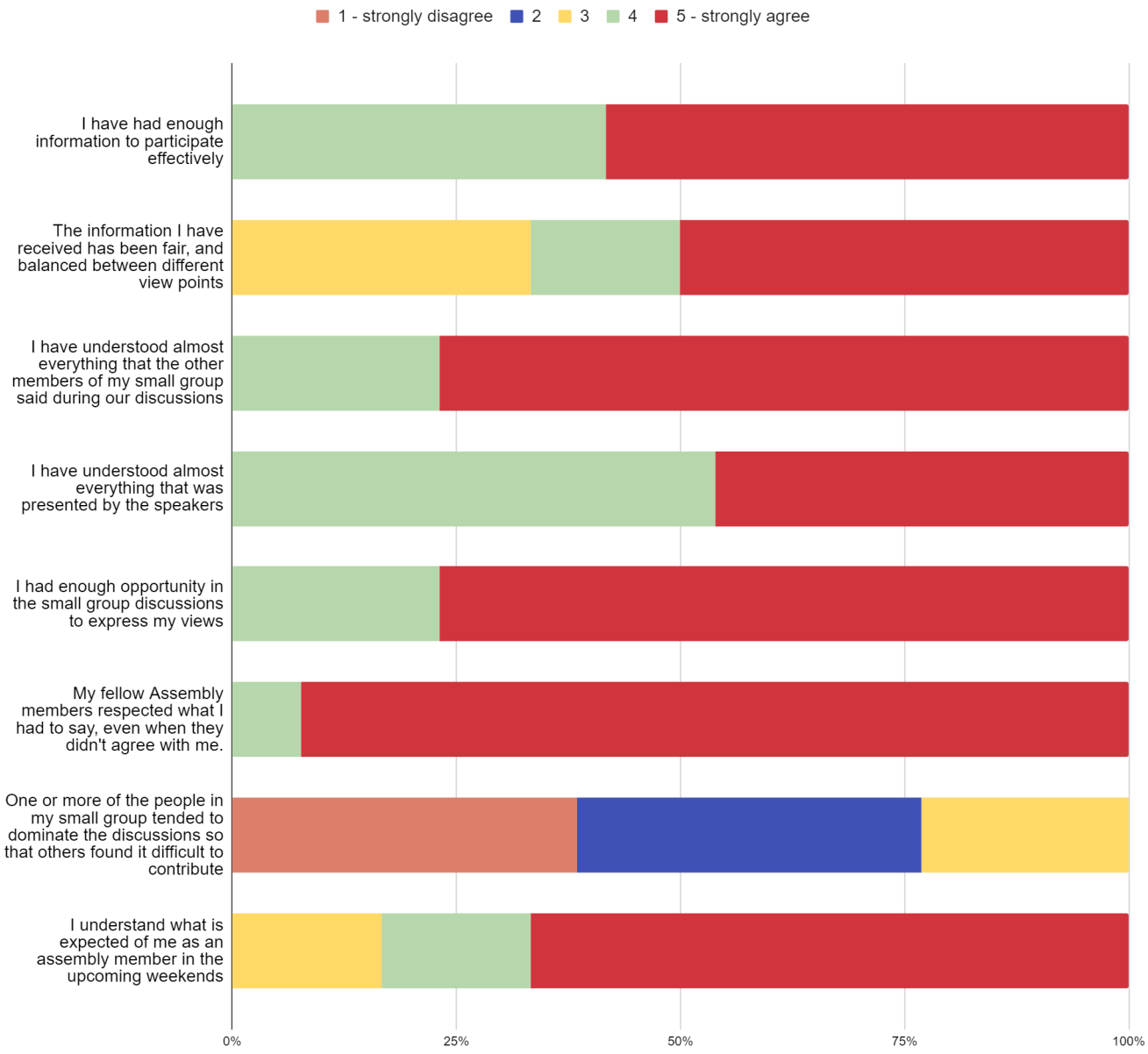
The following section asks you about your impression of Panel 3 'How do we make it happen?



The following section asks you about your impression of Panel 4 'How do we make the transition fairly?'



The following section asks about your experience participating in the citizens' assembly this weekend



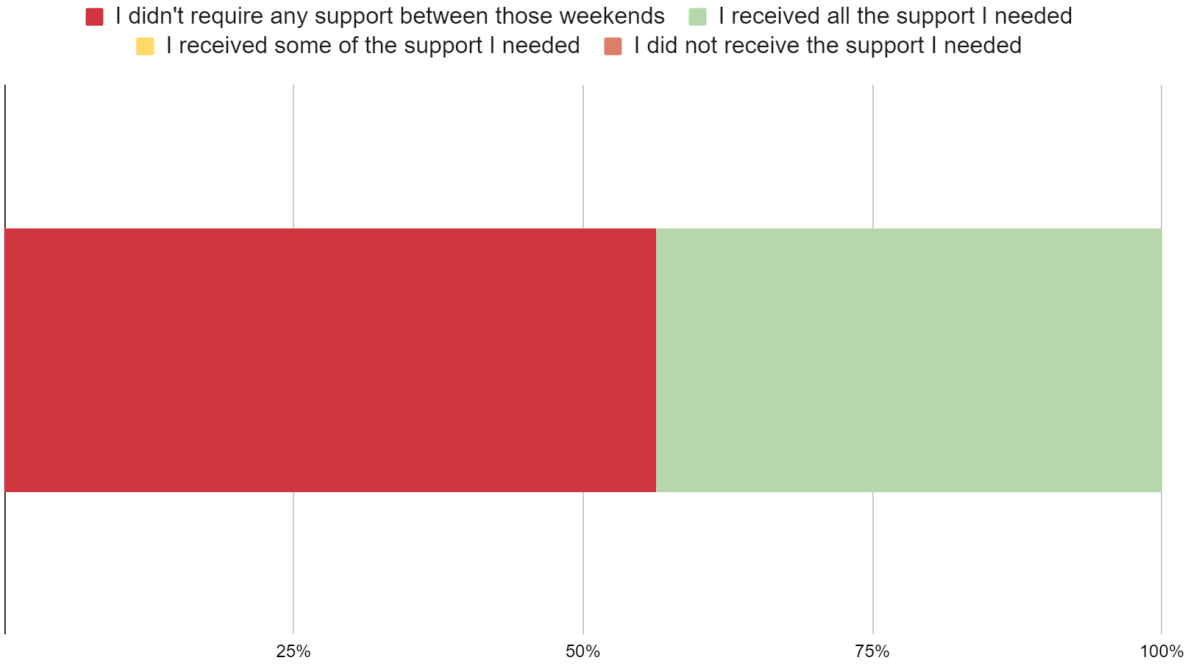
Bristol Citizens' Assembly - Member Experience Questionnaire | Weekend 2

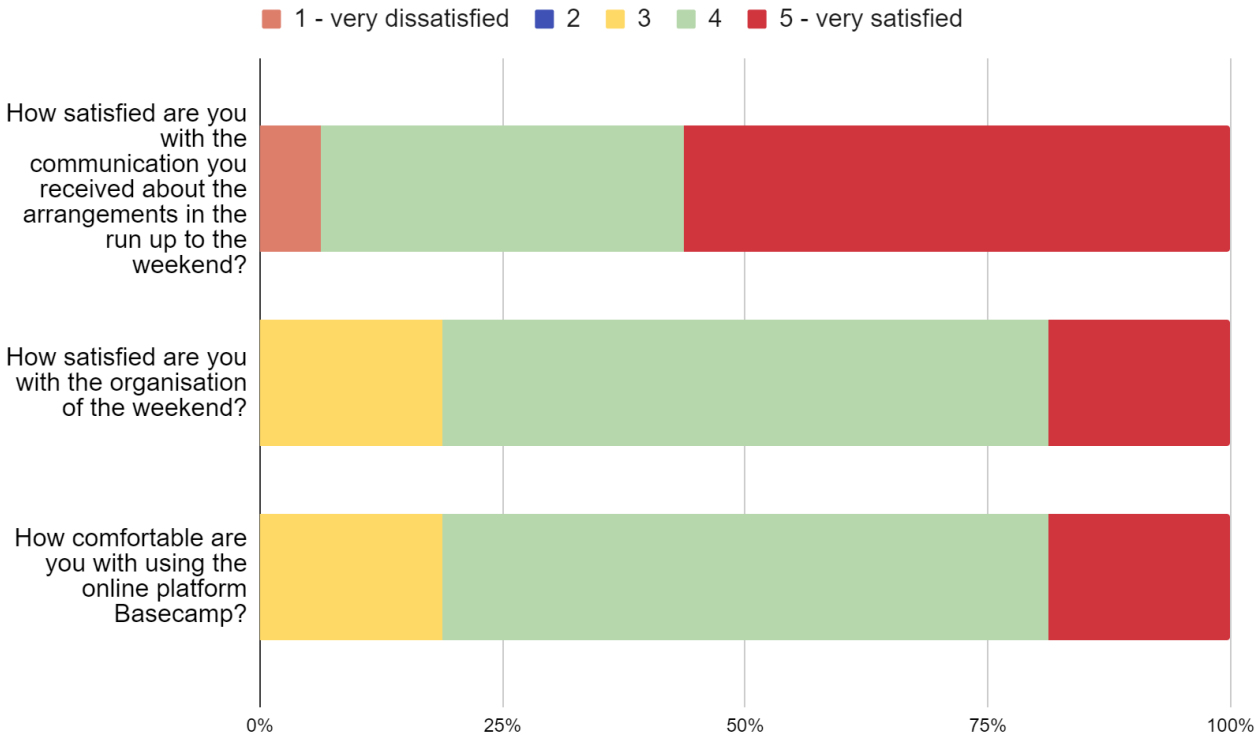
Transport

Response rate: 80%

The following section is about the support you received to take part in the citizens' assembly

How satisfied are you with the support and assistance provided by the organisers at Involve between the last weekend and this weekend?




1 - very dissatisfied
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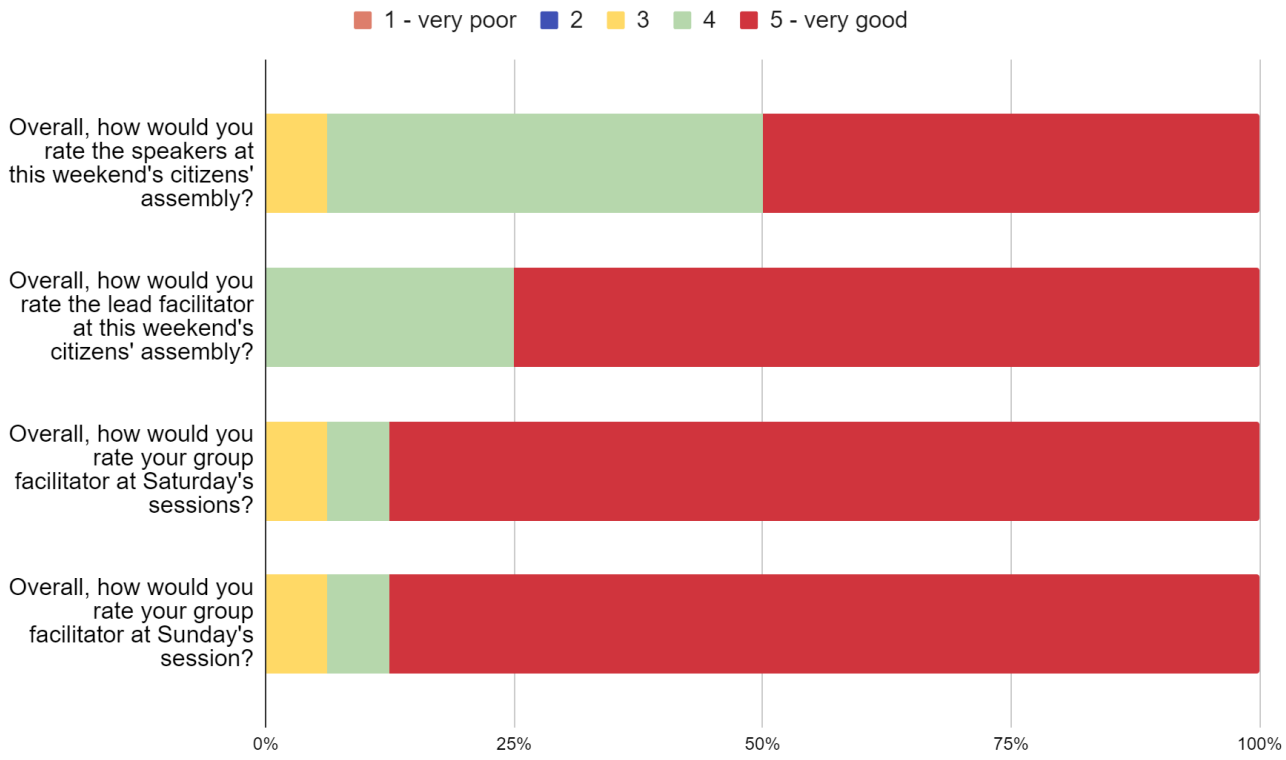
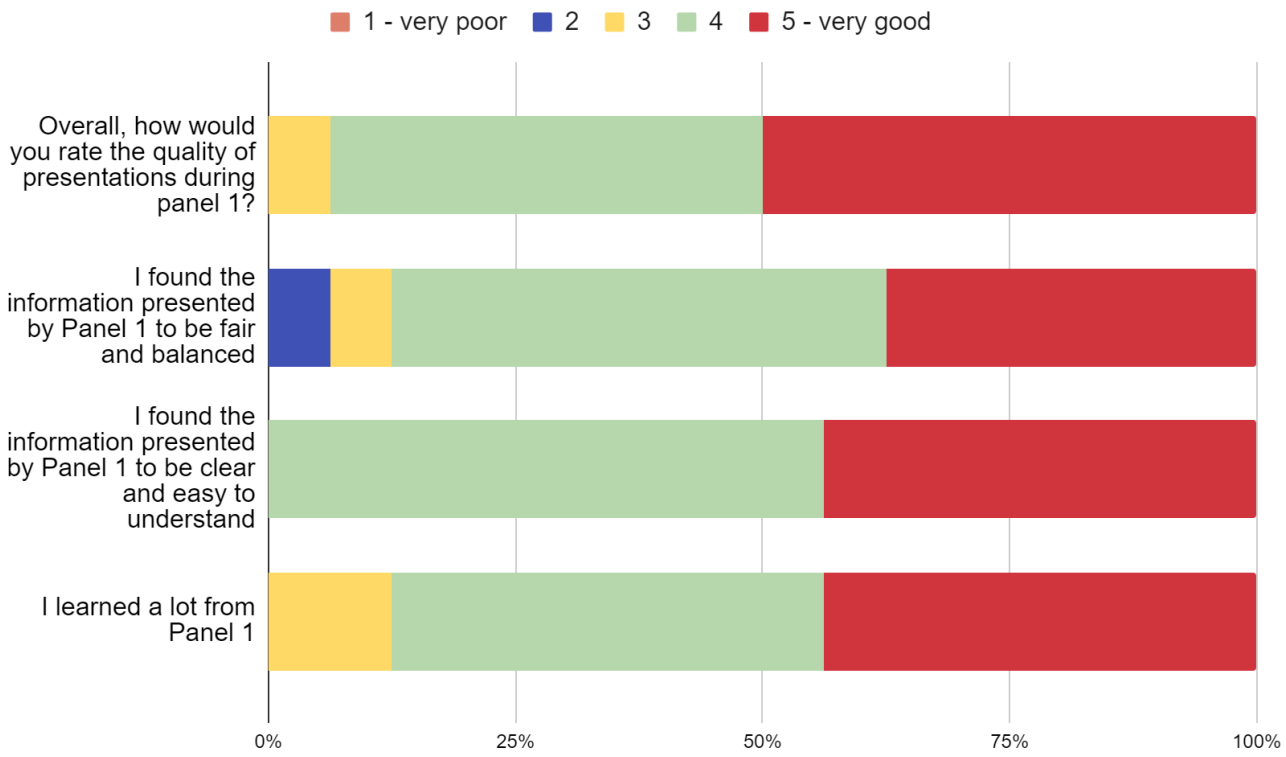
5 - very satisfied
How satisfied are you with the communication you received about the arrangements in the run up to the weekend?
How satisfied are you with the organisation of the weekend?
How comfortable are you with using the online platform Basecamp?
0%
25%
50%
75%
100%

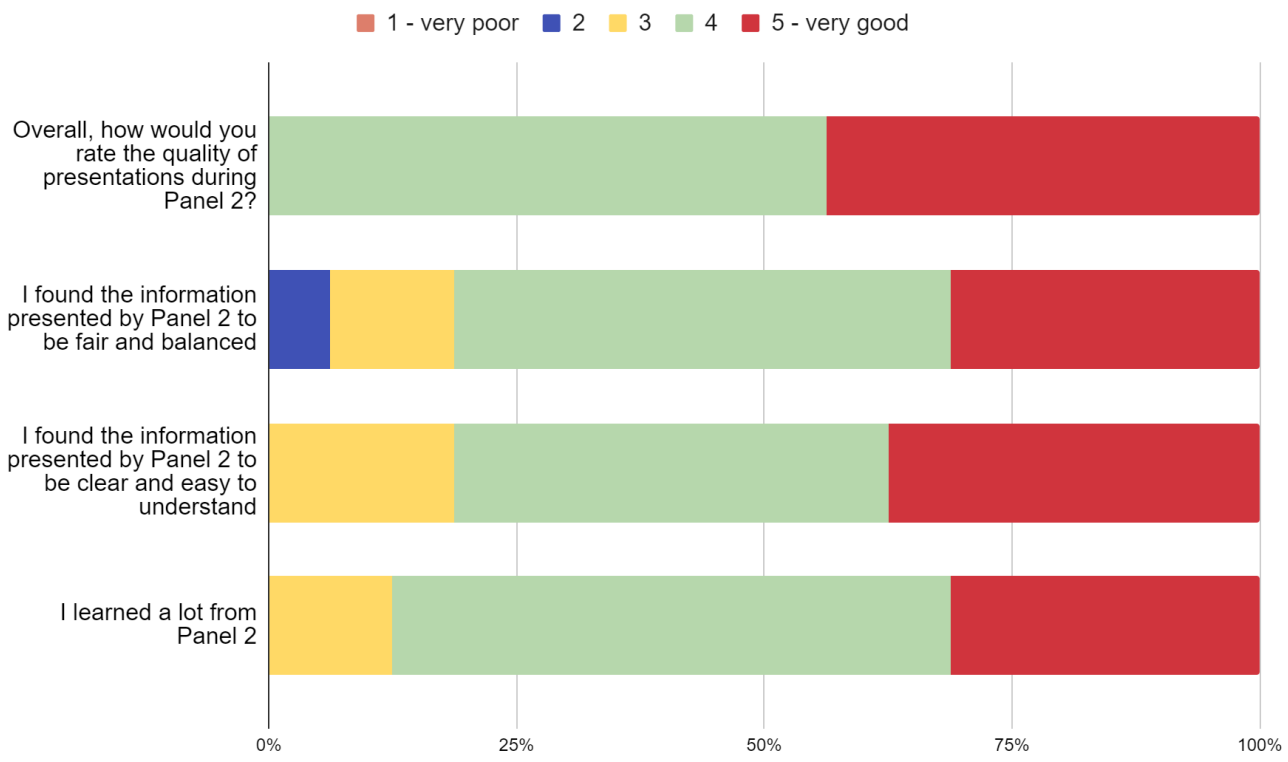
The following questions are about your overall impressions of this weekend



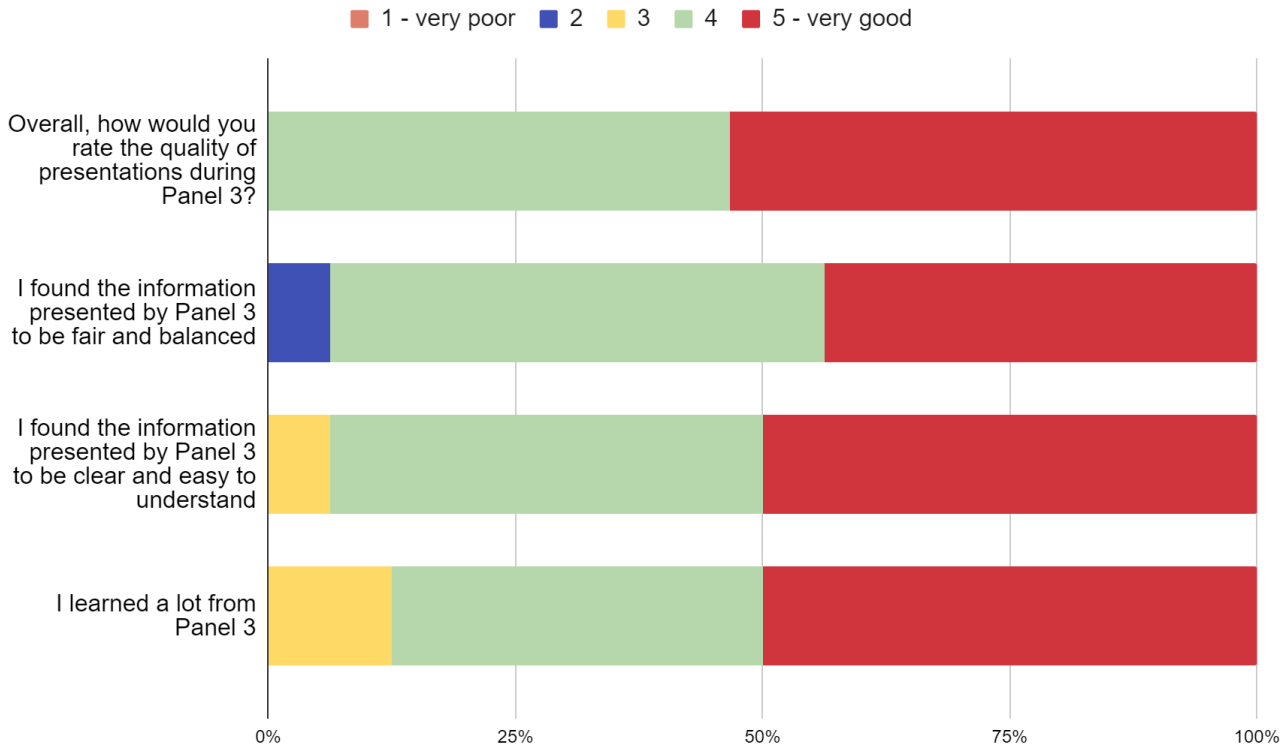
The following section asks you about your impression of Panel 1 'Understanding the current situation’



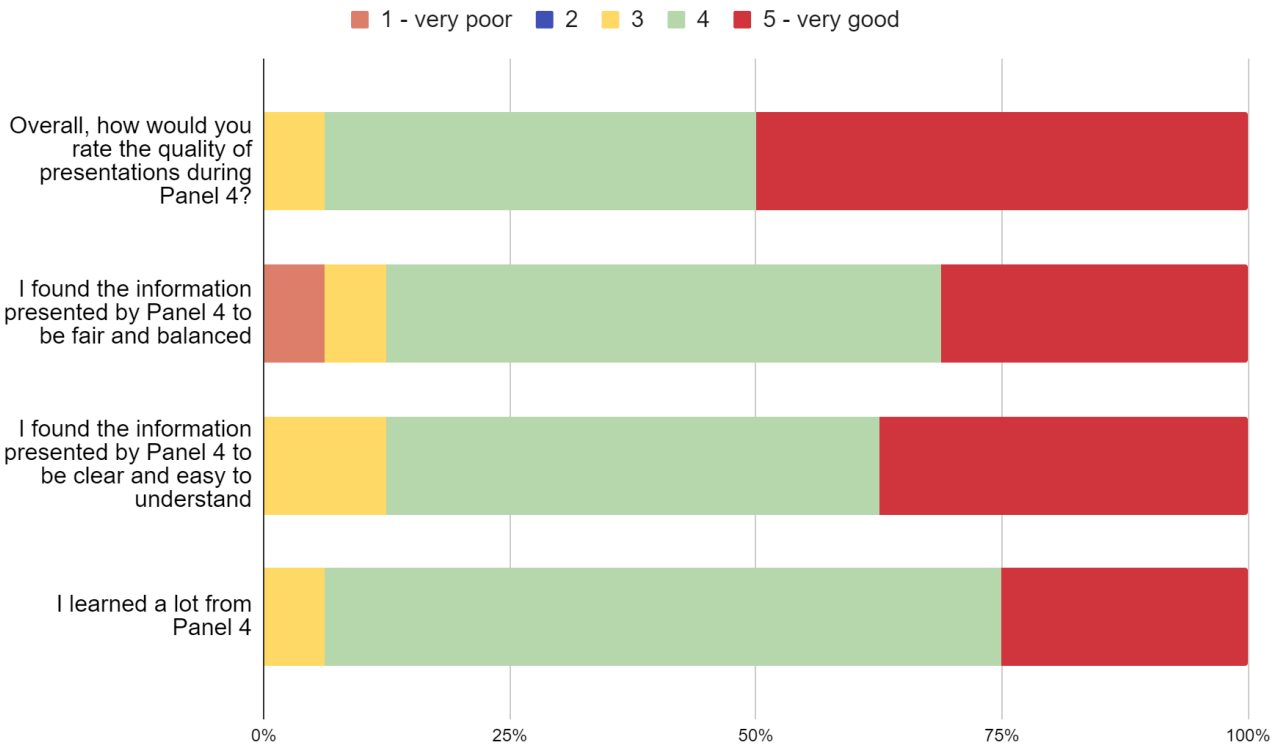
The following section asks you about your impression of Panel 2 'How neighbourhoods can be designed differently'



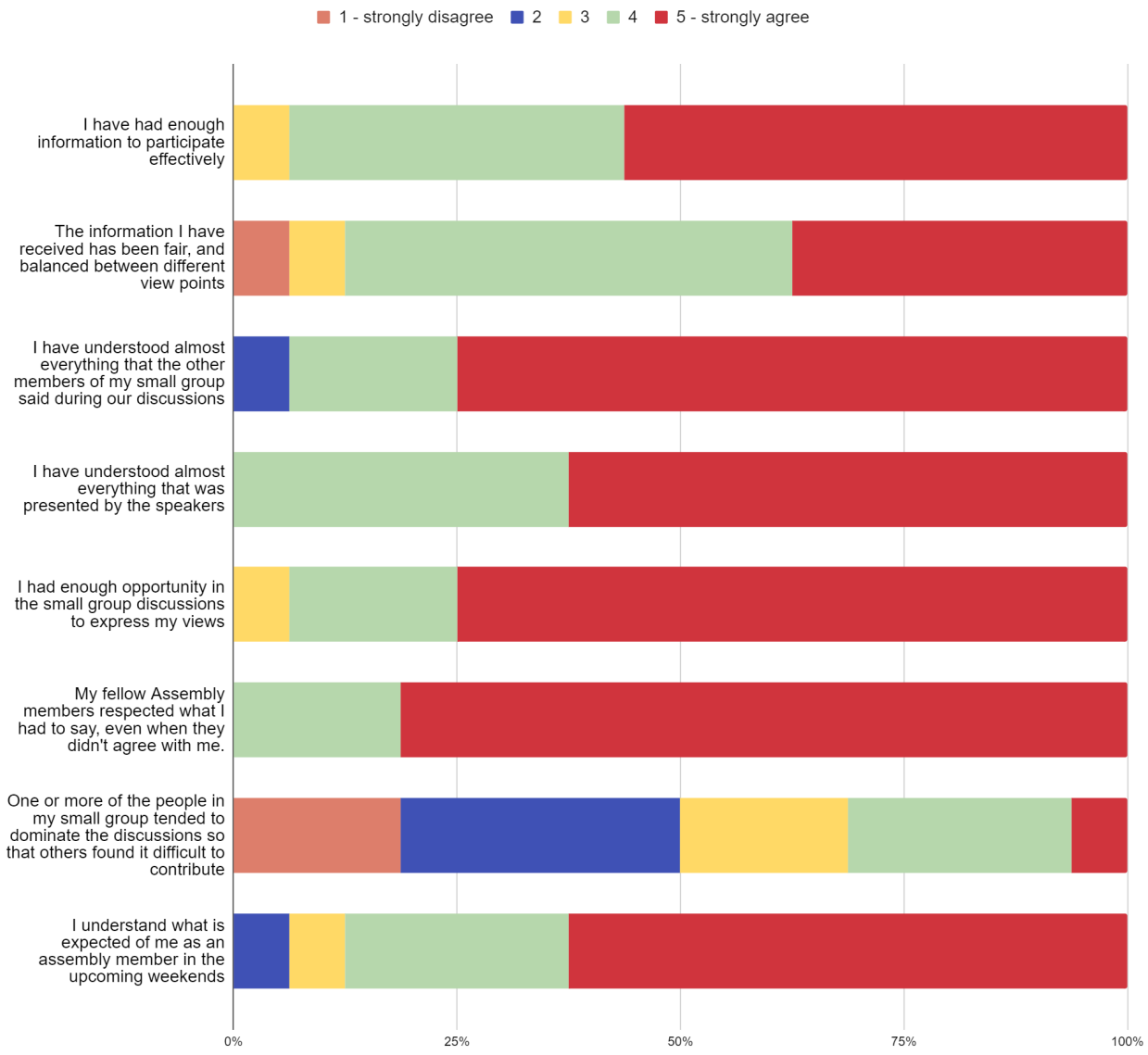
The following section asks you about your impression of Panel 3 'How neighbourhoods can be designed differently, continued'



The following section asks you about your impression of Panel 4 'How does the system currently work?'



The following section asks about your experience participating in the citizens' assembly this weekend



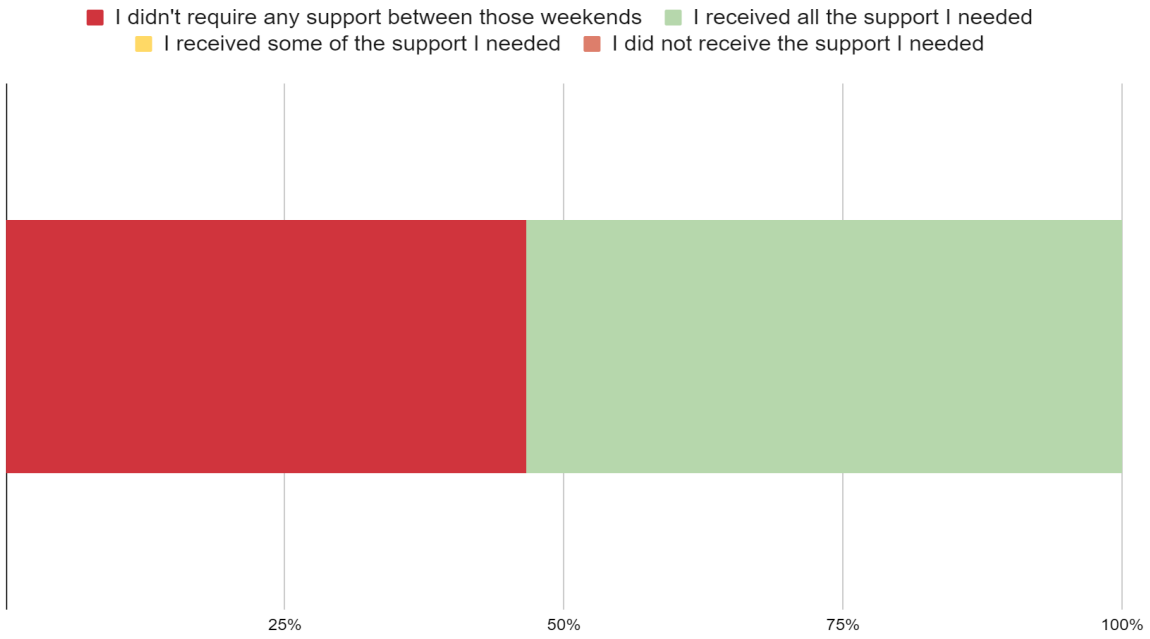
Bristol Citizens' Assembly - Member Experience Questionnaire | Weekend 2

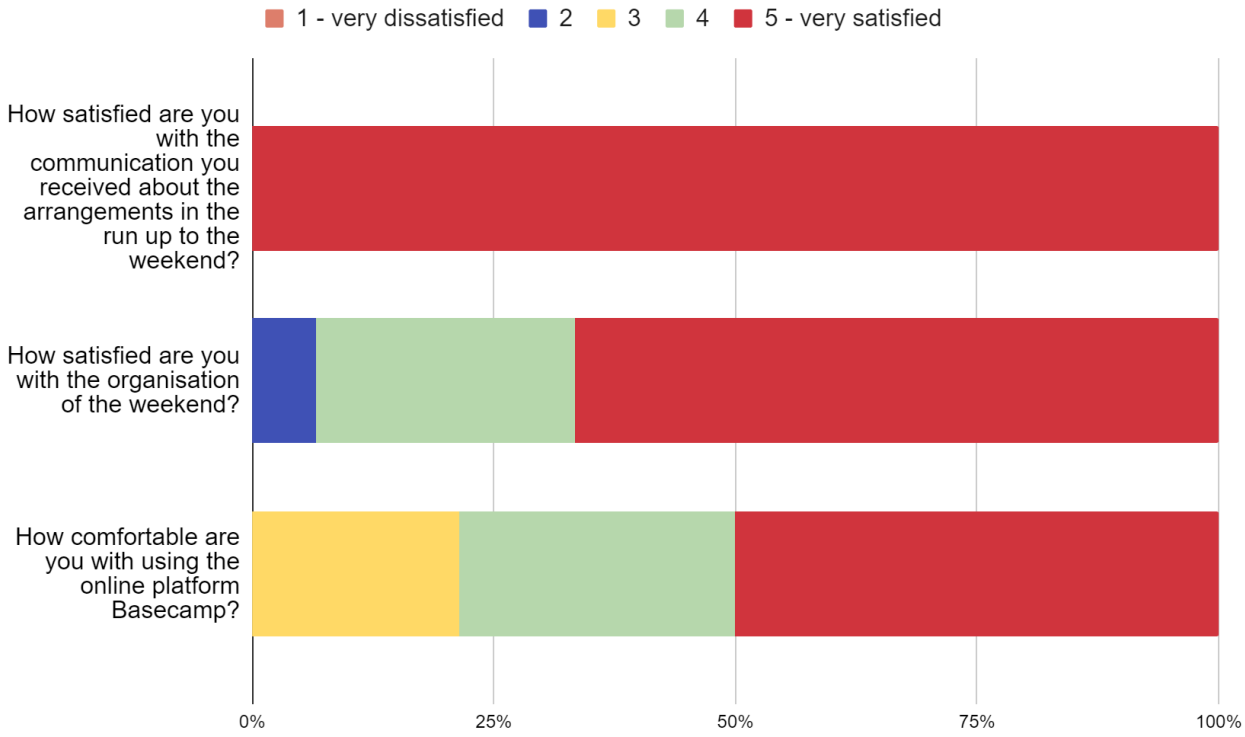
HEALTH

Response rate: 79%

The following section is about the support you received to take part in the citizens' assembly

How satisfied are you with the support and assistance provided by the organisers at Involve between the last weekend and this weekend?




1 - very dissatisfied
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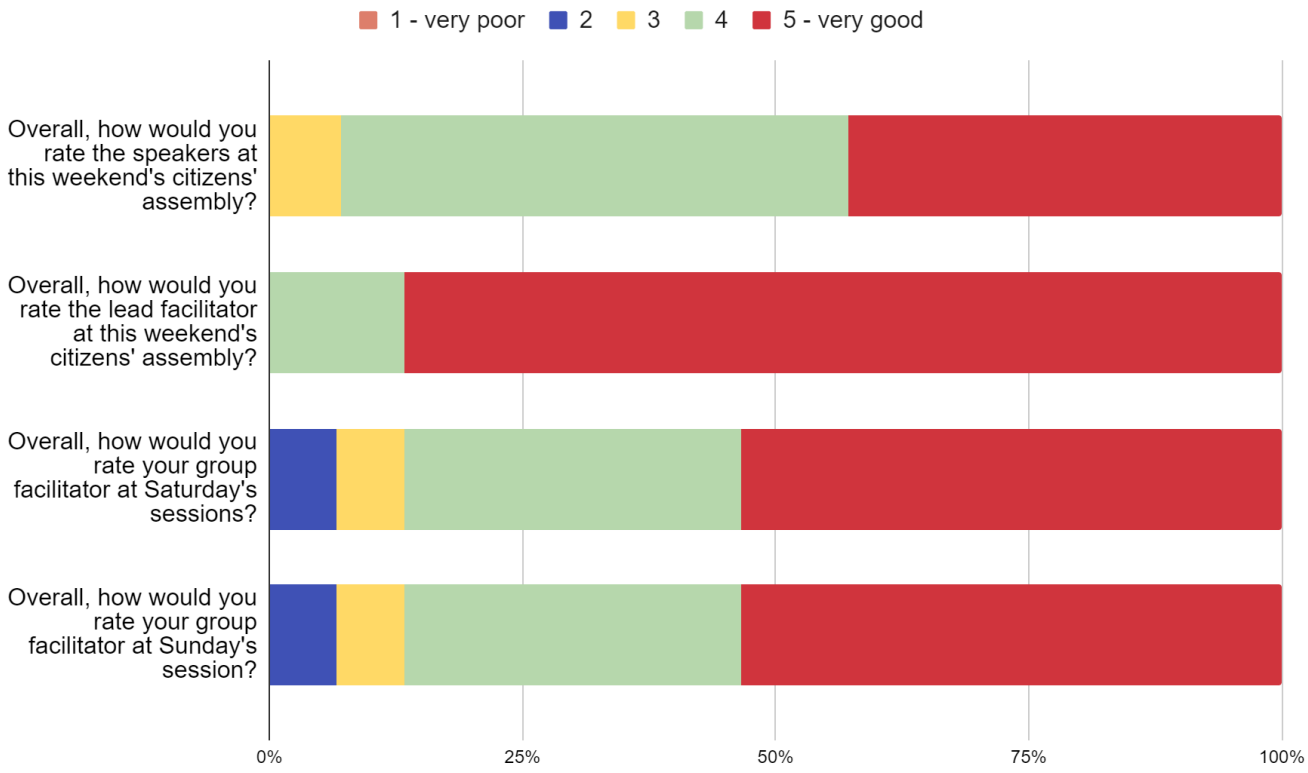
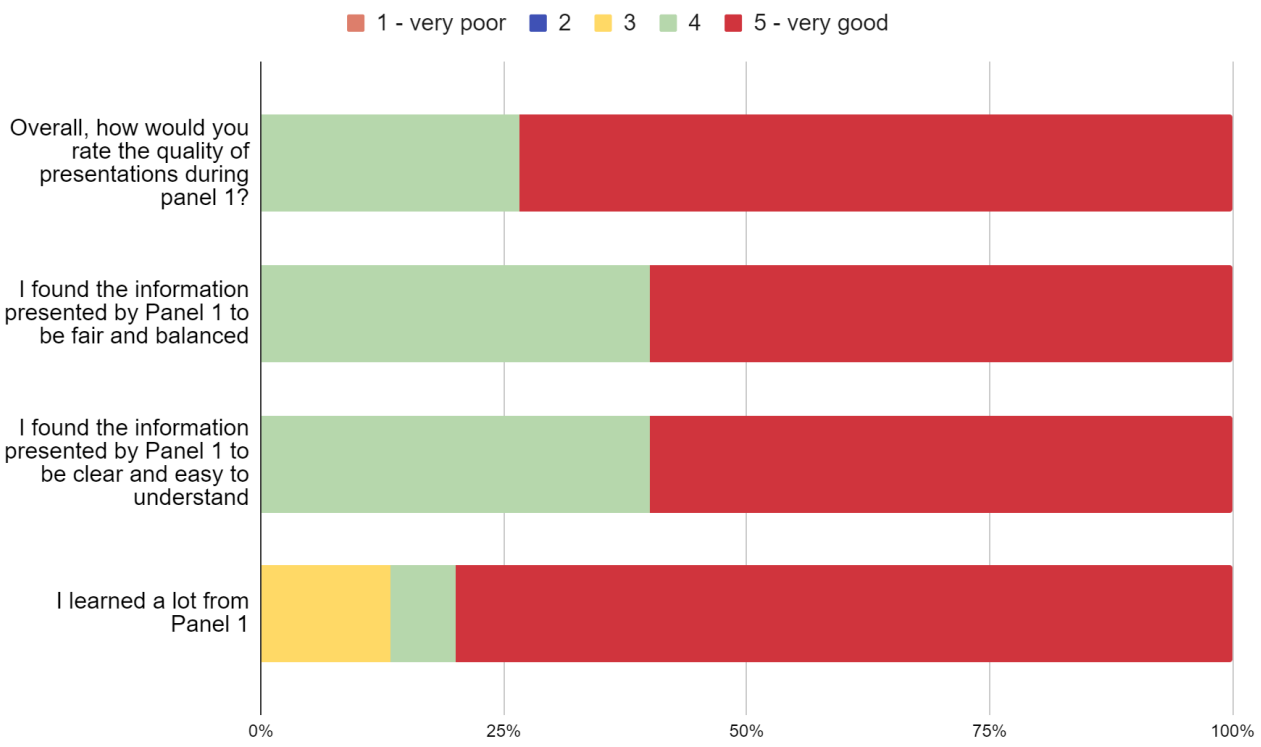
5 - very satisfied
How satisfied are you with the communication you received about the arrangements in the run up to the weekend?
How satisfied are you with the organisation of the weekend?
How comfortable are you with using the online platform Basecamp?
0%
25%
50%
75%
100%

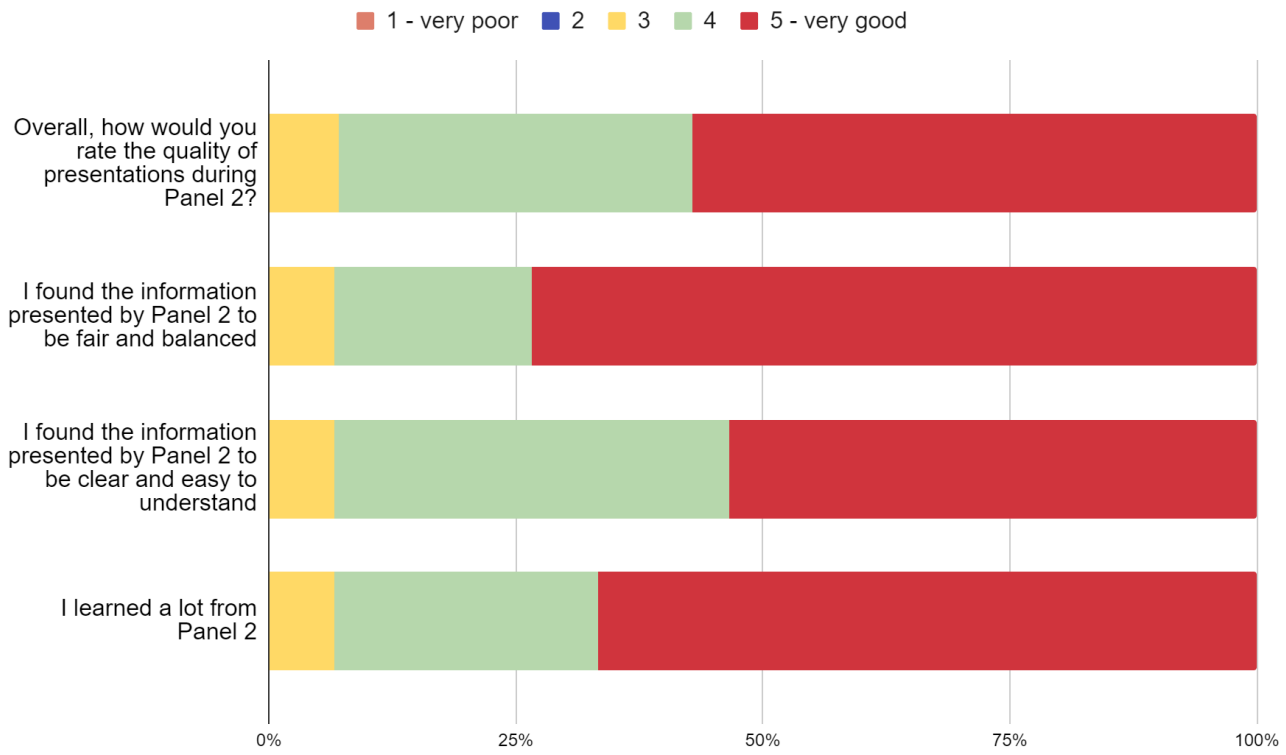
The following questions are about your overall impressions of this weekend



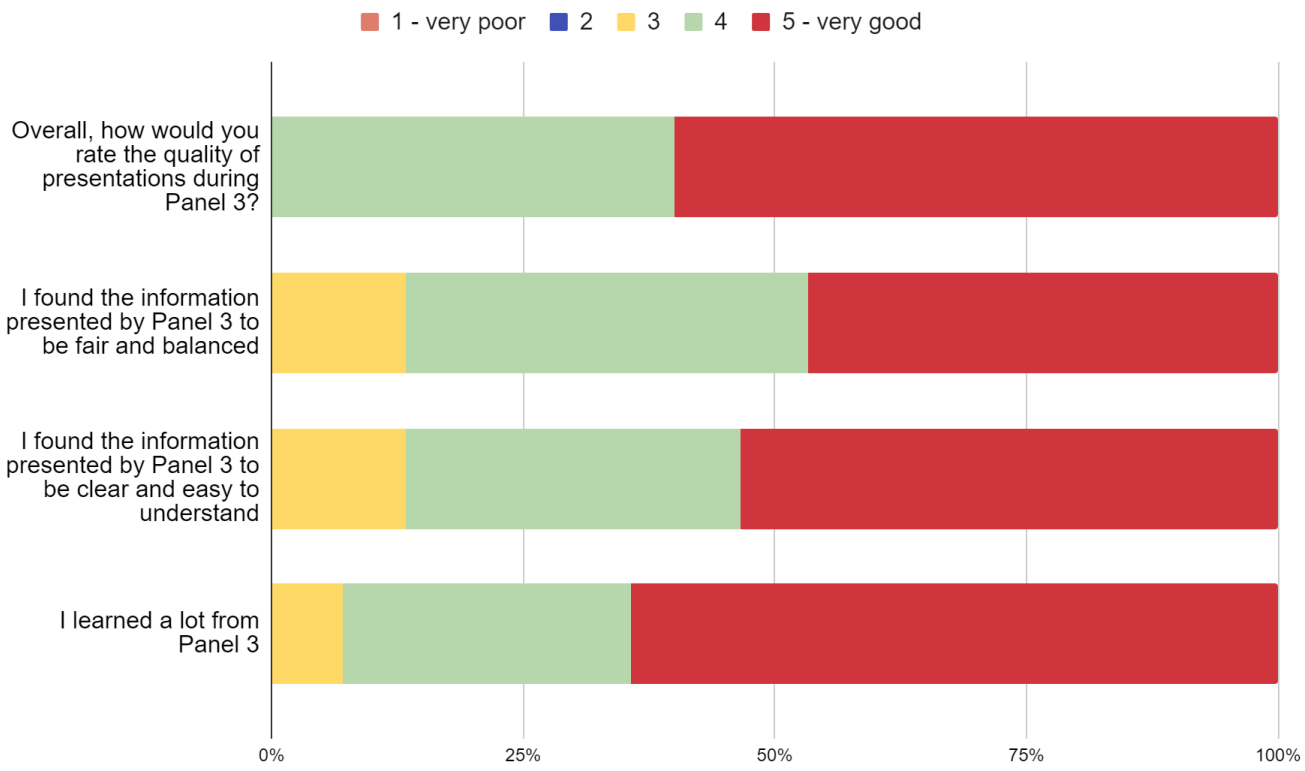
The following section asks you about your impression of Panel 1 'What are health inequalities?'



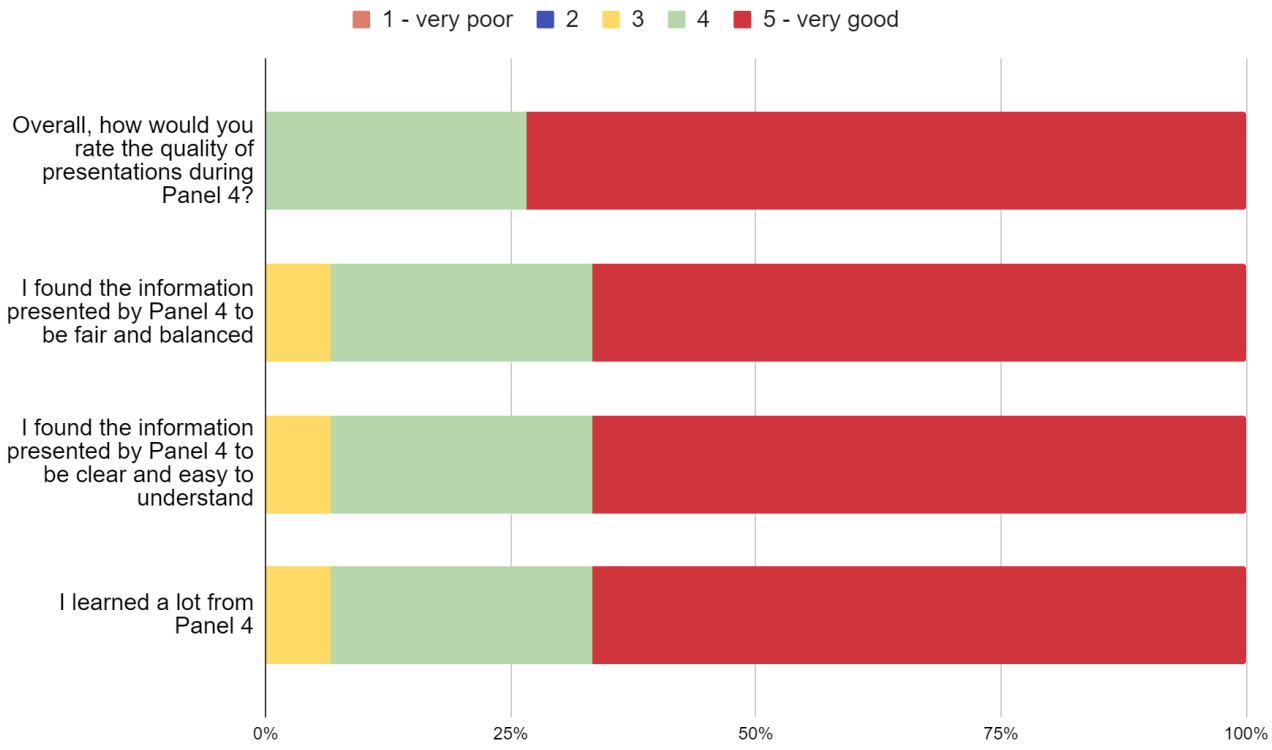
The following section asks you about your impression of Panel 2 'What impact do health inequalities have?'



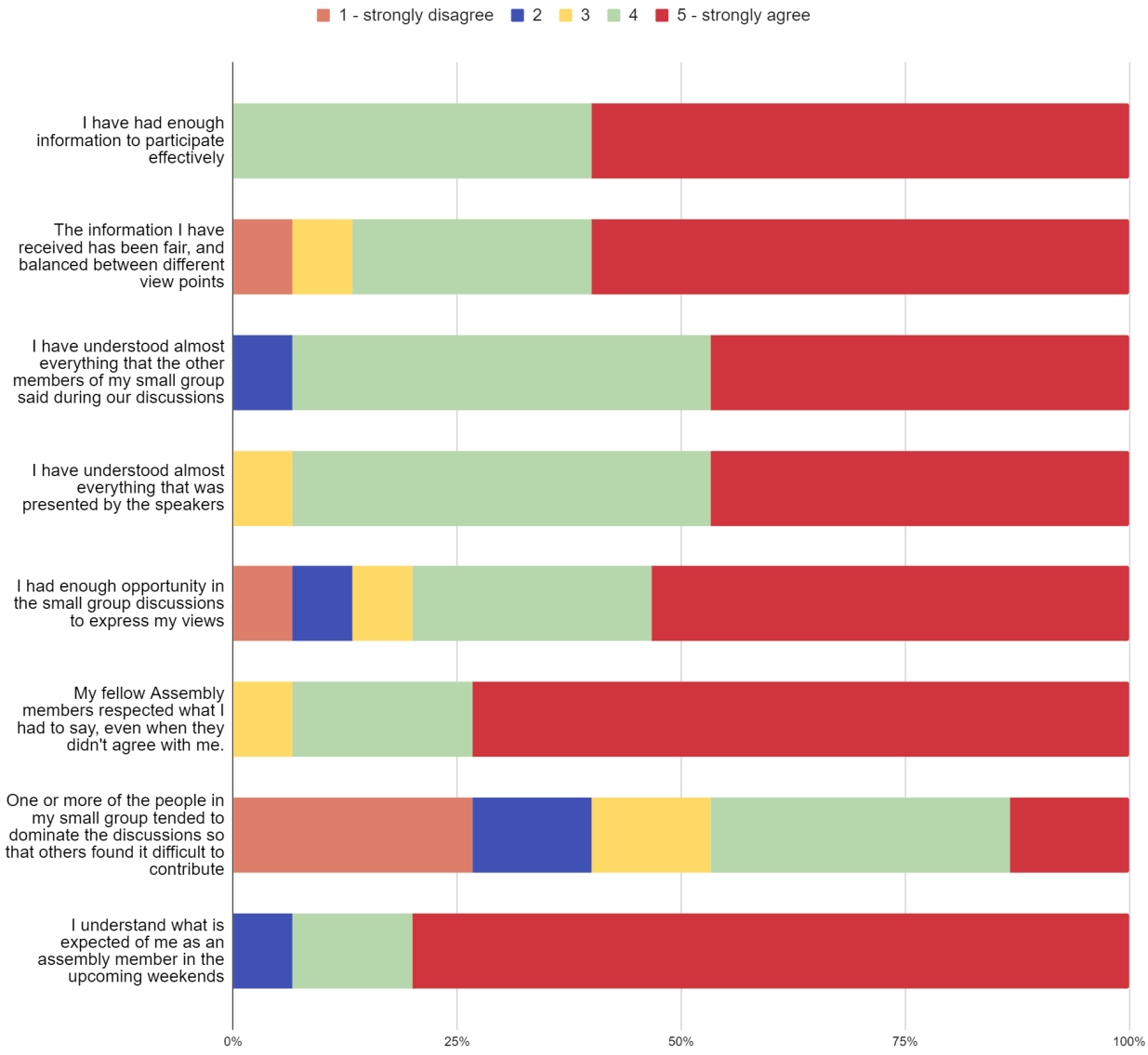
The following section asks you about your impression of Panel 3 'How can health inequalities be addressed?'



The following section asks you about your impression of Panel 4 'How does the system currently work?'



The following section asks about your experience participating in the citizens' assembly this weekend



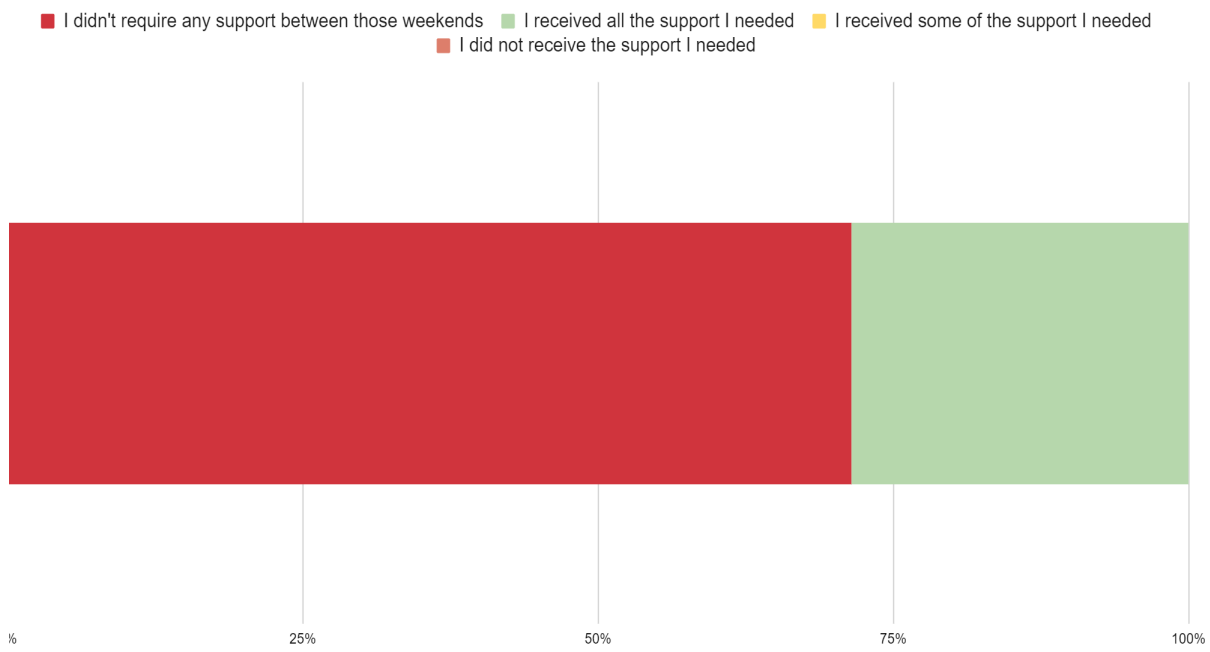
Bristol Citizens' Assembly - Member Experience Questionnaire | Weekend 3

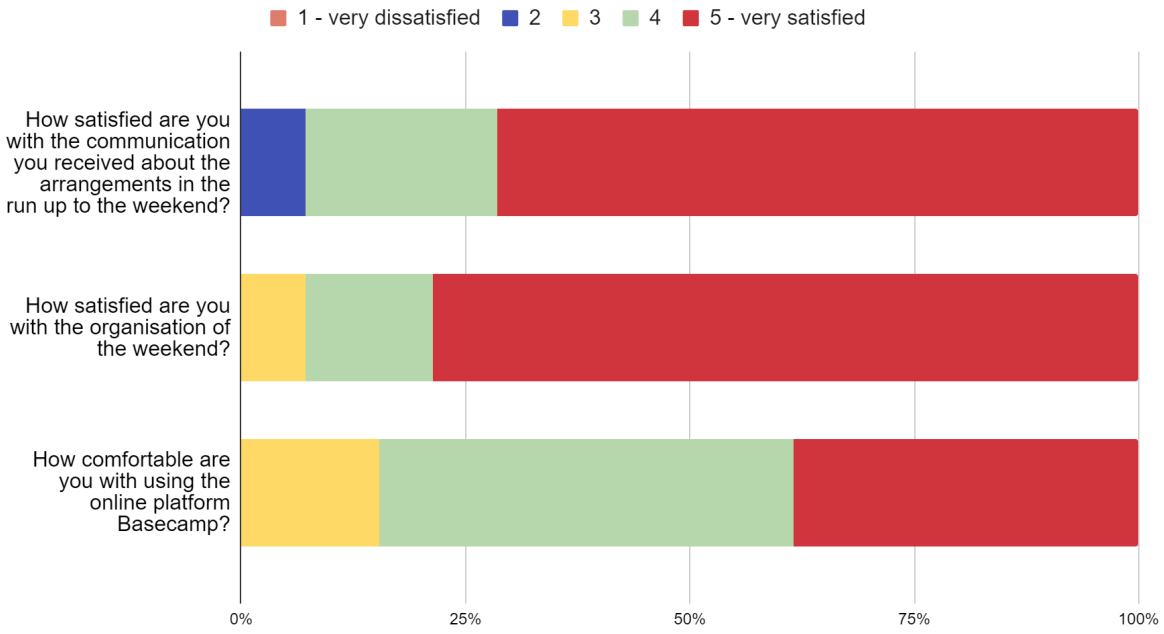
CLIMATE

Response rate: 70%

The following section is about the support you received to take part in the citizens' assembly

How satisfied are you with the support and assistance provided by the organisers at Involve between the last weekend and this weekend?




1 - very dissatisfied
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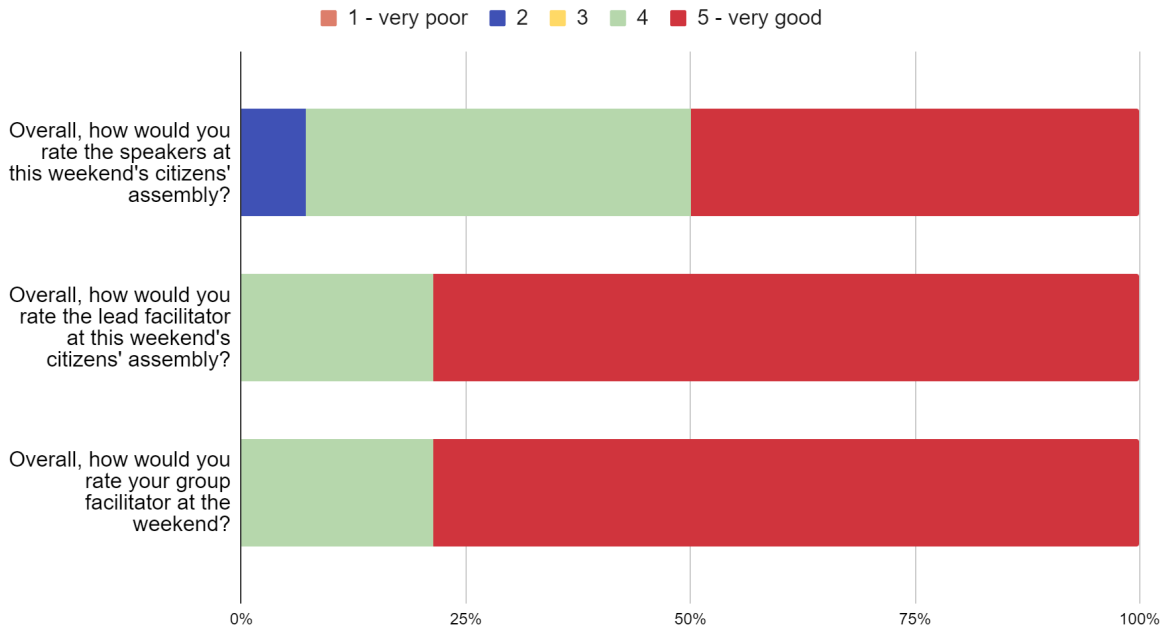
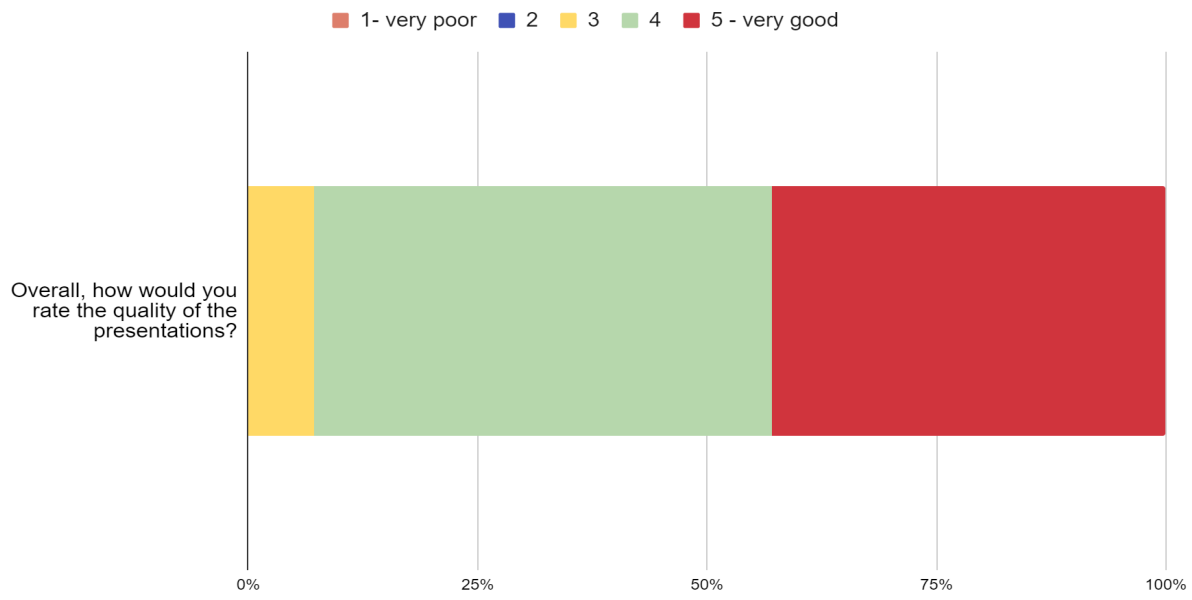
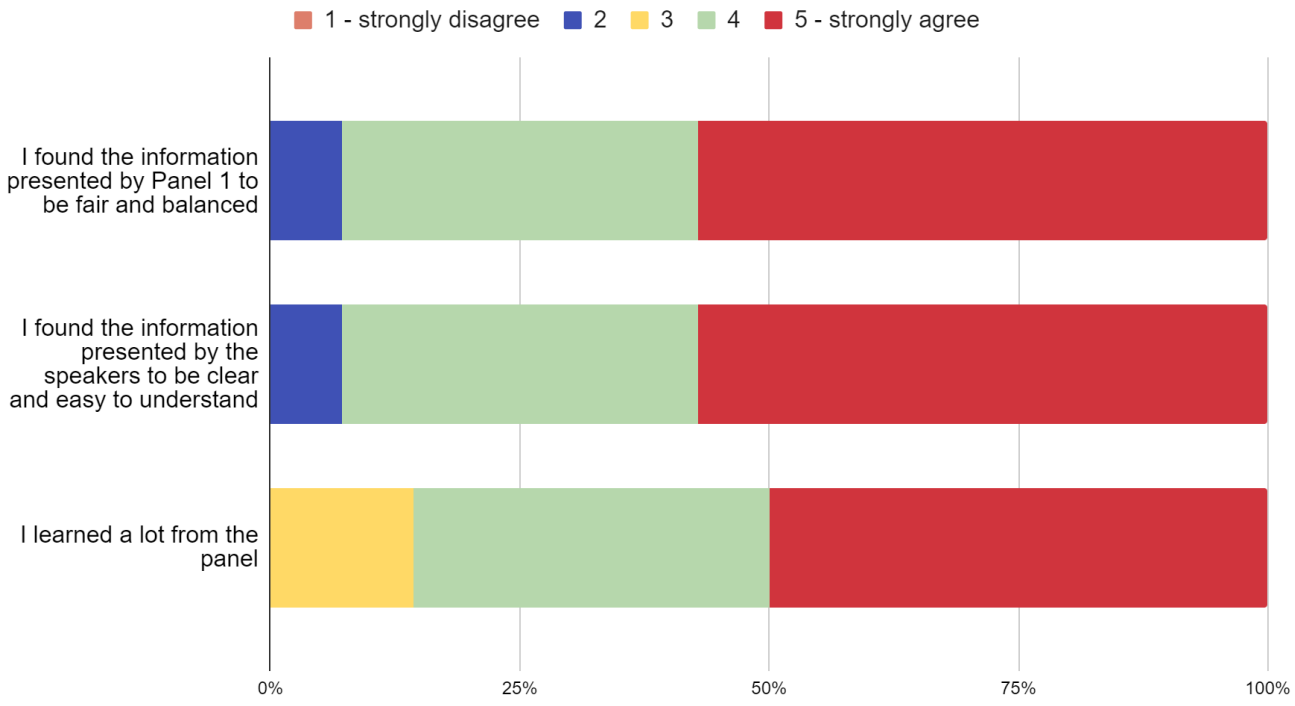
4
5 - very satisfied
How satisfied are you with the communication you received about the arrangements in the run up to the weekend?
How satisfied are you with the organisation of the weekend?
How comfortable are you with using the online platform Basecamp?
0%
25%
50%
75%
100%

The following questions are about your overall impressions of this weekend

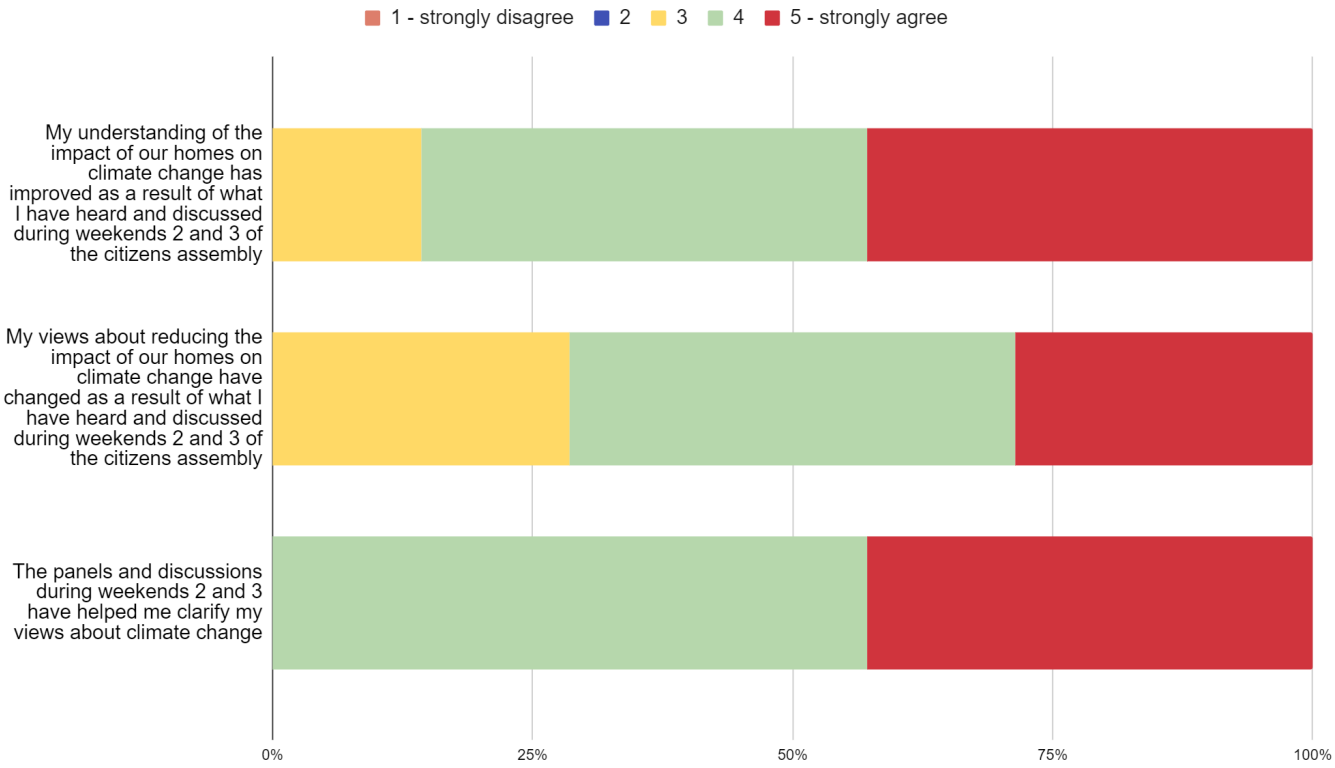


The following section asks you about your impression of the panel 'What are the steps towards effective action and how can we make it fair?'

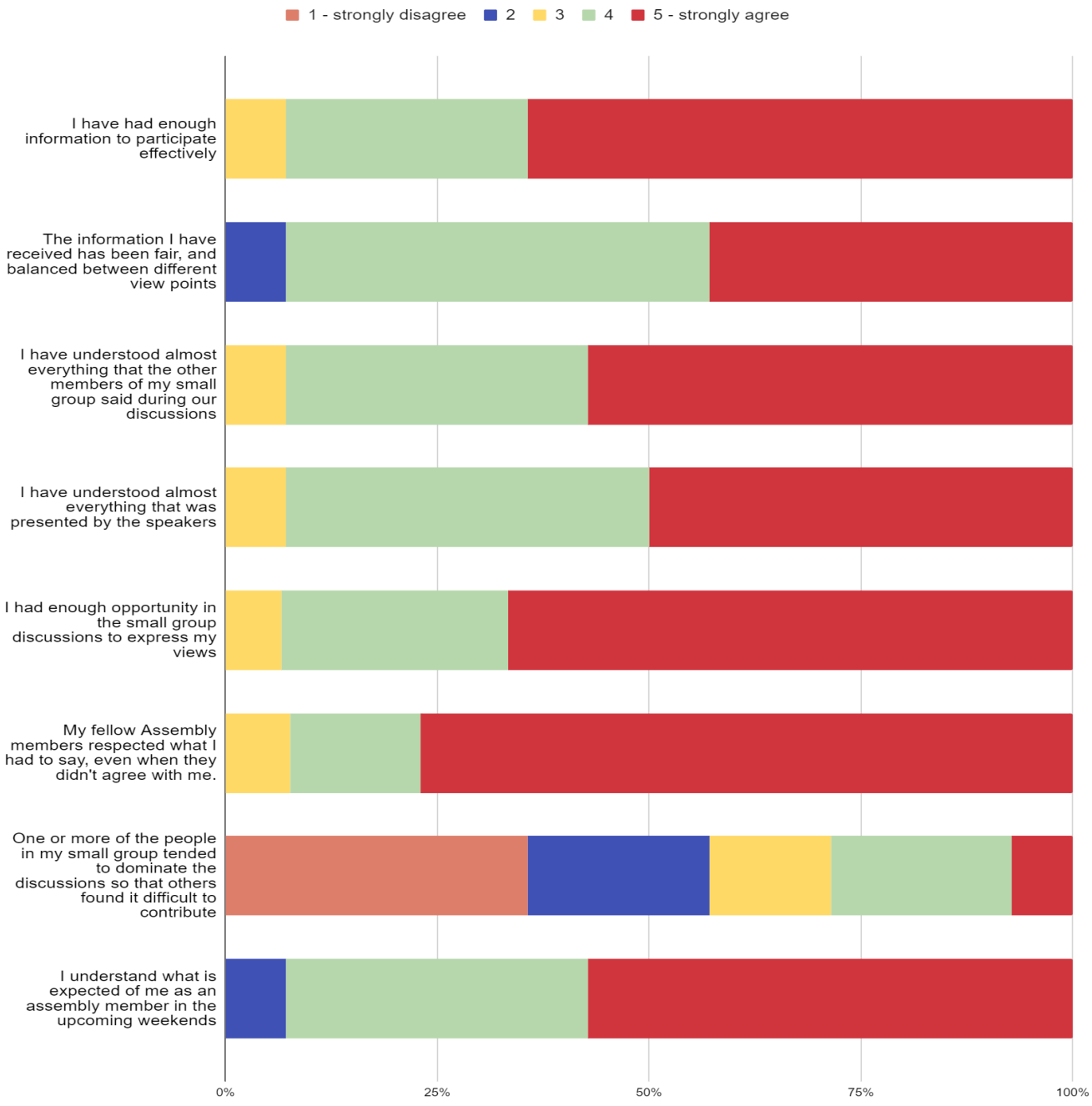




The following section asks about your views on the topic of climate change and home heating



The following section asks about your experience participating in the citizens' assembly this weekend



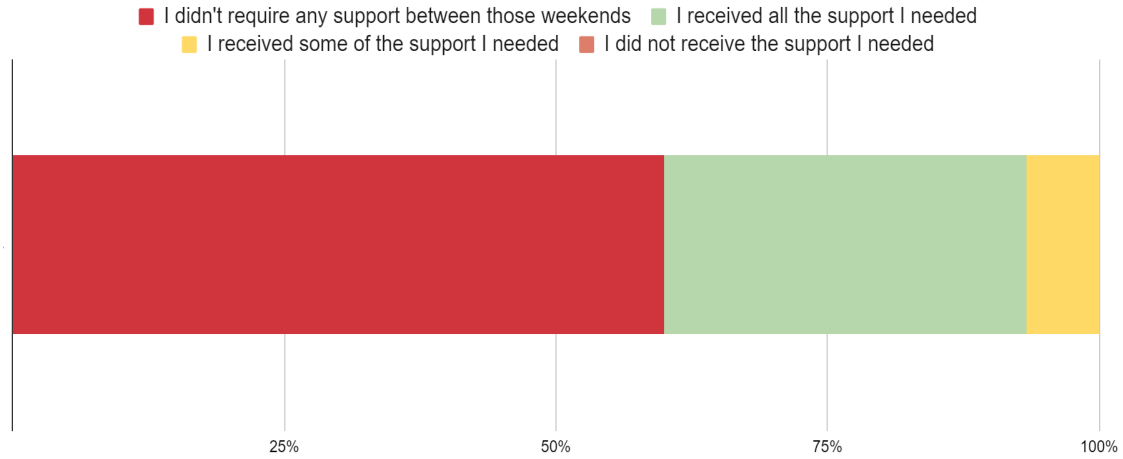
Bristol Citizens' Assembly - Member Experience Questionnaire | Weekend 3

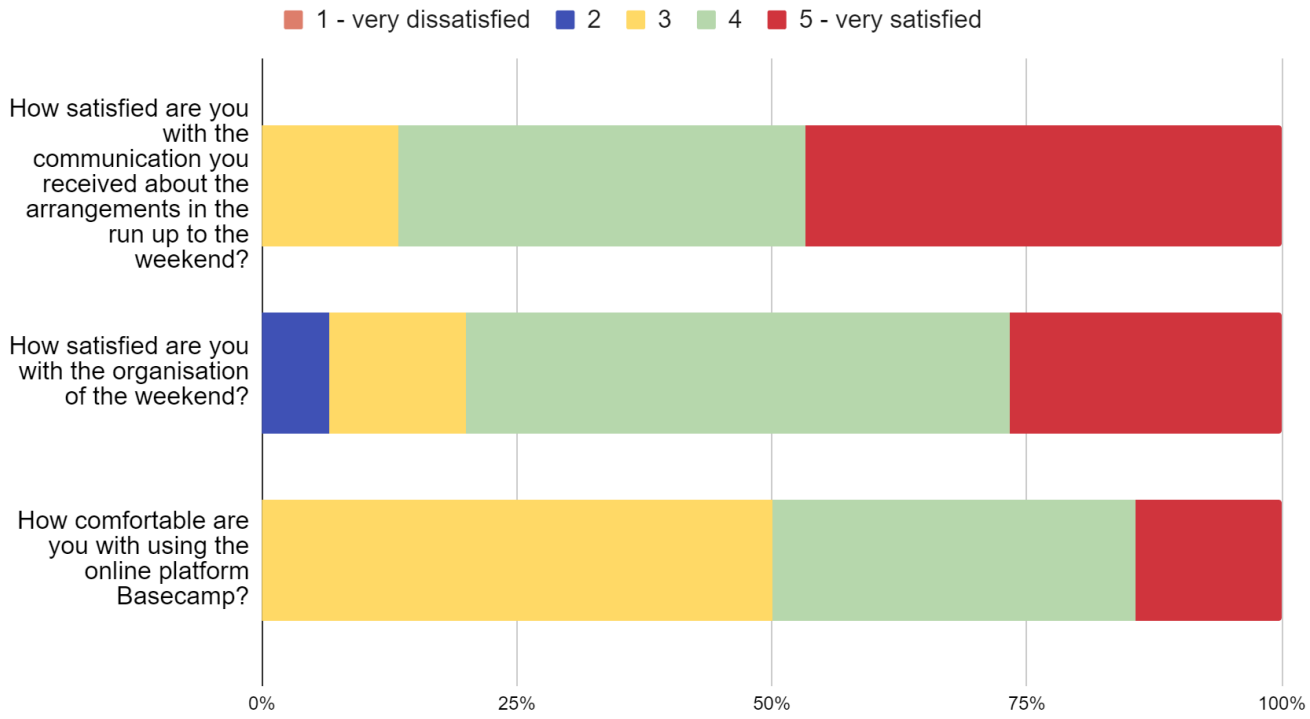
TRANSPORT

Response rate: 75%

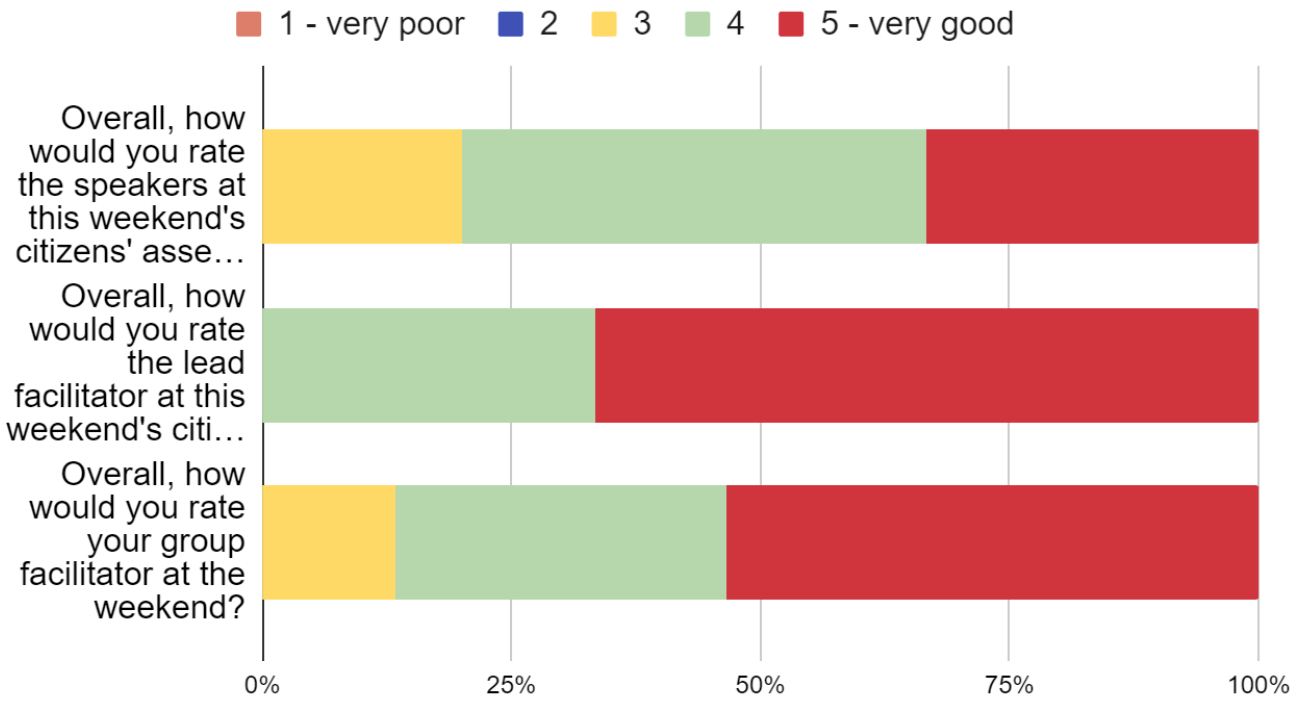
The following section is about the support you received to take part in the citizens' assembly

How satisfied are you with the support and assistance provided by the organisers at Involve between the last weekend and this weekend?

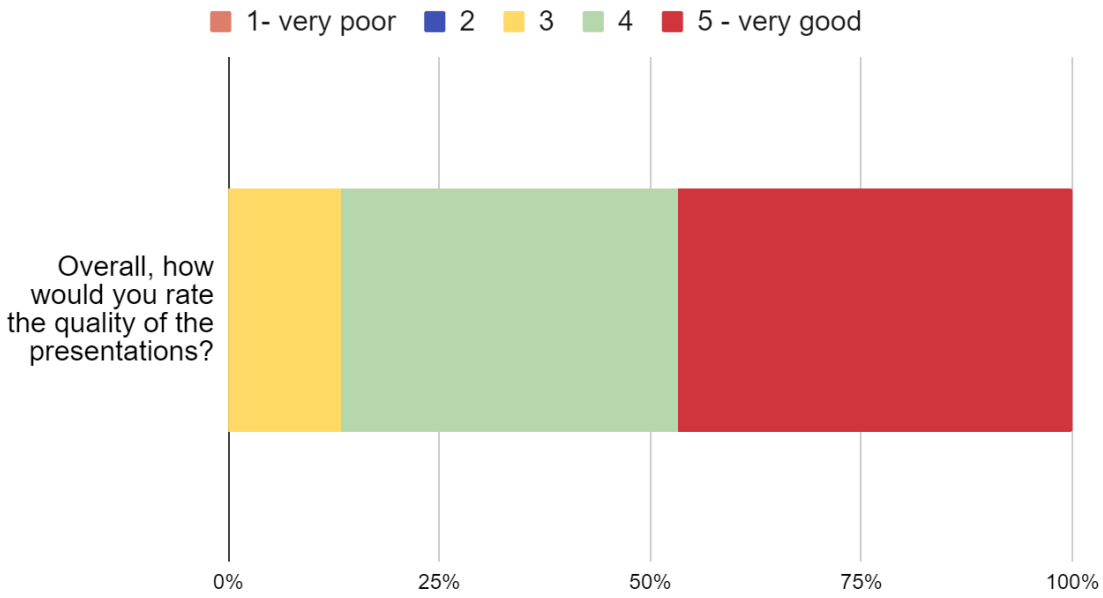


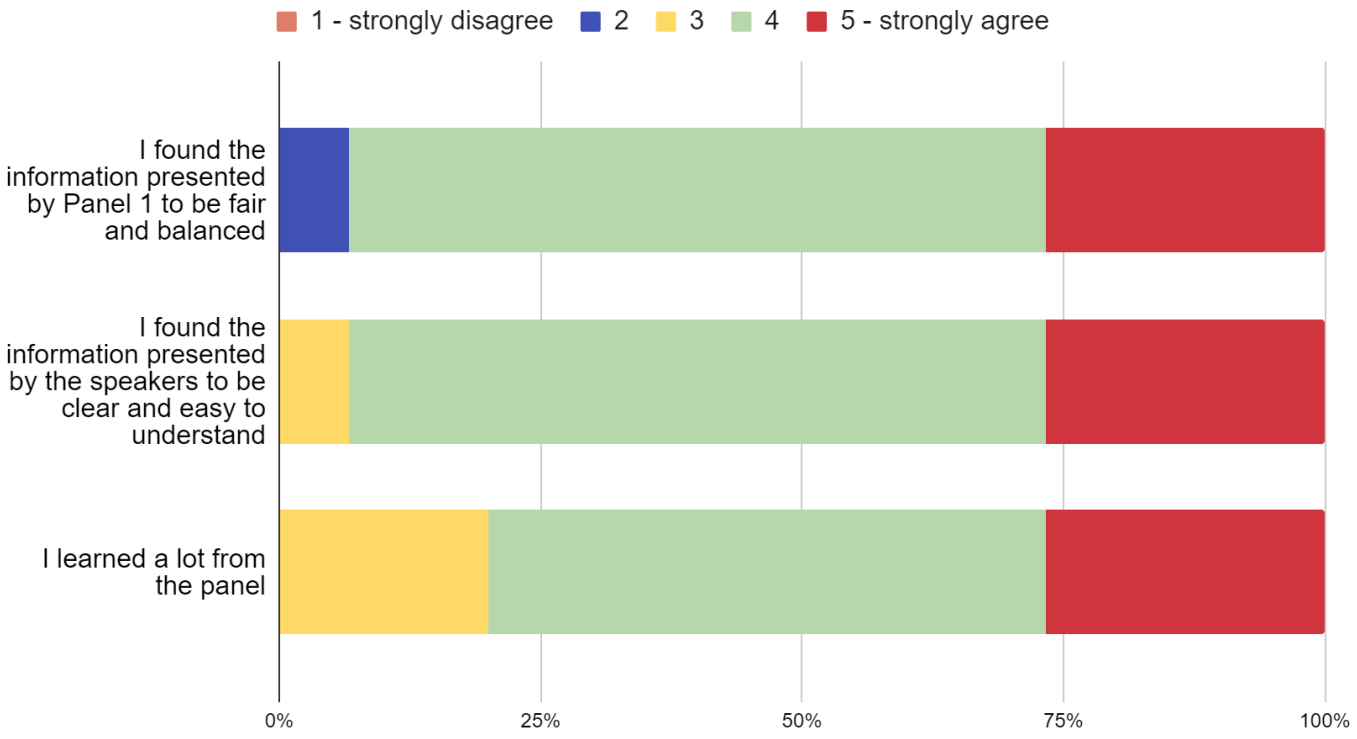


The following questions are about your overall impressions of this weekend

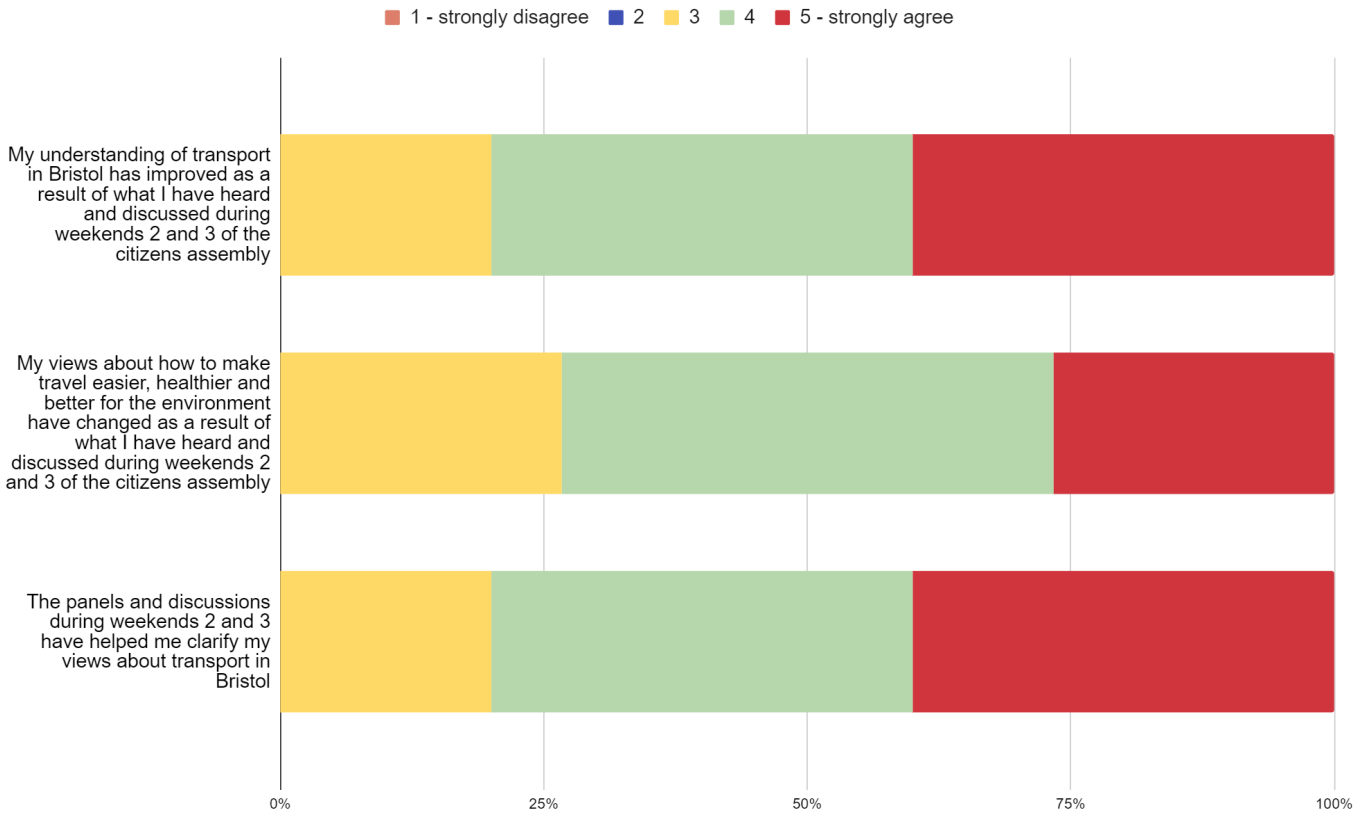


The following section asks you about your impression of the panel 'What would redesigning neighbourhoods mean in practice?'

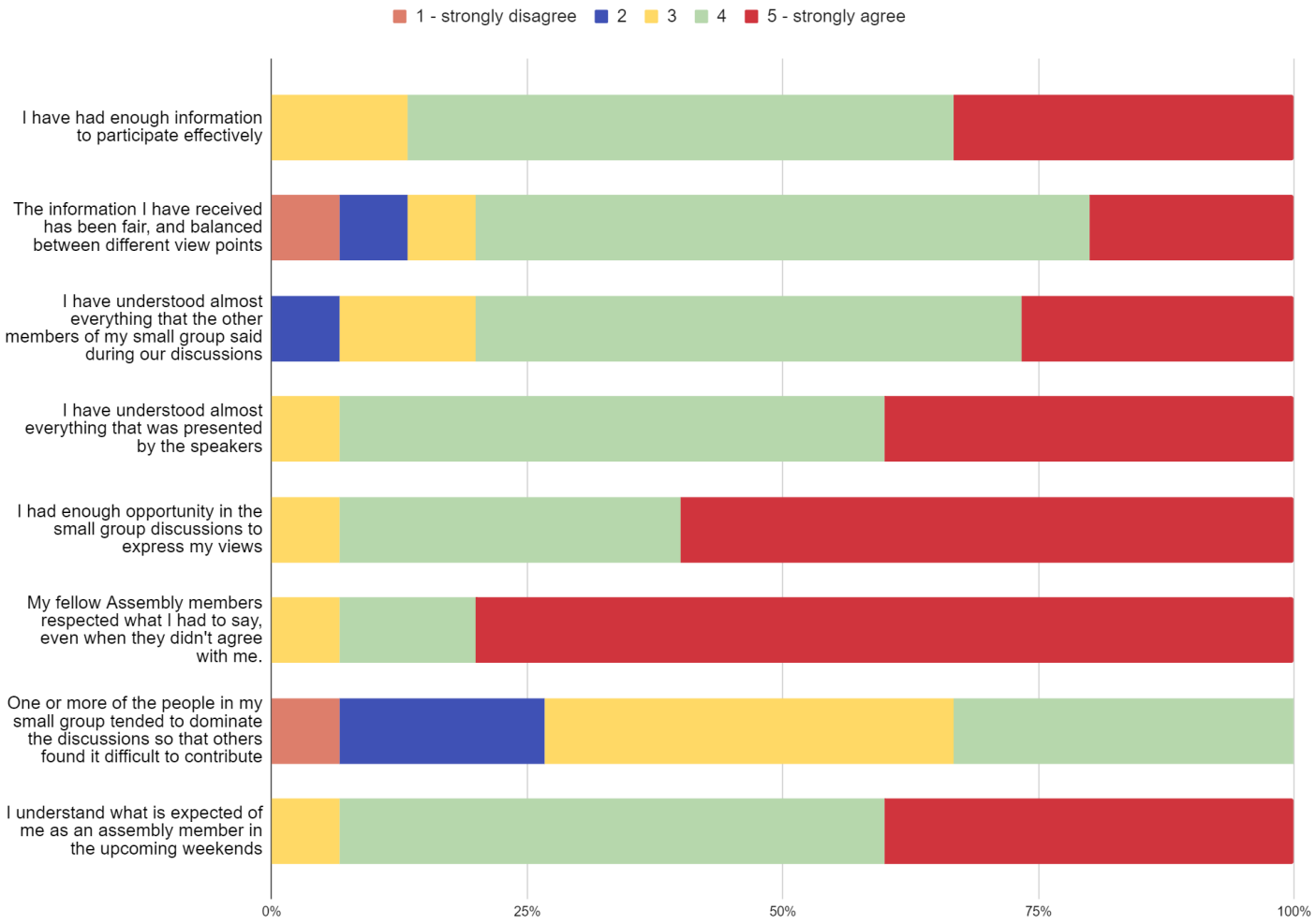




The following section asks about your views on the topic of transport and liveable neighbourhoods



The following section asks about your experience participating in the citizens' assembly this weekend



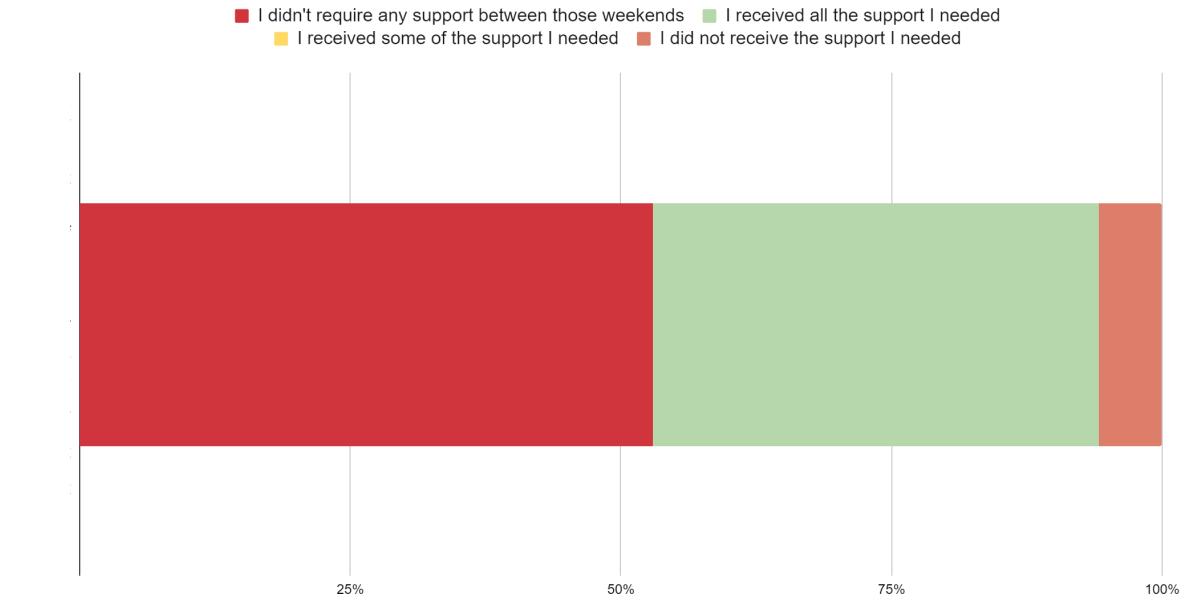
Bristol Citizens' Assembly - Member Experience Questionnaire | Weekend 3

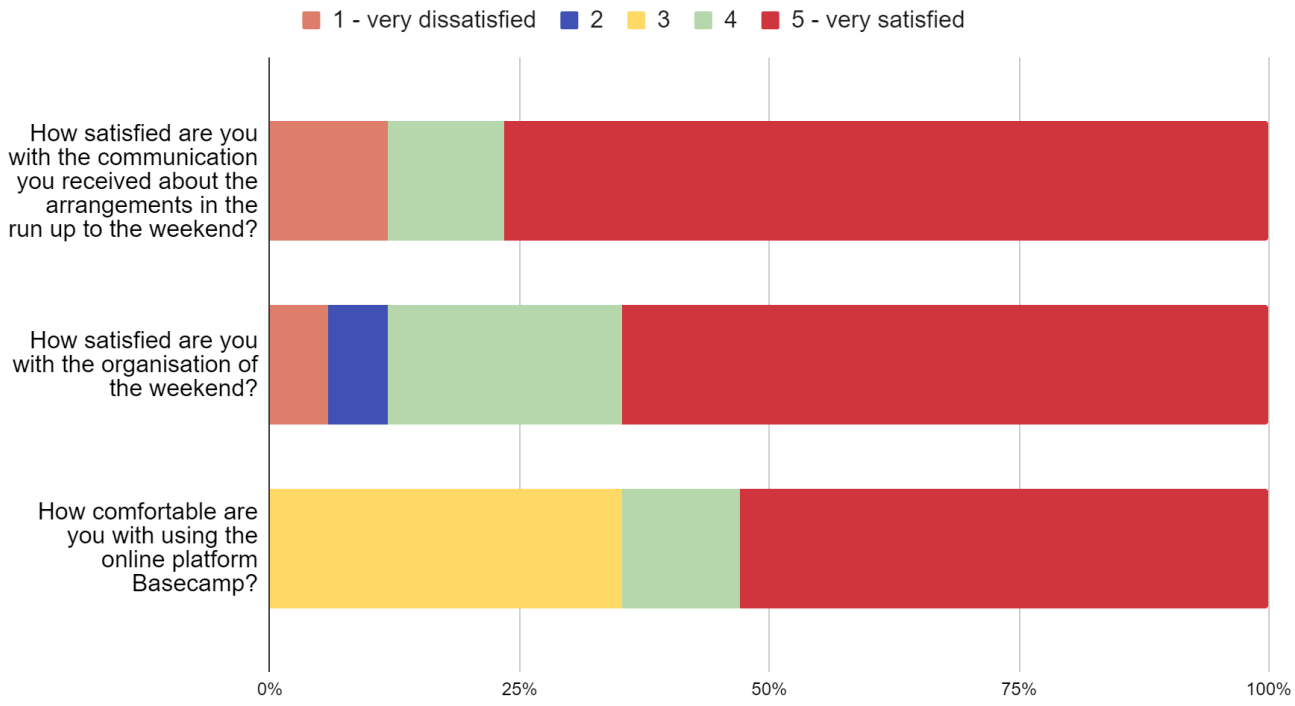
HEALTH

Response rate: 89%

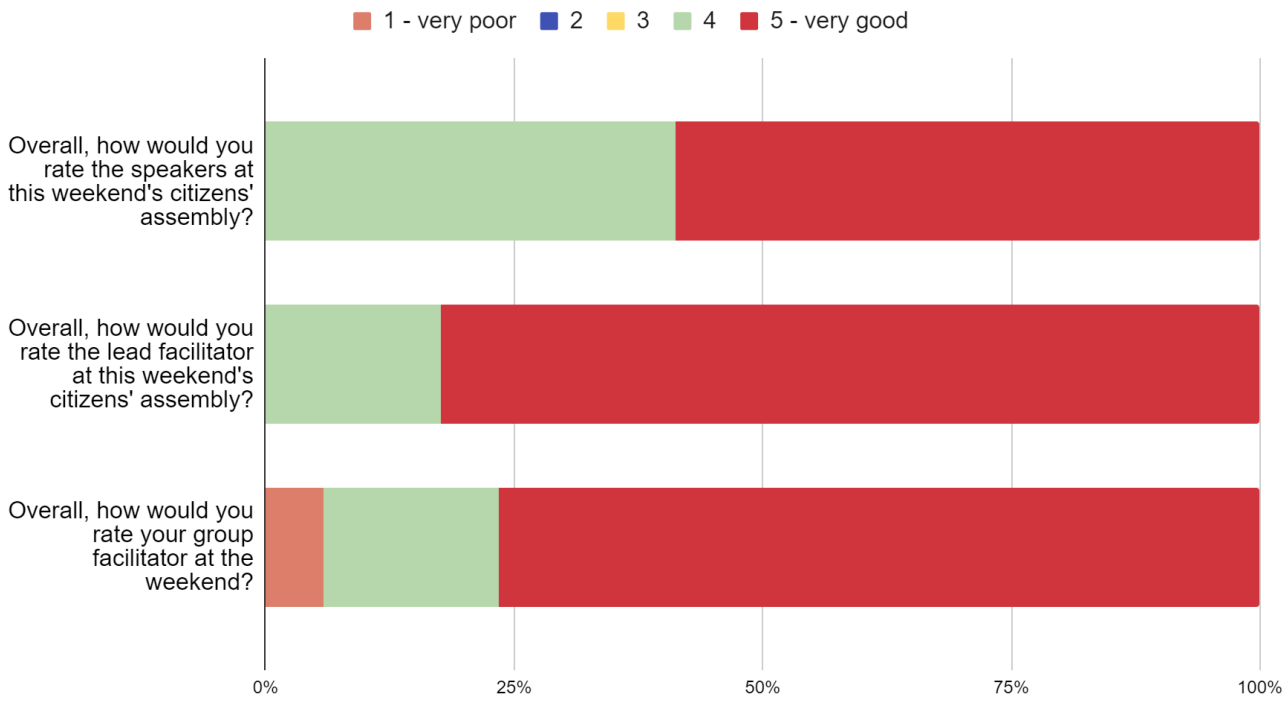
The following section is about the support you received to take part in the citizens' assembly

How satisfied are you with the support and assistance provided by the organisers at Involve between the last weekend and this weekend?

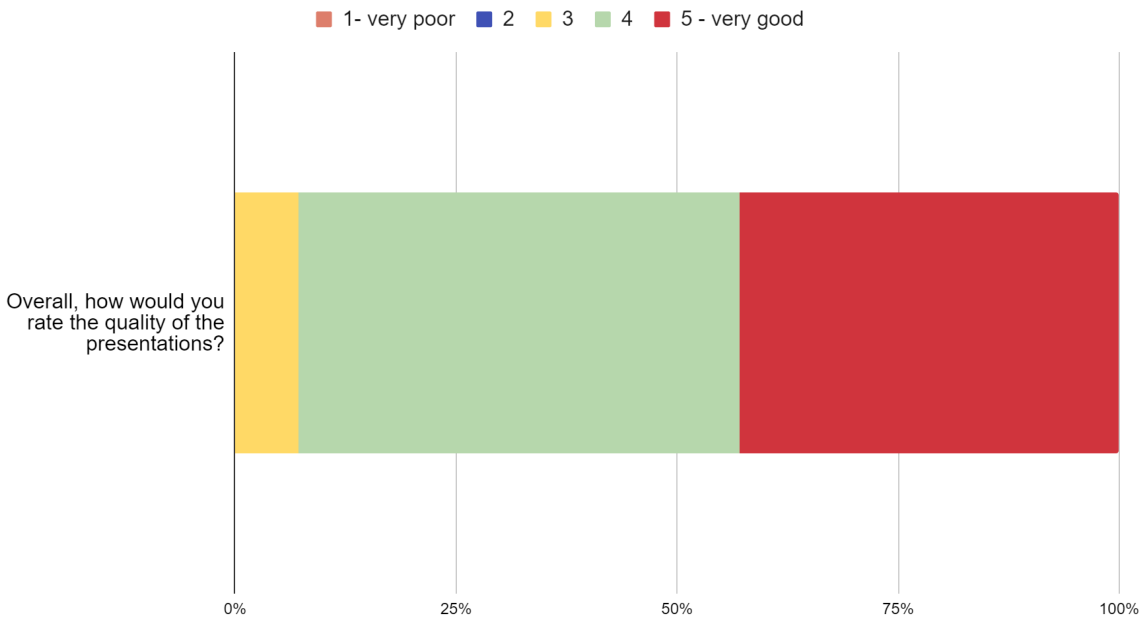


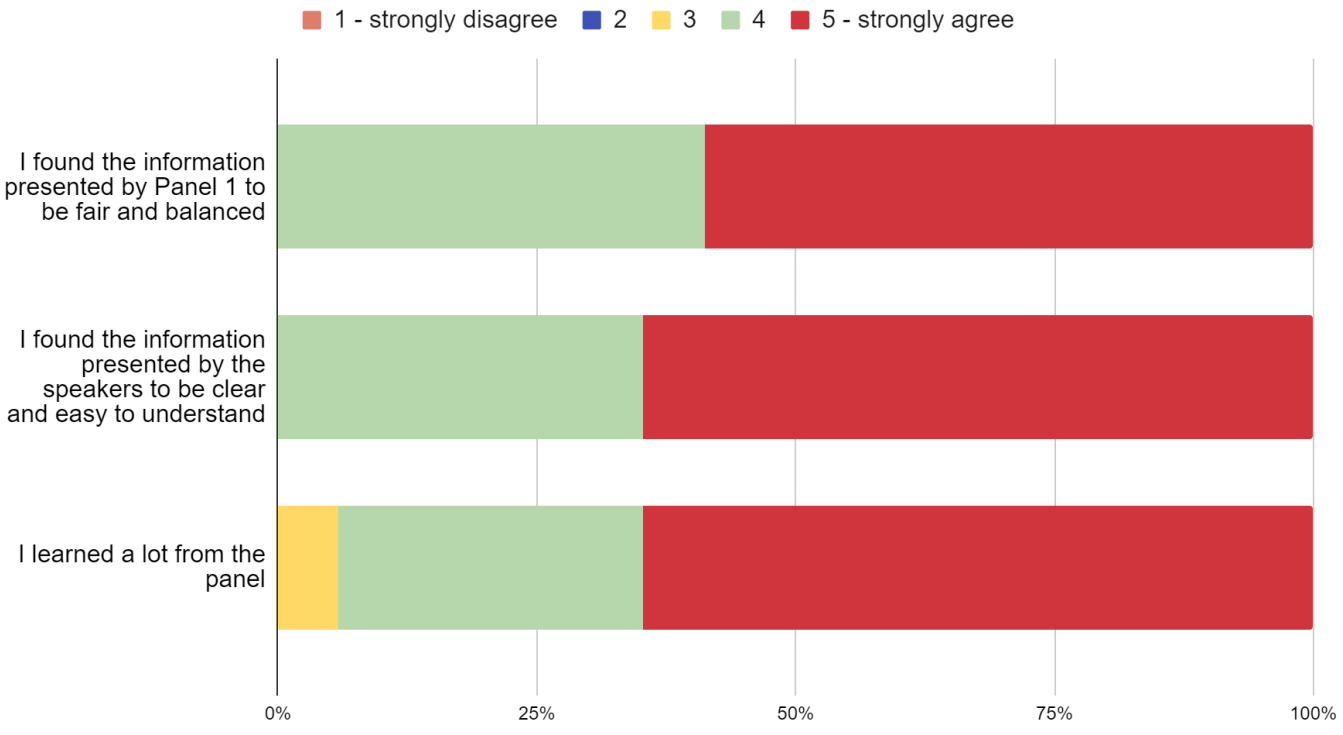


The following questions are about your overall impressions of this weekend

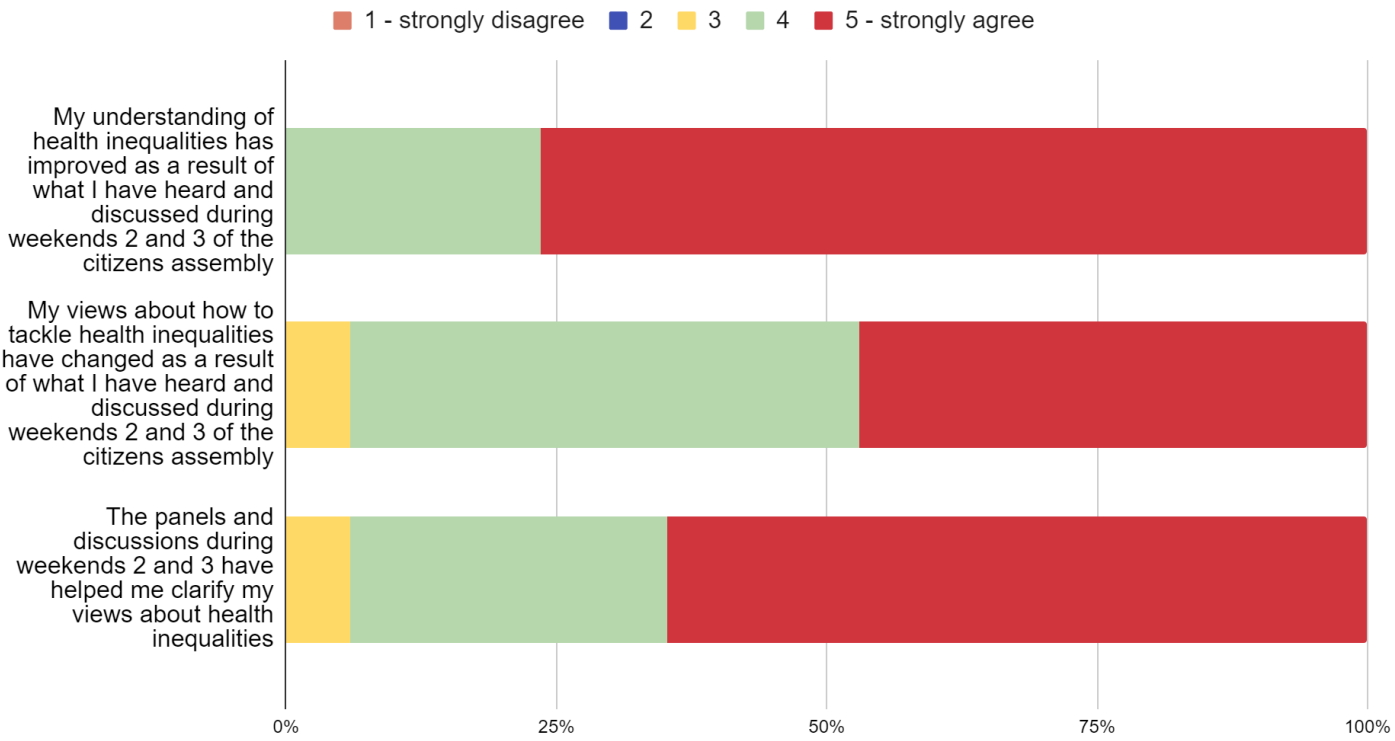


The following section asks you about your impression of the panel 'What could be done in Bristol to tackle health inequalities?'

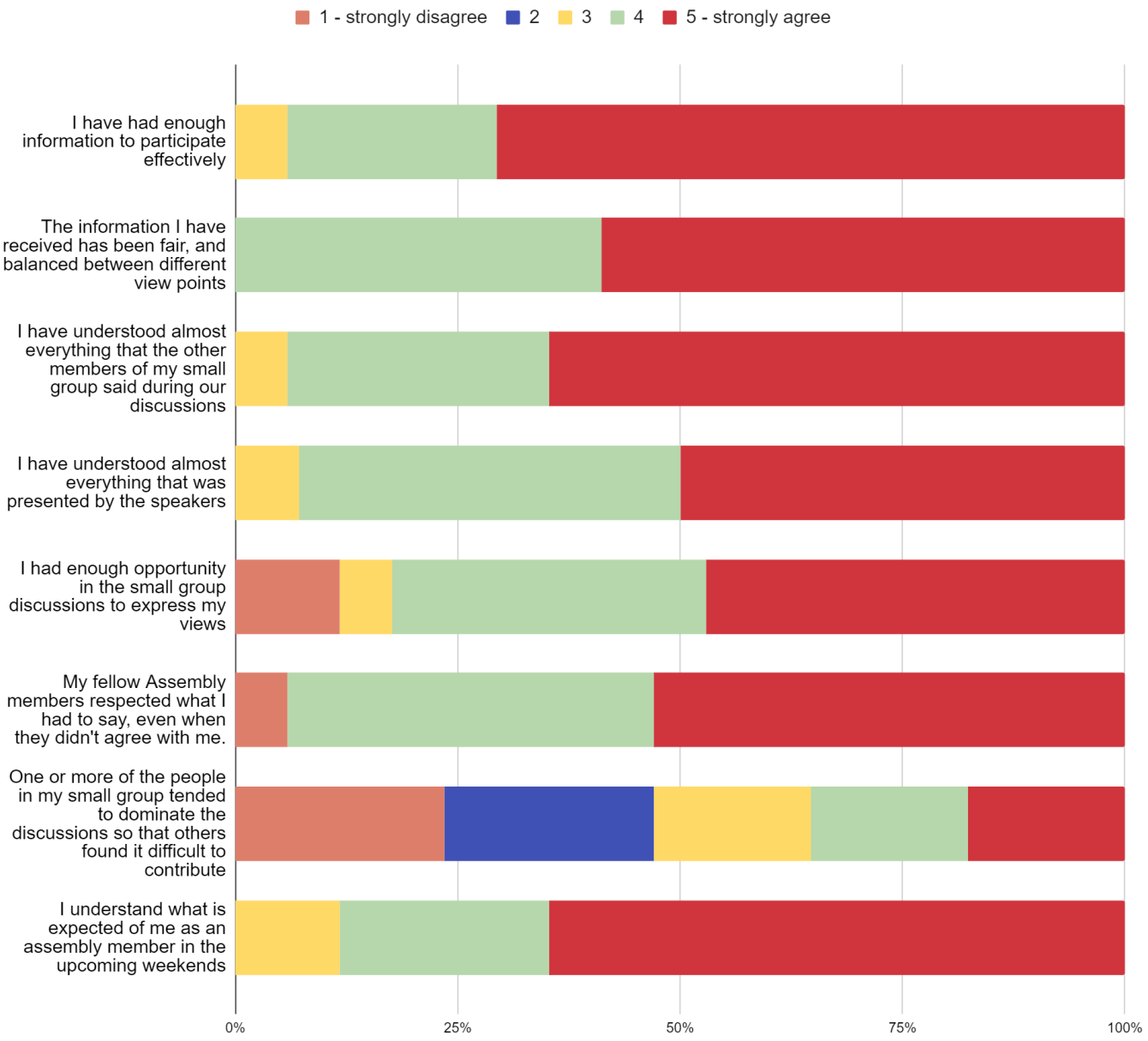




The following section asks about your views on the topic of health inequalities



The following section asks about your experience participating in the citizens' assembly this weekend

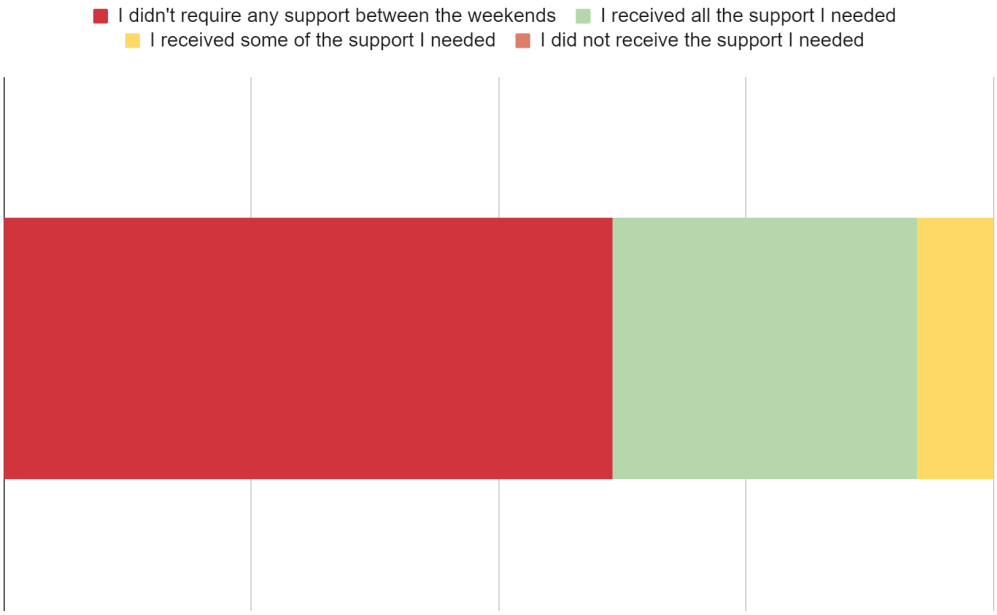


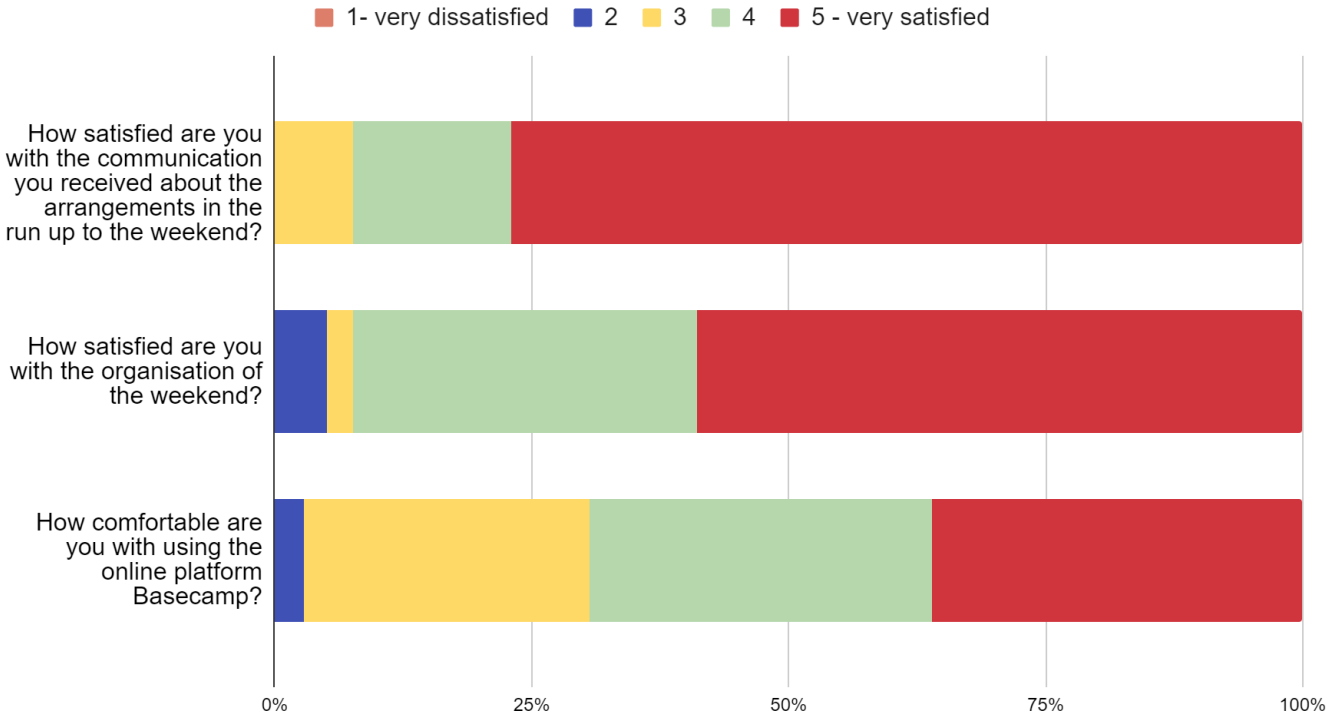
Bristol Citizens' Assembly - Member Experience Questionnaire | Weekend 4

Response rate: 67%

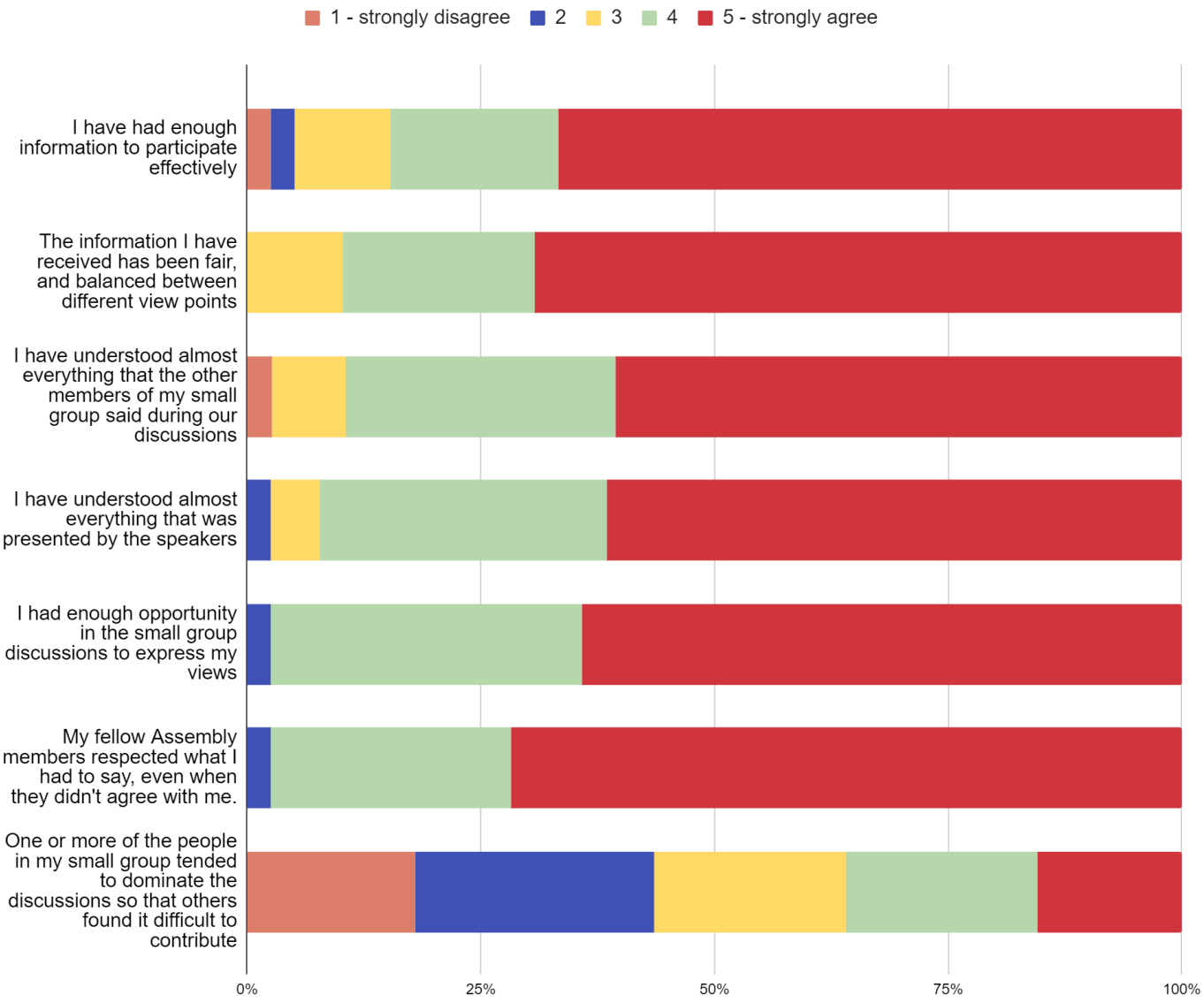
The following section is about the support you received to take part in the citizens' assembly

How satisfied are you with the support and assistance provided by the organisers at Involve between the last weekend and this weekend?



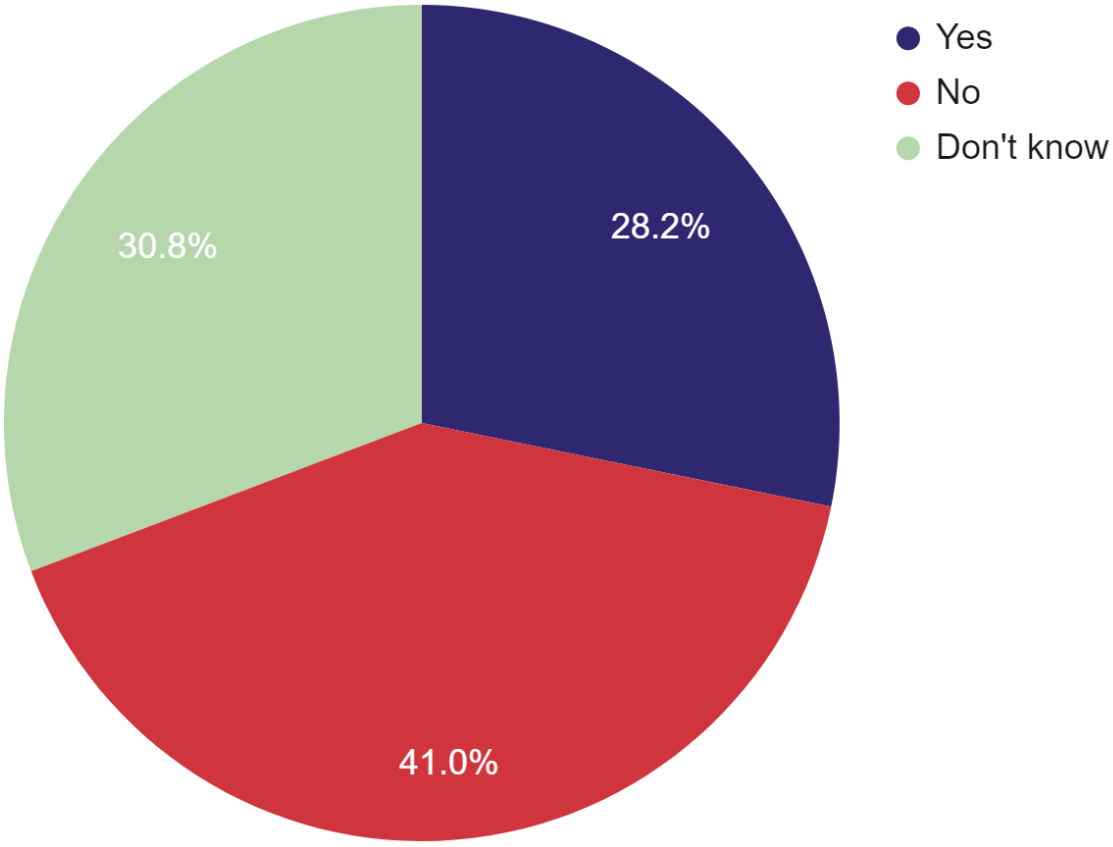


The following section asks about your experience participating in the citizens' assembly this weekend

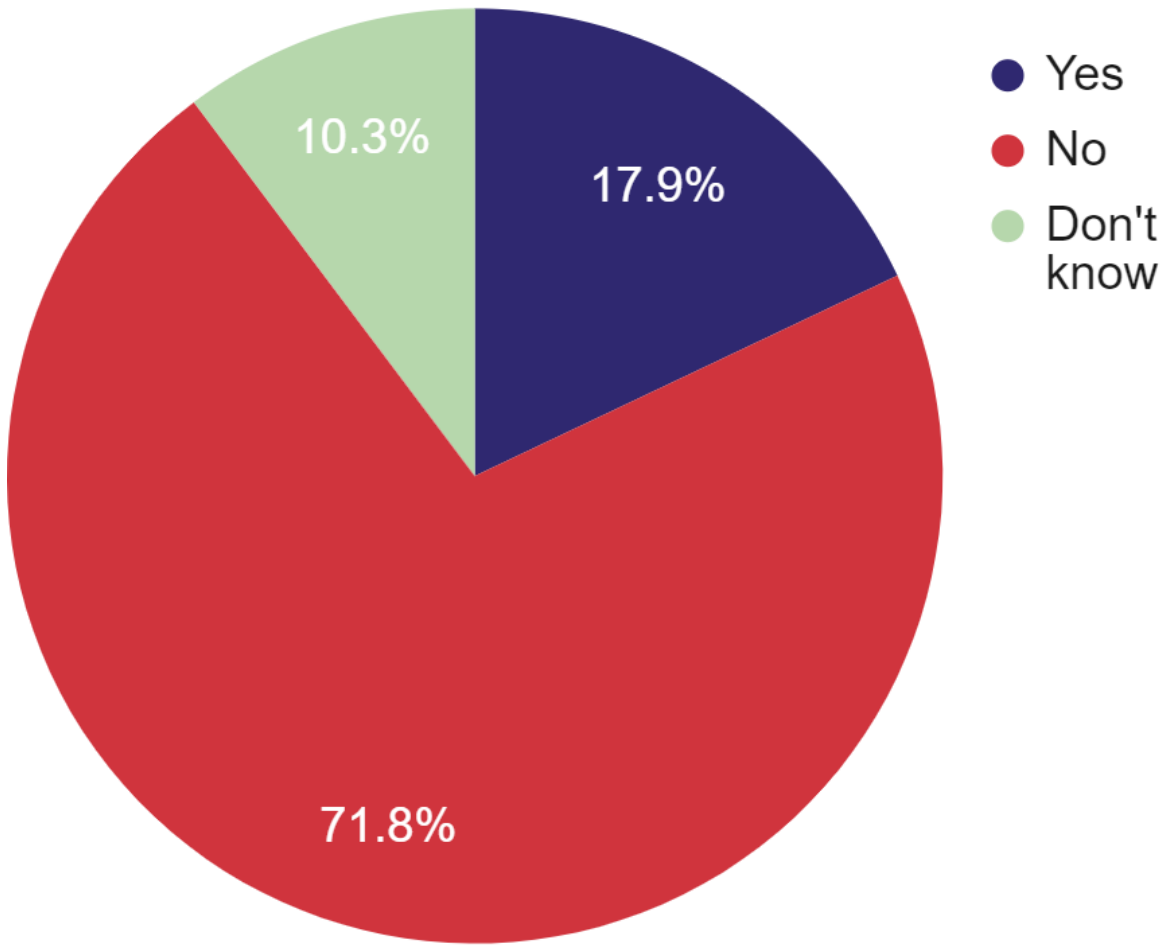


The following section asks about your previous involvement in local decision making.

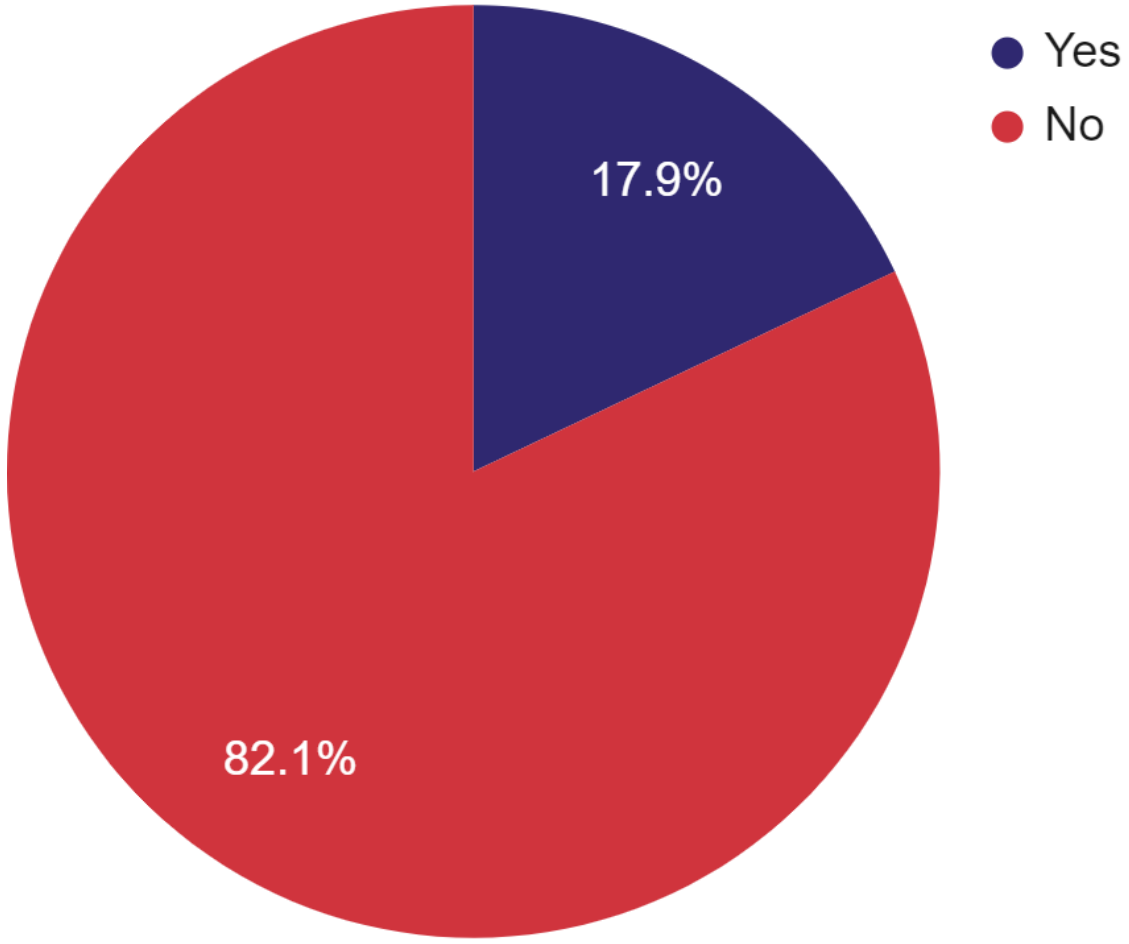
Did you fill in the Your City Our Future survey in August/ September 2020?



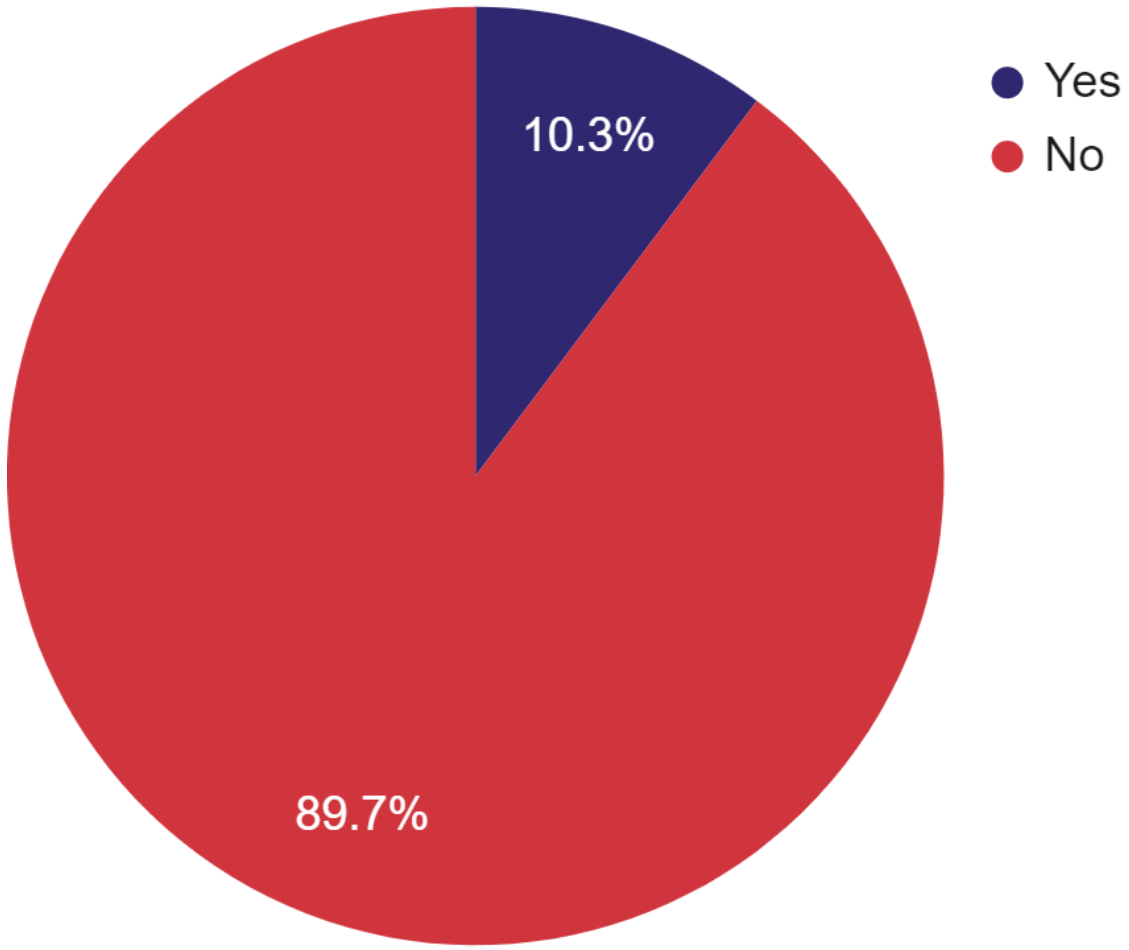
Have you taken part in any other council consultation or engagement survey in the last 2 years?



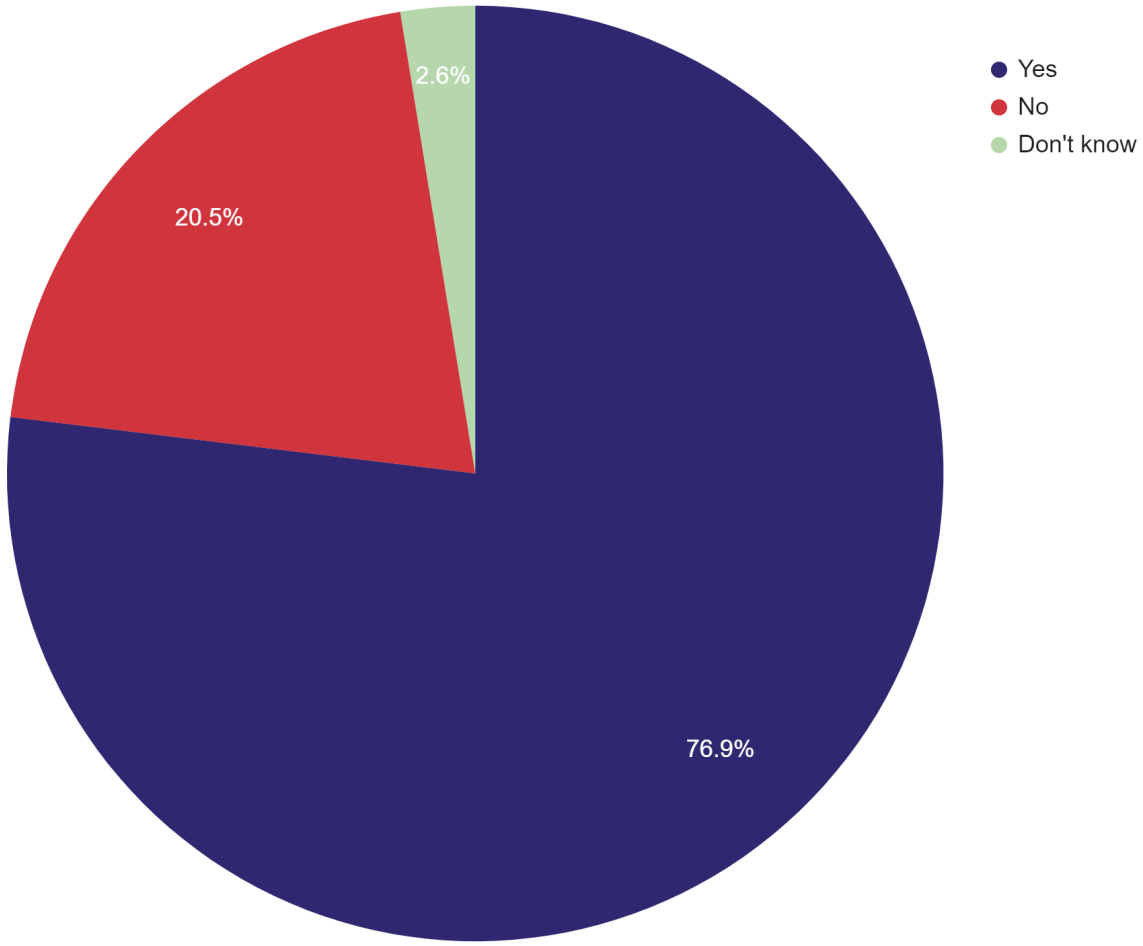
Have you contacted your ward Councillor in the past 2 years?



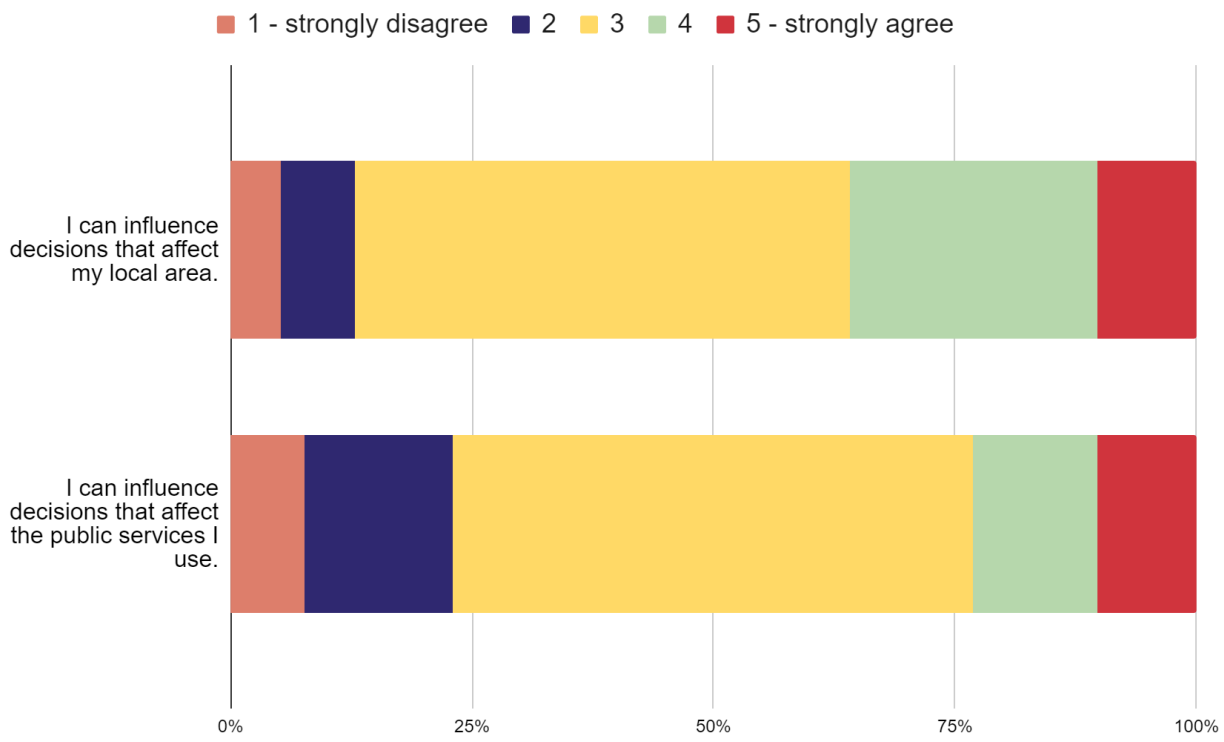
Have you attended or watched any council-run meetings in the last two years (such as Mayor's Question Time, Cabinet, or Full Council meetings, or the City Gathering)?



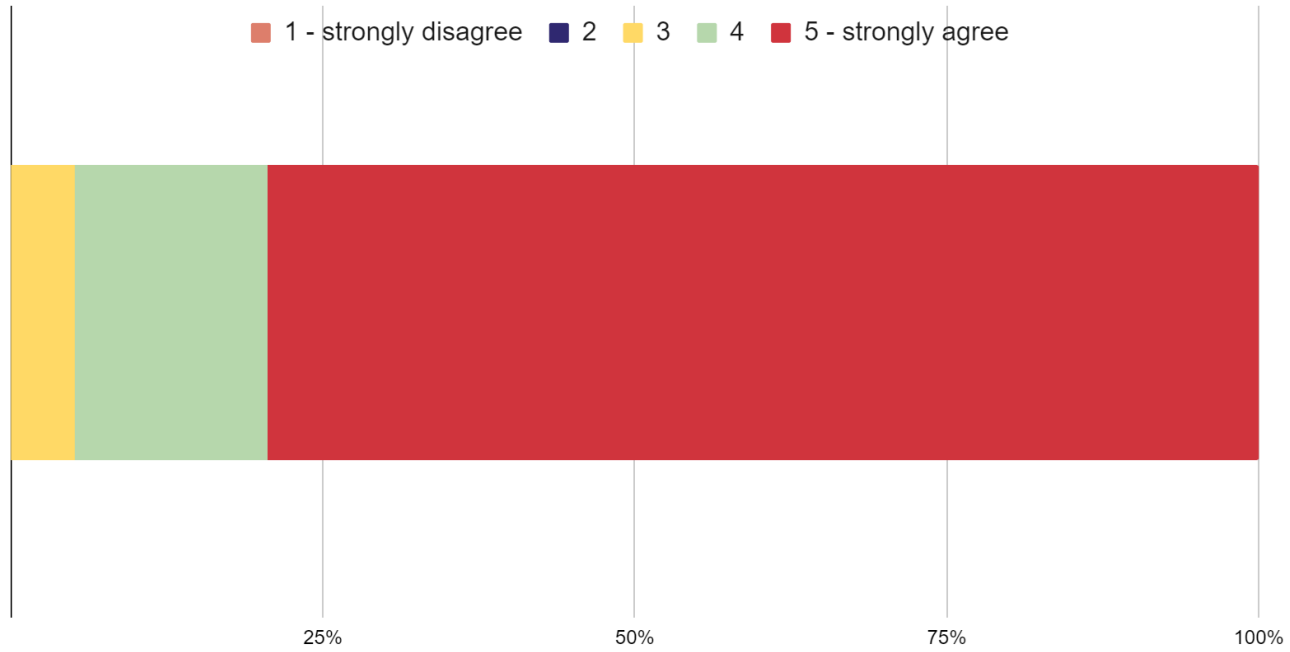
Have you voted in any local elections in the past five years (for Mayor, local Councillors, or the Police and Crime Commissioner)?



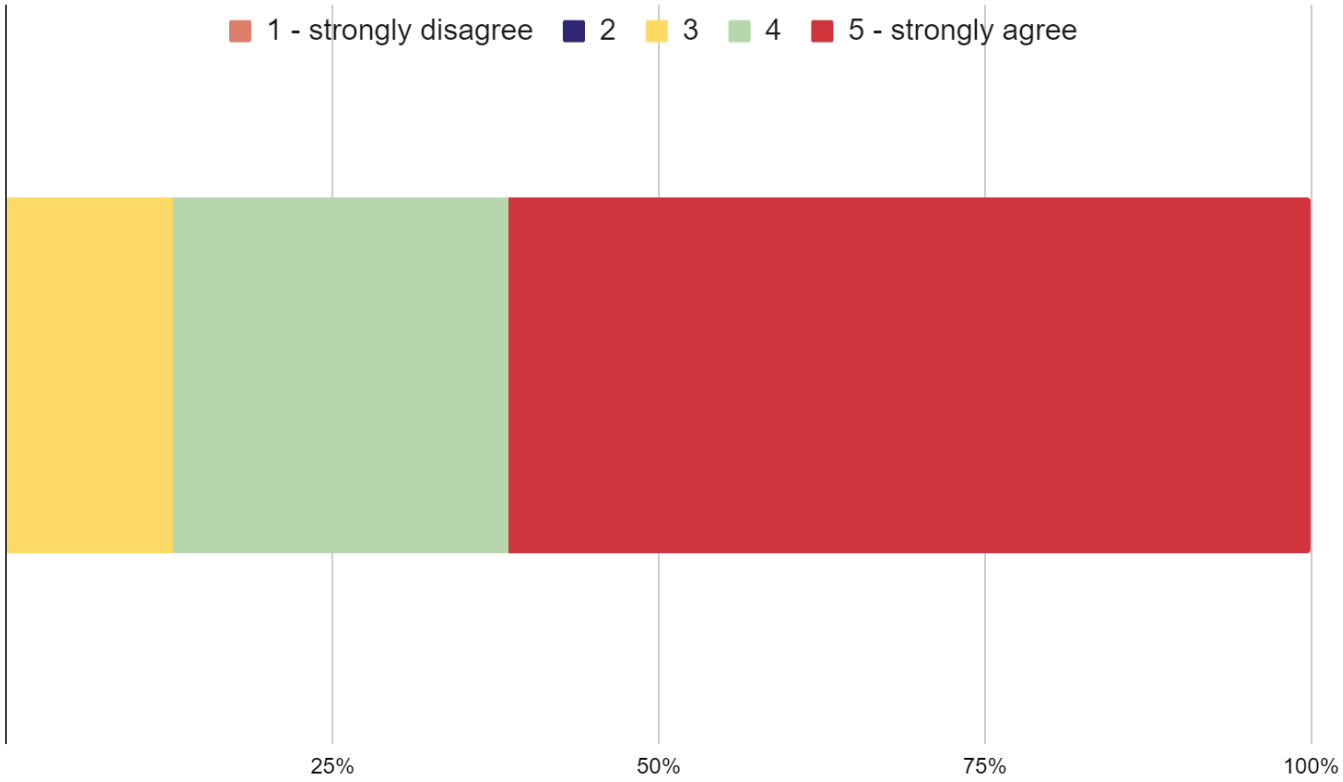
The following section asks about your attitude to citizens' assemblies and future involvement in local decision-making



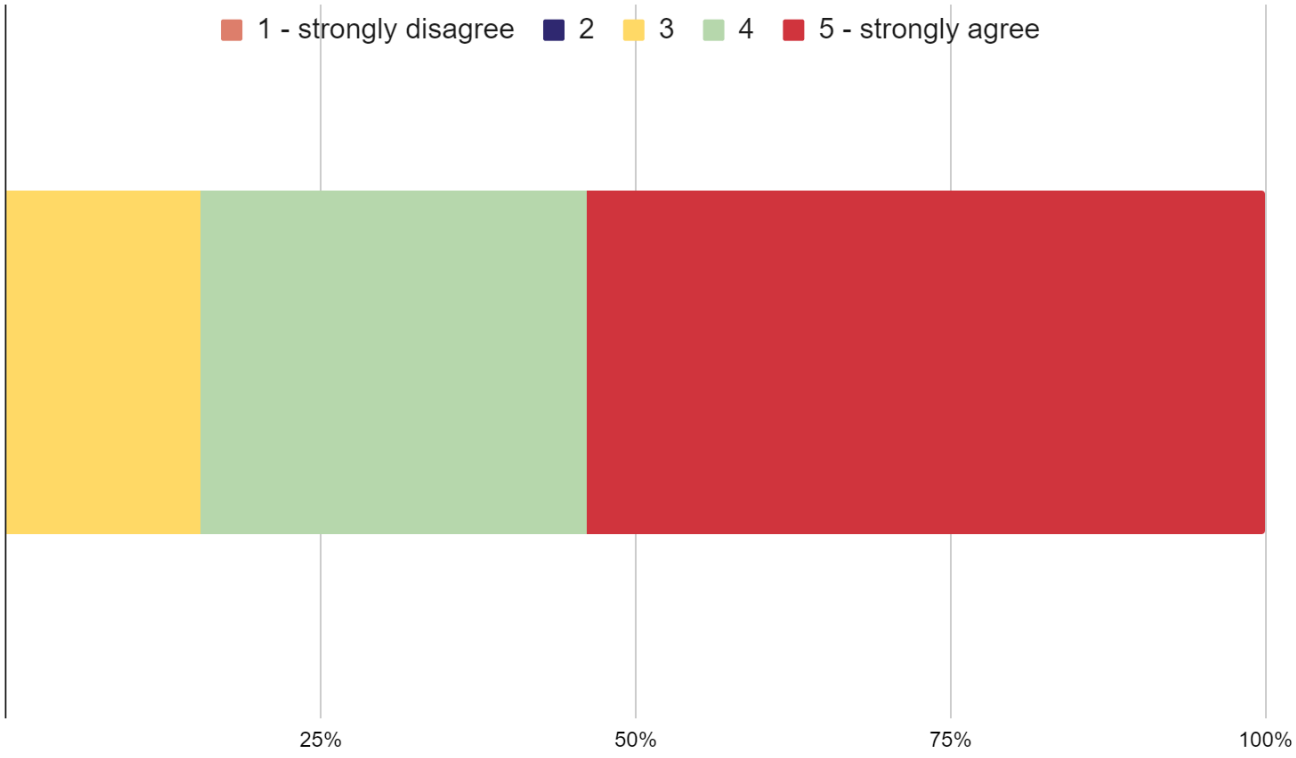
Processes like citizens' assemblies should be used more by Bristol City Council to inform their decision making



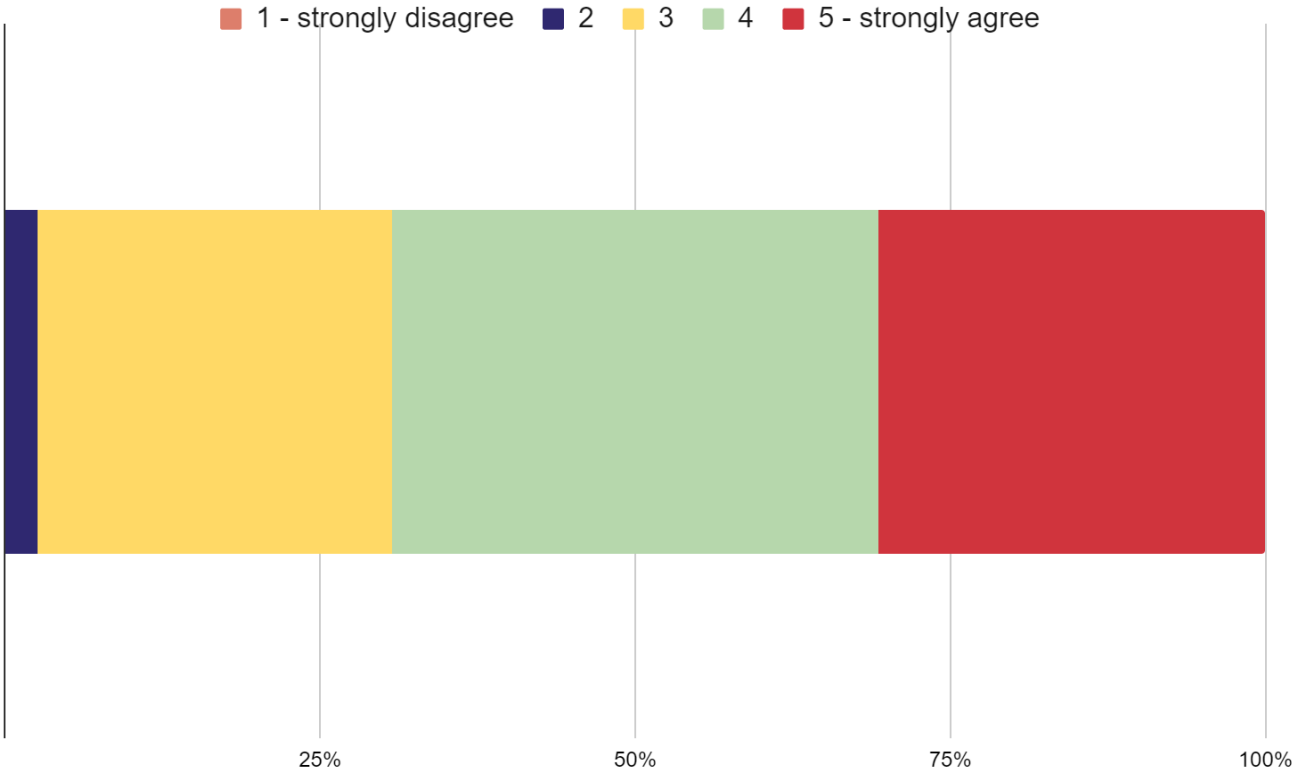
Taking part in this citizens' assembly has made me want to be more involved in other aspects of decision making that affect my local area



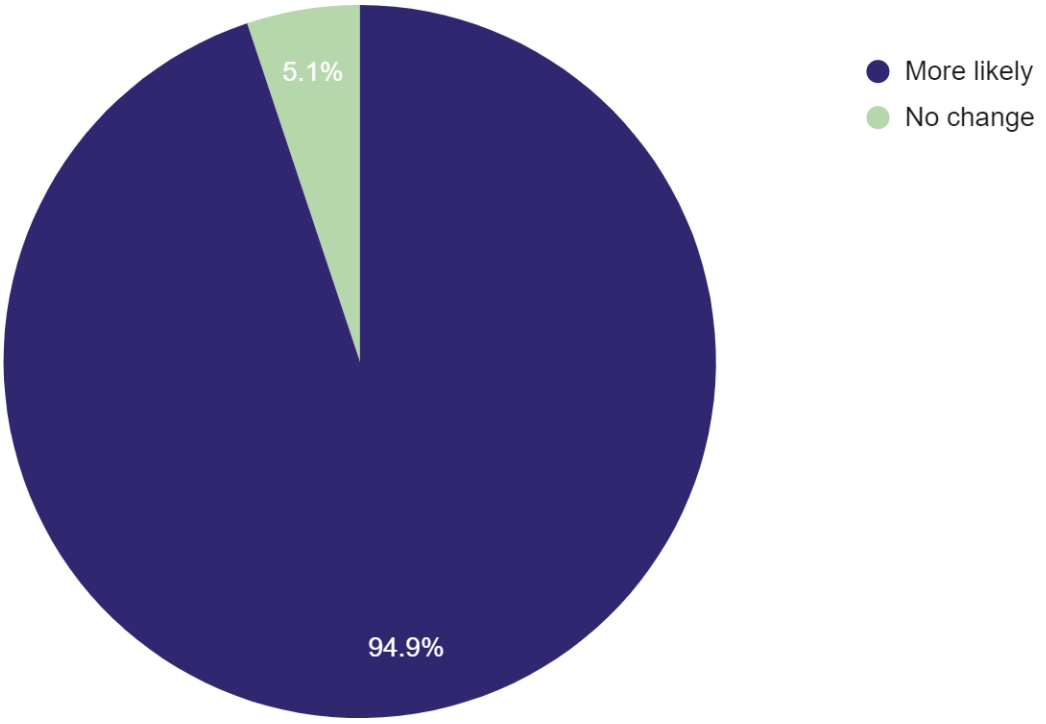
Taking part in this citizens' assembly has made me feel more confident to engage in decision making that affects my local area.



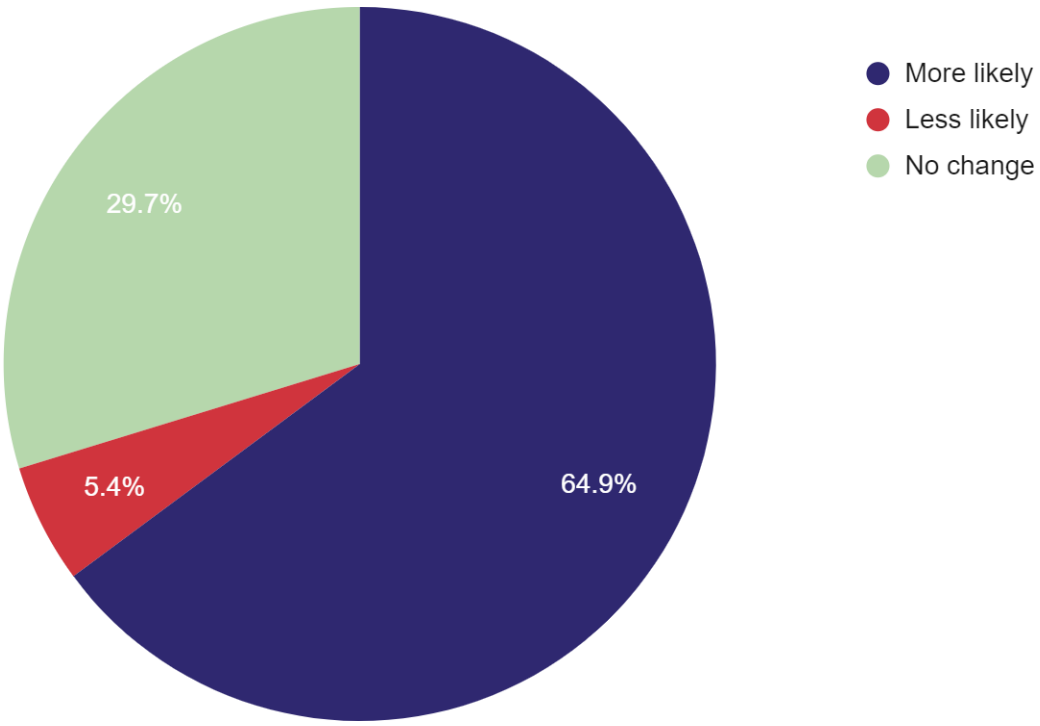
I think there will be improvements as a result of this citizens' assembly.



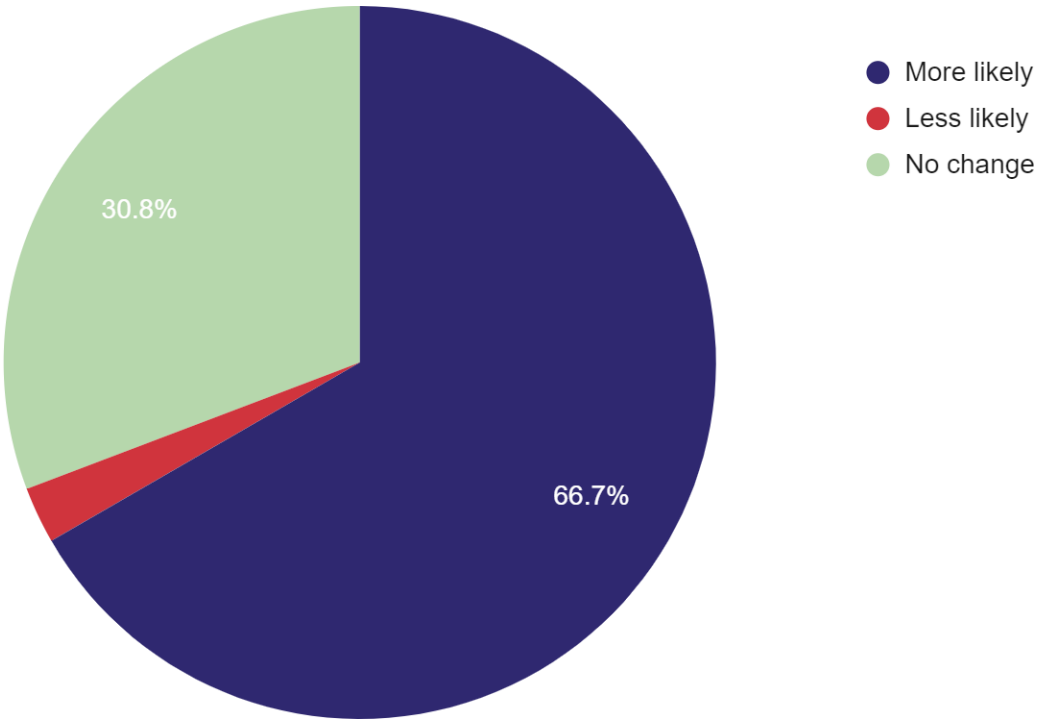
Has your involvement in the assembly made you more or less likely to take part in council consultations or engagement surveys?



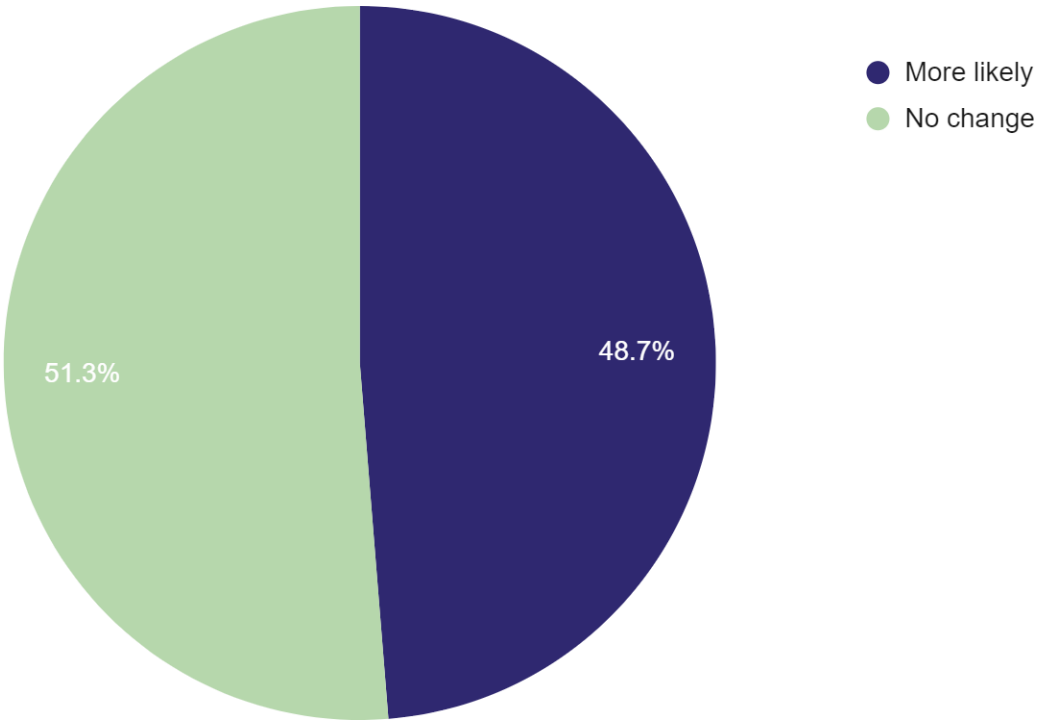
Has your involvement in the assembly made you more or less likely to contact your ward Councillor?



Has your involvement in the assembly made you more or less likely to watch or attend council-run meetings (such as Mayor's Question Time, Cabinet, or Full Council meetings, or the City Gathering)?



Has your involvement in the assembly made you more or less likely to vote in local elections (the next local elections for Mayor, local Councillors, and the Police and Crime Commissioner are taking place on 6 May 2021)



Appendix 4

Additional comments on recommendations

Assembly members were given the option to include a comment about each of the recommendations to accompany their vote. Those comments are below in full, organised by whether they accompanied a vote in support, in opposition or abstaining on a particular recommendation, where relevant.

How do we rapidly reduce the impact of our homes on climate change?

Recommendation 1: Council is to lead on training and upskilling the workforce by securing investment, ensuring high standards, harnessing innovation and making the most of local creativity and entrepreneurship such that the green industry is measurably prepared to carry out required improvements within 5 years.

Comments supporting Recommendation 1:

- I believe the rationale for this makes it essential, the targets cannot be met without the industry training and infrastructure.
- I think possibly mentioning career changing and adult career advice to the actions? I want to change my career and am really struggling with advice. The government website is garbage.
- Could this be tied into the recommendation in health for employment opportunities?
- Training opportunities are important to help with unemployment post COVID
- Feasibility of this manifesting in 5years.

Recommendation 2: Council to take leadership and responsibility for meeting its emissions targets in the housing stock by working in partnership with the business, education and community sectors, creating a programme of implementation to drive community changes.

Comments supporting Recommendation 2:

- One of the areas where the council is not joined up in its approach to retrofitting housing stock is between people wanting to upgrade their energy performance of their homes (ie external wall in insulation, windows and heat pumps) yet being in a conservation area whereby council policy is extremely restrictive on changes to the appearance of buildings. This affects a significant number of Bristol's housing stock, with 30% of Bristol covered by a conservation area, often the most dense parts of the city (most of the inner city). The council needs to clean up it's advice on this and for conservation to accept that to improve housing stock there is a compromise that will change the appearance of buildings and that change when viewed in the round is

not a negative. Apart from this there are other aspects such as the council advocating and educating as well as helping to identify finance available (as per another recommendation). The council needs to look at all the barriers to owners of homes (whomever that may be) such as information, finance and red tape.

Comments opposing Recommendation 2:

- Unsure about the impact of other private businesses and schools but it could be fascinating.

Recommendation 3: Create innovative financing options including grants, and/or loans to support home owners and landlords to improve the energy efficiency of every home in Bristol.

Comments supporting Recommendation 3:

- remembering there are many unscrupulous landlords out there and a lot of people's mental health suffers as a result.
- The initiatives must consider that first time buyers like myself living in 1 up 1 downs are not going to want to be here forever and therefore do not want to take out long term loans. Therefore, there must be a system that the loan / improvement gets passed on when the house is bought. For me it would be too risky to assume that the loan will be paid for in increase in house value and I would be put off taking out a loan.
- Considering how awful and expensive the rental market is for Bristol, I do not want any loophole to exist that means a landlord can pass those expenses for house improvement to their tenants.
- Distinction needs to be made between landlords who operate as a business and landlords with for example, one property they let. Thresholds could be developed to determine if a loan or grant is more appropriate depending on the number of properties owned / income yield.
- I think that this is incredibly important to ensure that everyone is able to AFFORD to be part of the solution.
- Def needed
- "I don't agree with means testing. Those on higher incomes can afford to pay big heating bills and not invert in retrofit. Environmental improvements are too important. Consider a grant system based on m2 capped at a certain size. Therefore smaller properties are fully covered by a grant and bigger partially. This will link to environmental damage and likely wealth. In the current world where jobs are so insecure means testing for capital support can quickly be irrelevant.

- Improvements and companies must be accredited and underwritten by council, especially in wake of the current cladding crisis.
- Financing is going to be one of, if not the key issue for people in making sustainability improvements to their homes. During our group discussions, I was struck that everyone was pretty much on the same page, and quite willing to make big changes to their homes, and also happy to pay their way as much as they are able.

  But almost universally, people would be unable to afford large upfront payments in the thousands of pounds for heat source pumps, solar, etc., and people also felt it wasn't viable to ask everyone in the city to arrange and take on unsecured loans for this.

  A centrally-managed, equitably repaid, interest free loan option is going to be essential for a large proportion of people to be able to afford these changes we are all going to need to make to our homes.
- Need to be top priority and mandatory
- Elderly and vulnerable people will find it very stressful to make alterations to their homes and may be open to scammers. Can the Council not put pressure on elderly to do this and ensure that there is TV advertising to ensure that the possibility of scamming or bad workmanship is negligible and prosecuted?
- Way forward. Without interest. As most people have enough debts to deal with.

Recommendation 4: Reduce the fragmentation of all the different sustainability schemes and initiatives by creating and promoting an independent One Stop Shop that contains objective, trustworthy information, in order to provide support right through the process.

Comments supporting recommendation 4:

- With availability for those at less advantage of understanding.
- A climate change festival is a brilliant idea and very Bristol
- As long as it includes all local tradespeople who are accredited by the Council to avoid scamming, bad workmanship and protection for elderly and vulnerable.
- Might be helpful.

Comments opposing recommendation 4:

- Needs to be place based - different housing stock in different areas will have different needs.

Recommendation 5: The Council should introduce a set of tiered Bristol standards (tiers from minimum requirements to best practice aspiration standards) relating to energy consumption and efficiency for all retrofits, building improvements, developments and new

builds (domestic and commercial) that are clear and well communicated, and linked to planning regulations.

Comments supporting recommendation 5:

- This seems to fit with no 1 in that upskilling and training could sit alongside a set of standards to deliver to.
- All new builds should be fitted with energy efficient installations
- Along with the grants

Comments opposing recommendation 5:

- As a single woman homeowner, I am struggling to make national targets let alone any even harder localized ones.
- I feel this could add to an already confusing landscape
- The tiered standard might come across as a form of discrimination,but I think having a standardised expecting of efficient service for all is what matters irrespective.

Comments from members who abstained from voting on recommendation 5:

- Use established national regulations rather than creating a local set
- This is needed, but this should really be set nationally and by an apolitical body. Building regulations don't really do this in a helpful way that the recommendation is calling for.

Recommendation 6: Develop a pilot programme for a street or neighbourhood to showcase what could be achieved if a citywide approach to reaching net zero was taken, with control, coordination and cooperation at a local level.

Comments supporting recommendation 6:

- This should be focussed in a deprived area and not Clifton or some affluent place that will look nice in the pictures. Support South Bristol and the areas that are continuously being forgotten or brushed over.

- I think this is the way with any big changes - the idea of pilot schemes be it housing, livable neighbourhoods or initiatives in health. Show that it works. make a case based on evidence on a small scale done really well and use this to support building a funding case for bigger ambitions that people/companies/awarding bodies etc. are excited to say they are a part of making happen.
- Should get on with all houses straight away rather than just focusing efforts on just one street
- Very good idea

Comments opposing recommendation 6:

- If awareness and one stop programme is already involved,I don't understand how different it would be for a pilot programme. As these other two would also be at local level according to my understanding.

Comments from members who abstained from voting on recommendation 6:

- Such a scheme would need to be city wide, not in just one street, to have any effect

What changes should we make to our neighbourhoods to make how we travel easier, healthier and better for the environment?

Recommendation 7: Create an inclusive, transparent and accountable process where the council engages together with citizens, businesses and stakeholders to better communicate our climate commitments through a sustainable transport system.

Comments supporting recommendation 7:

- I think this could tie in well with recommendation 9 as a sub action
- Quite vague recommendation.
- With consideration for people in South Bristol and surrounding villages to be able to access Central amenities eg. Temple Meads and BRI, and access for emergency vehicles.

Comments opposing recommendation 7:

- It isn't SMART enough to achieve results by 2030
- A statement word salad with no clear aim. “Communicate climate commitments through a transport system” Total nonsense English. Looks like the word “inclusive” has just been thrown in there for the sake of it.

Recommendation 8: Urgently reduce air pollution levels caused by vehicle use to safe and legal levels

Comments supporting recommendation 8:

- Especially for our children in areas around the city where so many ethnic families live clubbed together in high rises. Asthma in children on the rise. Areas i.e, like Barton Hill / Hartcliffe should be areas where pedestrianised areas implemented
- There is so much that can be done that does not have to cost much. I was shocked at how much concrete space there was for the Temple Meads remodel (the roads around it and changes to traffic management) tear some of that up and stick flowers and trees and shrubs in there! There is so much!

- However, I'm not sure the recommendation was as well developed as others and i think it would happen naturally through other schemes like liveable neighbourhoods and reducing car use, prioritising other methods
- Introduce: walk to school group ‘walking busses’ lead by teachers and parents, shuttle busses or bicycle taxis to ferry people around the city, more rewards for cycling, and lift share website to offer car share opportunities every time someone gets in the car (sorry not sure which one this should be linked to)
- I support lowering levels, but the urgency has to take into account the lower income levels, particularly recovering financially from COVID restrictions so needs to be gradual.

Comments opposing recommendation 8:

- There are other urgent needs.

Recommendation 9: By 2030, make Bristol the best city internationally to travel around, by prioritising sustainable, safe, healthy, accessible alternatives to the car for all.

Comments supporting recommendation 9:

- I like the recommendation sentence, but the implementation actions need more thought; too cycle focused which doesn't meet a lot of peoples needs.
- love the ambition in this one - why not aim for the stars and we might hit the moon, hey?
- The recommendation on making the buses publicly owned was edited to remove reference to regulation at the last minute to make it more to the point - but the aim of the action should be clear: get public control over the buses through regulation and franchising, community owned bus companies or winning the changes needed to bring them into public ownership.
- Sooner if possible. And ensure city centre emissions ban doesn’t create more traffic in areas further out of the city.
- Please be mindful that elderly and disabled, even if not registered disabled cannot walk far , stand or use bicycles. They rely on cars and would not be able to afford to buy an electric car as they are very expensive. South Bristol citizens usually have to travel through the city centre or further afield to work. Public transport, cycles and walking are not viable options in many cases.
- I feel that transport policy is the area where it is easiest to make positive substantive changes across the city for the good of all and the environment. I will vote for this recommendation as a priority but it is also the recommendation that I’m most disappointed with! It has a lack of ambition that fails to address the urgency required for change.

  Too often integrated traffic schemes fail because they try to accommodate the current use of cars too much. Other road users are required to ‘get out of the way’ until expensive infrastructure is provided. Cars MUST be made to share the road

space with other users, it's really that simple! A 10mph speed limit or a no overtaking rule for motor vehicles would give other road users equal priority without being forced onto the pavement. This scheme is cheap and fast to implement and can be easily reversed if not successful. Only when it is faster to travel across the city using alternative transport will it become the popular option. If the aim really is to become the best city internationally then something radical is needed, there are cities that have been prioritising alternative transport for decades and are way ahead of Bristol.

- I think the best starting point would be to reimagine the M32 as suggested by one of the experts. A tunnel for cars, buses and green space in the roads place! A feasibility study please.

Comments from members who abstained from voting on recommendation 9:

- Cities in other countries with different urban situations and environments will not be suitable comparisons.
- Being a Bristol centric focus forgets people may need to drive out of Bristol and it should not be made difficult. Also cars can be needed for example disabled/elderly etc. Bristol has not put in place feasible alternatives but has made it very difficult to travel through Bristol which increases pollution as cars stuck in traffic. Before the RPZ commuters coming in to the city could use spaces for those commuting out – a good use of space.

  With the likely quick move to electric cars we should not go down a route of vilifying cars when they could become a cheap source (to the council as they are paid for by individuals) of environmental transport.

  However the public transport system should still be improved with a linked up public travel with a daily charge for using any public transport (buses/Severn Beach line) by debit/oyster card. Some form of ‘tube map’ would help simplify the routes.

Recommendation 10: Fundamentally reimagine the places we live so that they are people centred (i.e. create liveable neighbourhoods).

Comments supporting recommendation 10:

- love it; can we use shared local car rental schemes (A car rental for every street) so people can get rid of their cars.
- I raised a concern that while this is a wonderful idea and will work in many places, I live in an area of Stockwood that has no existing high street or hub of any kind. It is very residential with the nearest shops 20mins walk away. When I asked about considerations for these kinds of areas, I was fobbed off and told 'everywhere has something' before the facilitator moved on. I don't feel like the outer areas of Bristol have been considered when it comes to livable neighbourhoods.
- I think in all cases we should act with peoples needs in mind first and foremost.

- I think shifting the balance so it is always in favour of making roads ‘liveable’ through blocking rat runs if residents want it is brilliant.
- It just makes so much sense.
- This is more of a urgency. Liveable neighbourhood. Bristol liveability is in a big mess in most council houses.

Comments from members who abstained from voting on recommendation 10:

- Being a Bristol centric focus forgets people may need to drive out of Bristol and it should not be made difficult. Also cars can be needed for example disabled/elderly etc. Bristol has not put in place feasible alternatives but has made it very difficult to travel through Bristol which increases pollution as cars stuck in traffic. Before the RPZ commuters coming into the city could use spaces for those commuting out – a good use of space.

  With the likely quick move to electric cars we should not go down a route of vilifying cars when they could become a cheap source (to the council as they are paid for by individuals) of environmental transport.

  However I would like greener more pleasant areas to live in - but just banning cars will lead to lots of empty tarmac which is of limited value.

- I have no idea what 'liveable neighbourhoods' are in this context.

Recommendation 11: Get people involved and engaged in the planning and implementation of transport initiatives. Make the process accessible, responsive and fun!

Comments supporting recommendation 11:

- Accessibility is key here. Not everyone has social media. I don't have Facebook. Make this something that can't be avoided or missed.
- community engagement in all 3 areas is a must and should happen across the board
- How many and how would ‘people’ be involved in such a scheme?
- There are some great actions in this recommendation that could easily sit in other Transport recommendations as well.
- Transport improvement festival can also join with Climate Change festival
- The elderly and vulnerable would probably not want or be able to participate in this, especially if it's online or out of their area. they would be the ones who would be ignored about the increase in bicycle lanes and reduction in car accessibility, particularly for hospitals and train stations.

Comments opposing recommendation 11:

- Do we just throw the word “accessible” in anywhere because it sounds good then?

Comments from members who abstained from recommendation 11:

- Not sure if the actions move this issue forward.

How should we tackle health inequalities in Bristol?

Recommendation 12: Prioritise a healthy and inclusive environment for all Bristol citizens and require businesses to act with corporate social responsibility

Comments supporting recommendation 12:

- Bringing big corporates that are slowly dominating areas of the city into a higher tax bracket/ contribution to healthier green areas. Rose gardens should be throughout the city.
- This should be embedded into all business practice across the city.
- Overall under Health seems a lack of focus in homelessness, drug use and mental health.
- I was part of the group that drafted this recommendation and feel it lost its focus a little. Given more time I feel we could have moved it towards something more coherent.

Recommendation 13: Empower local communities in the decision making process to deliver the services and activities that they want in order to promote healthy lifestyle choices

Comments supporting recommendation 13:

- Involve all the Ethnic / BAME groups to speak at Citizens assembly initiatives
- Again, I think this crosses over and should apply across all recommendations as a given that community is at the heart of deciding changes being made.
- Overall under Health seems a lack of focus in homelessness, drug use and mental health.
- Bearing in mind pockets of diverse and ethnic communities around Bristol.
- Builds upon creating local communities with an identity and citizen involvement.

Comments from members who abstained from voting on recommendation 13:

- The fragmentation of expressed requirement would be difficult to combine across the different demographic and developed areas of the city

Recommendation 14: Increase access to diverse and high quality employment opportunities to close the gaps within health inequalities.

Comments supporting recommendation 14:

- Especially since the Digital quarter of Bristol up and coming, equal opportunities for all to be included.
- I want to change my career to support these initiatives. Focus should be on those who are passionate and who want to help, not on their qualifications.

- yes, education and employment opportunities and access to them across all age groups
- Overall under Health seems a lack of focus in homelessness, drug use and mental health.
- The recommendation could have a little additional wording to really bring out the links between employment and health outcomes. It almost feels like two recommendations as-is.
- Young people should be provided with opportunities and also more jobs for those middle groups who didn't start a career when they were younger.
- Support LOCAL businesses and clamp down on less - than minimum wage employers. Minimum wage payers should pay more if the turnover and/or profit margin is able to sustain increased wages to reduce child hunger and state benefit top -ups and reduce poverty.

Comments from members who abstained from voting on recommendation 14:

- How could this ever be the remit of the council?

Recommendation 15: Increase awareness and access to health information, education and services targeted according to local need

Comments supporting recommendation 15:

- Especially the BAME focused agencies.
- Overall under Health seems a lack of focus in homelessness, drug use and mental health.
- I think awareness should be equally spread not depending on which area you live.
- Posters in health centres would only be read by people visiting it, which is now minimal, so alternative advertising is key.

Recommendation 16: All departments of the Council must take on the mandate to reduce health inequalities and improve the health of all citizens in the city with a focus on accountability, partnership and transparency when measuring and using public health data

Comments supporting recommendation 16:

- I think it's very telling that every group has asked for accountability and transparency. There is little trust that much of this will change.
- With so many good solutions known, measurement and accountability are key to securing ongoing progress
- Overall under Health seems a lack of focus in homelessness, drug use and mental health.
- Data and resources should be shared across the board to enable (health) and welfare cases and shared to enable departments to work together so that health and welfare cases can be dealt with quickly and efficiently

Recommendation 17: Invest in an equitable start to life from pre-birth to young adults (up to 25)

Comments supporting recommendation 17:

- Supporting all young mums especially those coming out of care / foster/ prison institutions.
- It would be impossible to find a ‘one size fits all’ programme.
- Overall under Health seems a lack of focus in homelessness, drug use and mental health.
- Although I do believe there is already a lot of support for pre-birth like start for life and lots of community groups already for young children. I have a 2 year old and have had loads of support.
- Nutrition should be taught in schools and pre- natal classes as nutrition affects everything about body and mind development and will hopefully, reduce obesity and the accompanying health problems. Opportunities for sports and skills development for all, especially lower income families, will also help towards life skills for jobs as well as better health in the short and long term.