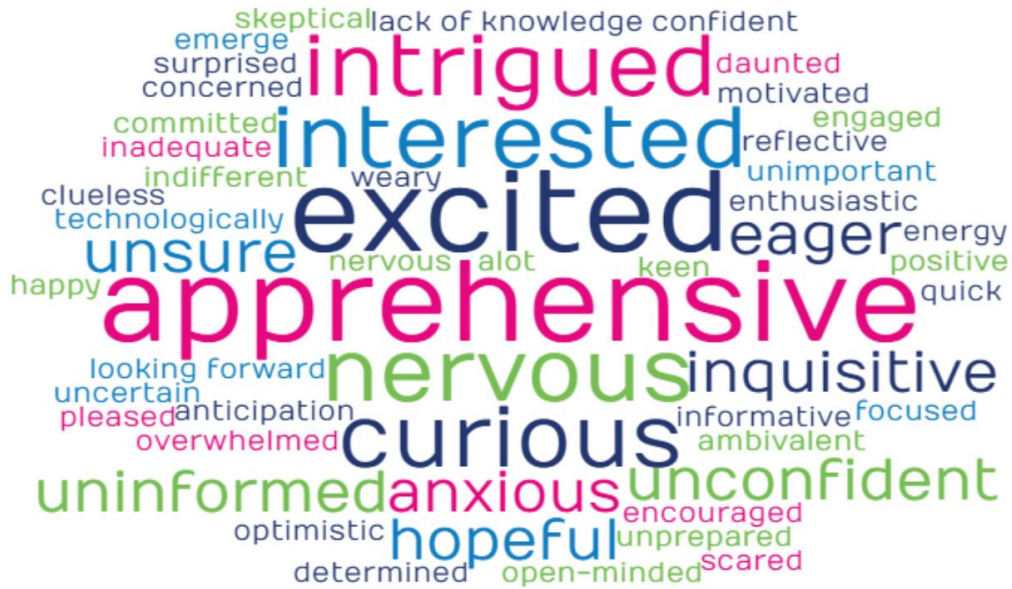




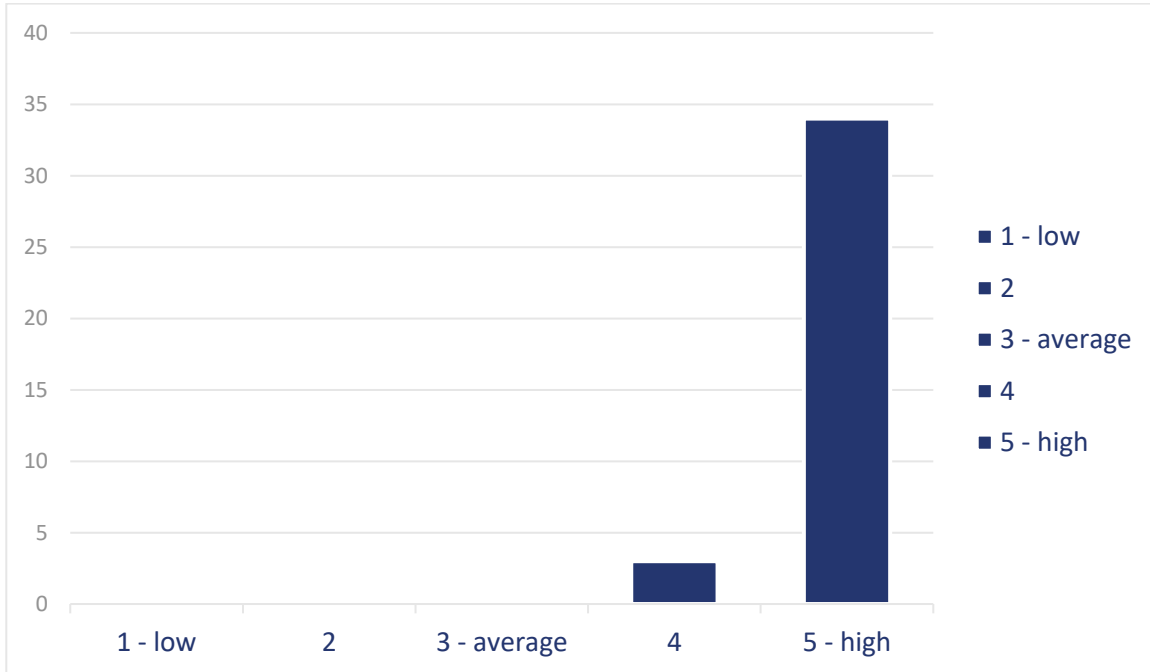
# Cynulliad Hinsawdd Climate Assembly

**Feedback**

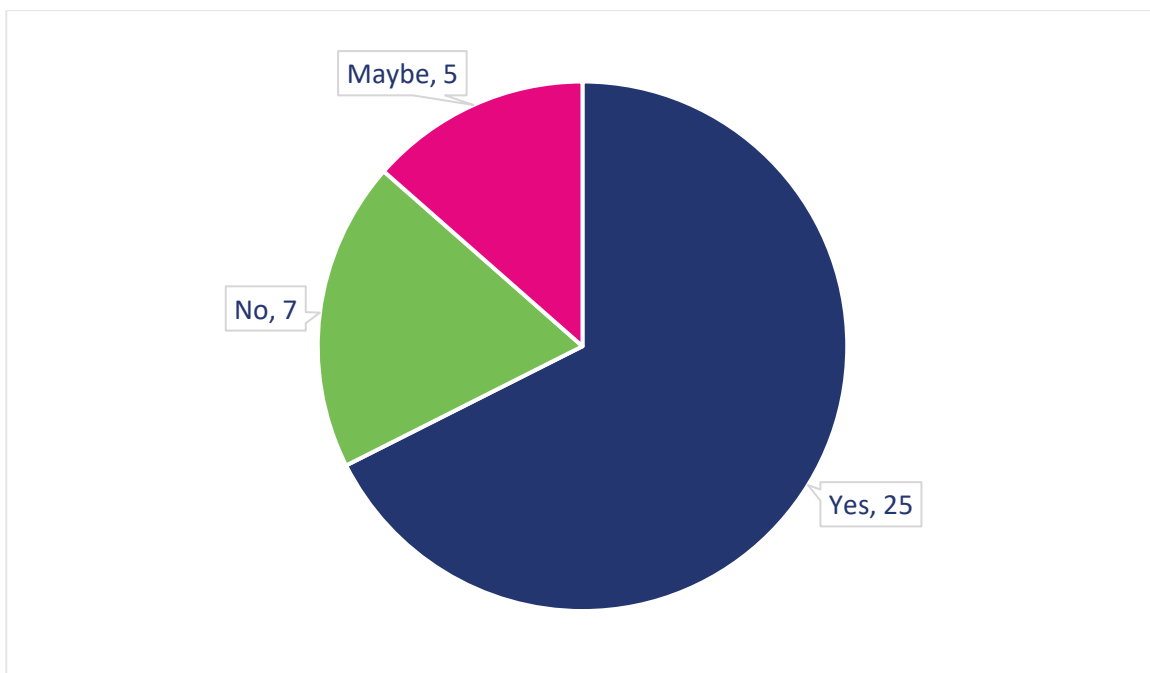
1. Please write three words to describe how you felt at the start of the Assembly?



2. Please rate the quality of tech support you received during the Assembly?

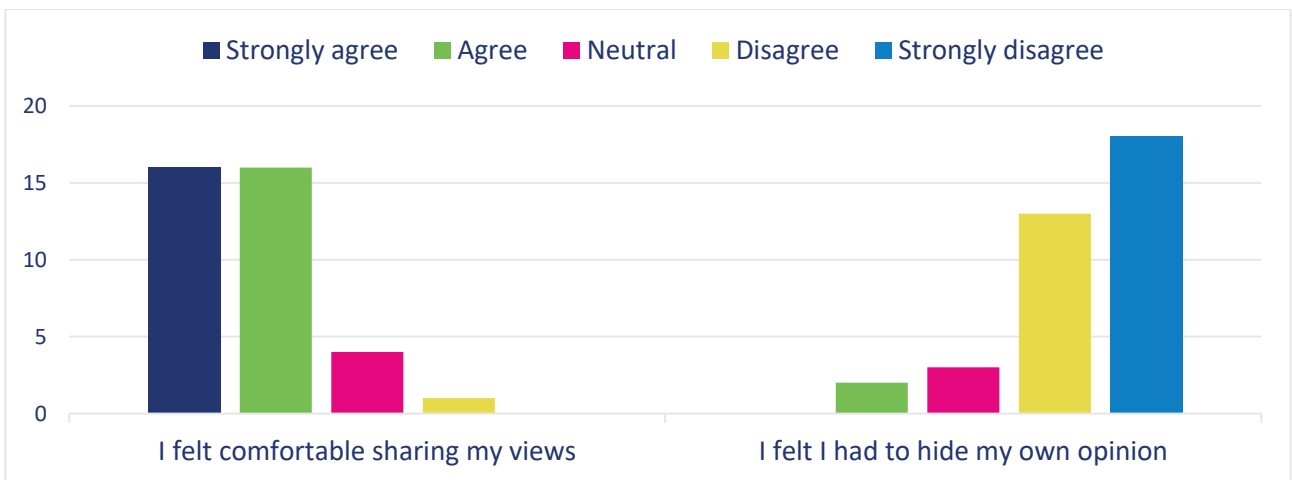
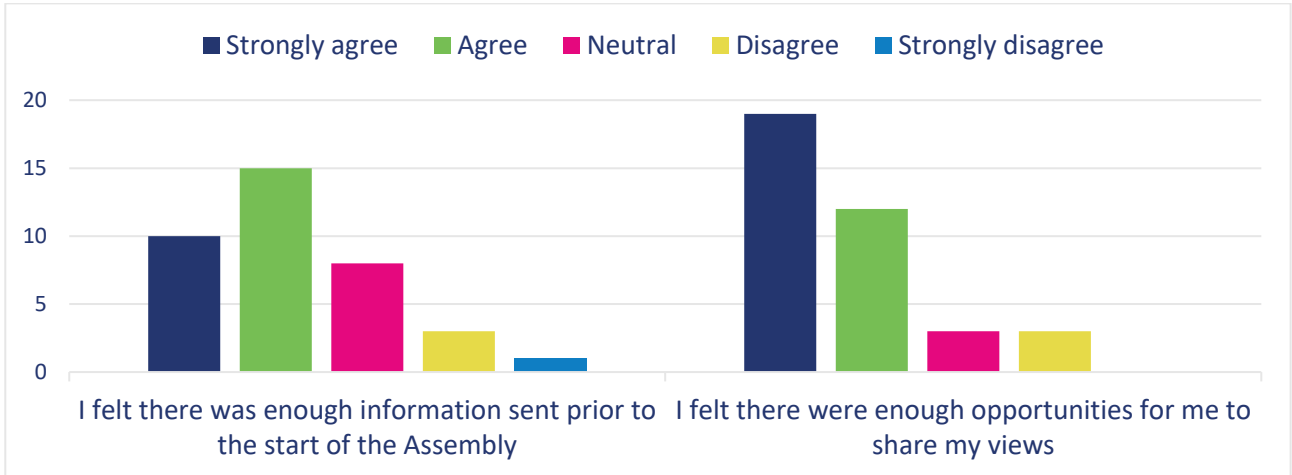


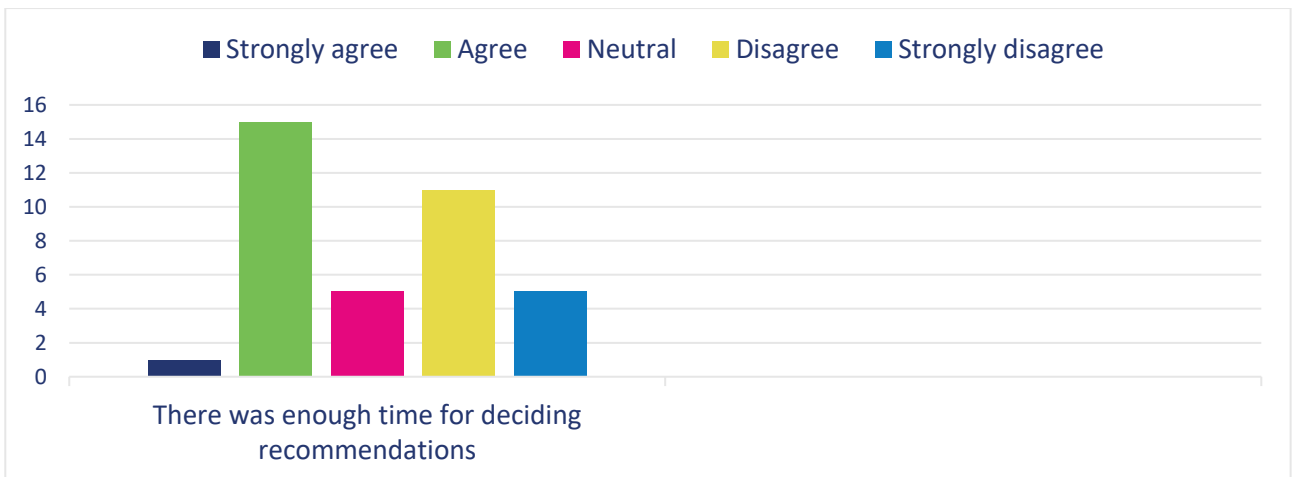
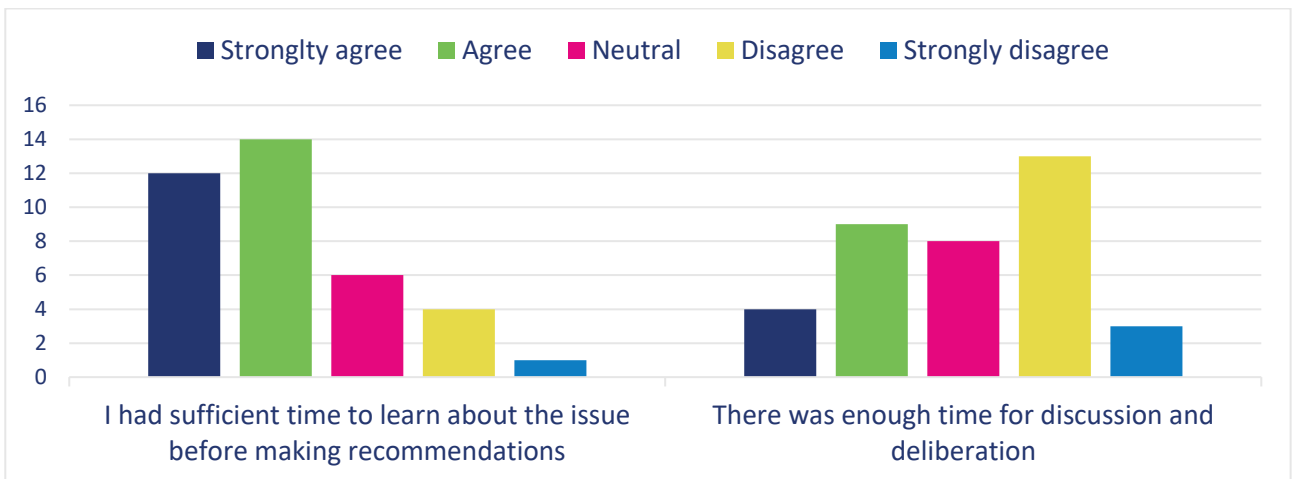
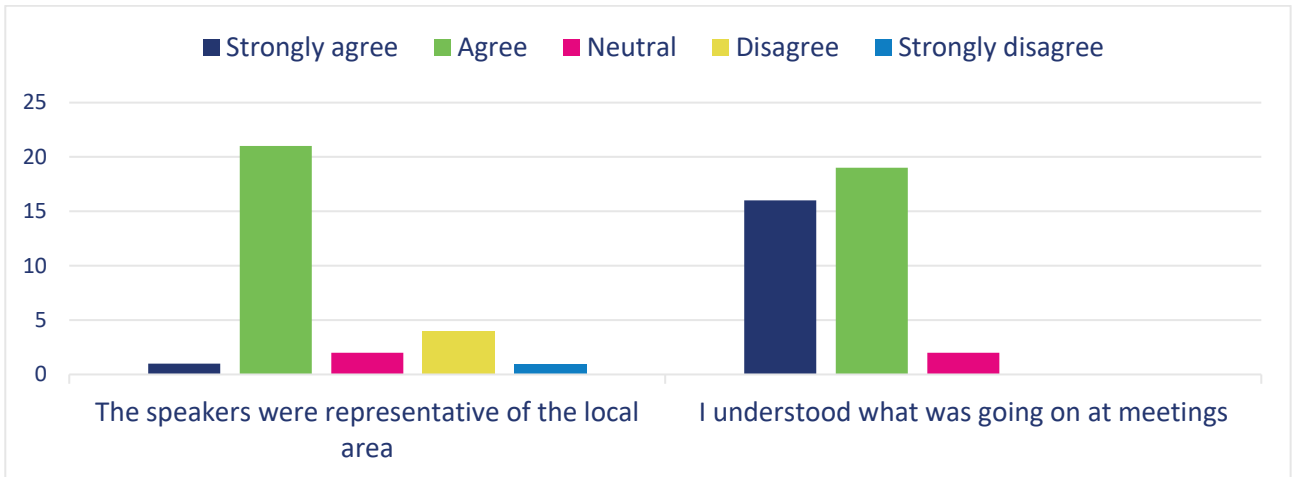
3. Do you feel the Assembly process increased your confidence with using technology?



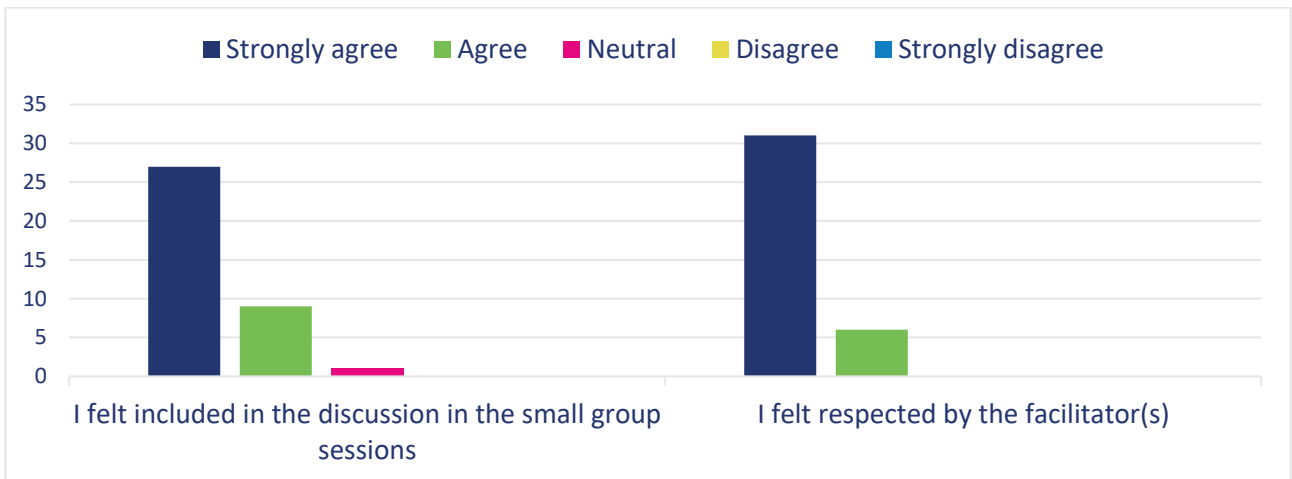
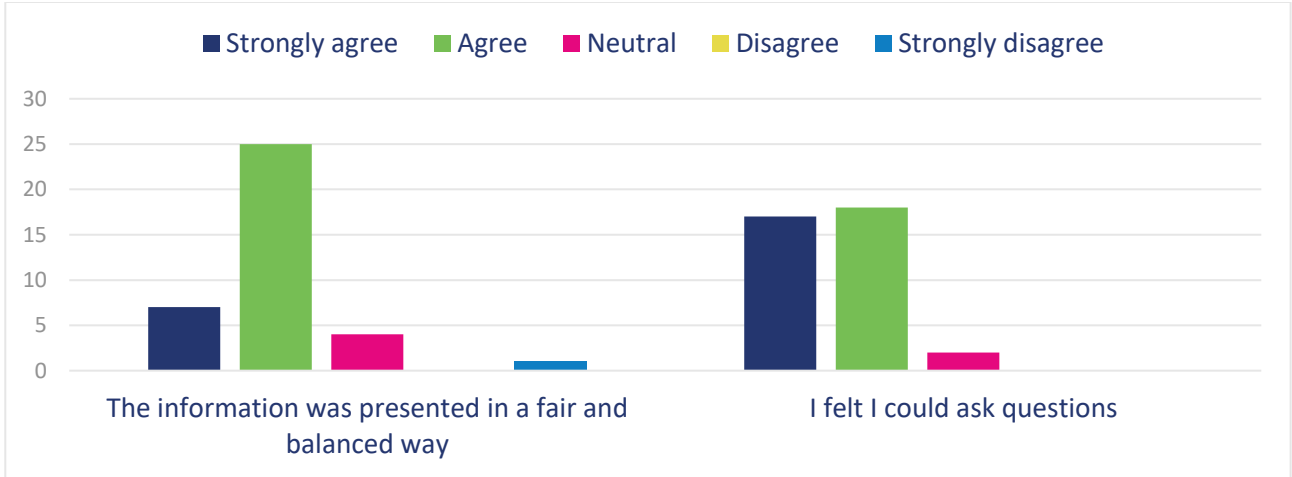
4. We would like to understand your experience of the speakers and participation in the sessions.

To what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements?

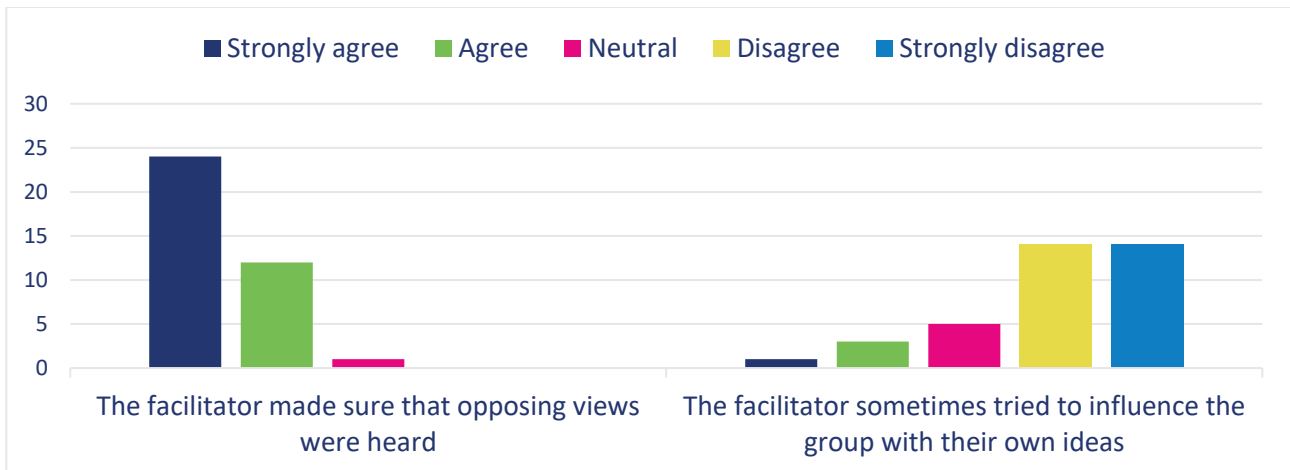




5. We would like to understand your experience of the speakers and participation in the sessions. To what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements?



5. We would like to understand your experience of working with the facilitator team. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



6. Please tell us how you think the Assembly process could have been improved?

More detailed learning phase. More time when discussing and refining recommendations.

I felt that the sessions could have been a little more spaced out. It was hard to concentrate for 5 hours on consecutive days

If we were given more time to discuss

More time when listening to speakers

Some of the sessions were rushed

An assembly of humans in the same room would be much better. If using Zoom more time available for break out sessions.

Not sure

1. The earlier sessions were at times too rushed with insufficient time either for discussion or reflection. Consequently, some serious issues which require serious thought were perhaps glossed over.

2. I appreciate that the Zoom format does not lend itself to 'plenary' sessions, but the occasional such discussion could nonetheless have been useful to enable participants briefly to explain/argue for their points to everybody at the same time.

Had it followed scientific discipline by eliminating presumption in the framing of the key question it would have allowed for clear balanced and scientifically valid alternate arguments. But this assembly did not do that, and acted from the outset as a political vehicle with an agenda. There



are many prominent speakers on this subject that could have been invited to present ideas for deliberation, but there was no will to be inclusive.

No vote at the end of the assembly

Greater coordination between main facilitator and breakout facilitators to ensure they were providing the same message. We all filter information, therefore written instructions between main and breakout facilitators would ensure a consistent message and approach.

I think there could have been more time to come up with our recommendations as this felt very rushed. We were not given enough time to read the poll recommendations and vote. We were rushed to vote so we had to pick quickly without being able to think fully about the response.

Maybe more deliberation time

More time for deliberation on recommendations

the percentage to pass should have been based at 65%

I would like to have had time to hear the speakers before having to identify questions. This does however only happen once. Sometimes it felt rushed. I was unhappy that the suggestion was made that we lower the % vote for recommendations. This really didn't sit well with me at all particularly as we were assured by Susan that the Commissioners would see all of the results of the deliberations. A system had been set up and should have been adhered to even if it is later deemed to be imperfect

More time for the speakers to say what they needed to and information about the speakers given to us before they came to speak with us would have been helpful. It may have allowed us to prepare questions relevant to what they were telling us.

Some sessions were slightly rushed so maybe slightly longer sessions although I'm aware this is difficult as normally it wouldn't be done via Zoom.

I have no current ideas on this.

Considering that it was the 1st time for an assembly like this held, I felt that right from the initial postal invite & even now with this feedback form.... This isn't much that I'd say would need improving on (I'd say other some other members would definitely disagree with me there).

Not so much as an improvement, but a possible tweaking with regards to assembly members. I found that some were clearly focused on and very opinionated about their reasons for taking part which came through more and more over time. I felt that this did waste some time during discussions but also came through when it came time to making the actual recommendations - which was nuts because we were given the option to choose what area/topic we would like to be put into the day before...

I think that if members are 'placed' into or grouped around their reasons for taking part i.e - Those who feel strongly about Green Spaces and Nature... from the start then the results could





have been more Positive or Negative when voting instead of the high percentage of Neutral votes that were submitted.

Maybe not doing the rooms to discuss topics in advance of the talks.

More time allocated to discuss our recommendations, prior to finalising them

More time for deliberation & recommendations. Very rushed in 10mins per area.

More time for deliberation and recommendations

7. Which topics would you have liked to explore more? These can be topics included in the Assembly or additional ones that were not covered.

Rising sea temperatures and the effects

poverty

Population Control

Electric vehicles

Nuclear

Recycling poverty

Education , communication

Businesses and everything discussed was rushed and did not allow real chance to unravel and discuss the topics decided!

Green spaces.

Waste and recycling.

The reason for GW and more emphasis on potential consequences

i would have liked to have learned more about wind turbines

Peoples jobs and their impact on climate change as they are a large part of most peoples lives.

re-forestation

Education

Education

Solar power



The overall approach to climate change in the UK rather than the limiting question that was posed.

It would have been good to discuss issues around waste/recycling a bit and how people can be encouraged to reduce their waste

It would have been interesting to have involved some elected BG councillors in the process. Perhaps also more exploration of the rôle of political activism.

The energy industry in the broad sense and more specific. But the subject of energy did not even make it to the final recommendations. I find this shocking, as the energy industry is the industry that drives every other industry.

The use of hydropower as well as solar and wind power

Nature and green spaces. Community green power.

Education

Waste and recycling, renewable energy, recreation and green spaces

Refuse and recycling and transport

a discussion around planting in parks

The production and distribution of locally grown produce.

How the individual can help with climate change. We could then be empowered to be champions in our own social circles to try and effect a change.

Education

Jobs and Skills

I can honestly say that - I was completely clueless when the whole idea of Climate Change or any reason for why an assembly was being held for it... So the amount of topics I felt were just right to allow for good, focused debating.

As for the content given via the experts was great - clear, understandable and highlighting why the need for change is needed and then the hopeful way of how they will be changing. If a member felt that they hadn't been given enough information or wanted to now more indepth, Like myself... nothing stopped them from going online and researching.

I loved doing that as I was learning and finding out what the topic was actually about, it helped me make my voting honest. If there are any plans for future Assemblies, Learning sessions with the experts/representatives maybe be longer (timewise).

I felt all topics were explained adequately

Nature & green spaces

Community and how they can be engaged with and educated about climate change



## 8. Please tell us one thing you learned from the process?

Community projects

respect

The state of the planet

More about climate change and its effects

None

I learnt a lot to much to name

That we all need to change the way we live

Trust the people!

It's important to Express your views.

That Climate Change involves far more than I originally thought.

An appreciation of the importance of local action

i gained a deeper knowledge and understand of the climate crisis and how important it is to make changes.

That there are good projects happening behind the scenes.

There are some people who feel that their point of view should be paramount and overpower the views of others

That my opinion is valued

There's alot of information

Importance of planting trees

There are a great many people in BG who are very passionate and interested in their area of residence.

That peat bogs are good for capturing carbon emissions

Having previously been a little aware of the existence and rôle of citizens' assemblies, it was good to have my generally favourable 'theoretical' position on them reinforced by being part of the practical process.

I learned that I was correct in the end that this was always going to be a politically bias exercise.

That people are interested in climate changemore

In depth knowledge of climate change, the number of academics willing to pass on that knowledge.

I learnt so much about climate change and the difference I can make.

Welcome to the Woods programme

Nothing is as simple as it seems

that coming together as a team can change things for the better

That I'm still able to think

That everyone needs to do more and it needs to be now not 'soon'

How more things effect the planet than I'd realised.

The urgency if the situation.

\*Climate Change/Crisis\* in full.... What it actually is, What it is affecting and causing, What's needed to end it & The awful result for the future world if we don't do anything!.

I learnt what climate change actually was and the impact we have as individuals on the planet

One of many things learned is the subject of Retrofitting as I had little knowledge of this prior to the assembly.

A lot about climate change & I loved the wide variety of demographics in speakers

How an assembly works



## 9. Has being part of the Assembly made you more or less likely to take action in relation to climate change and why?

More because I am more conscious of my actions

yes definitely, understanding and knowledge

More likely to take action since I am now better informed

Yes to help the planet for future generations

Yes, to seek out more information

Yea because of the damages it causes

More

Yes! Have tried in work!

More likely.

At my time of life action would be somewhat restricted but whole-hearted.

Yes. I was already persuaded of the cause. More so because I'm not convinced that ordinary people either understand the issue and its potential ramifications or have much idea of the need for the basic changes in lifestyle needed to effectively tackle it

Having gained a deeper knowledge of the climate crisis i will definitely be making changes where I can, it has highlighted the need to change our habits in order to protect the planet.

More, from looking at the figures I can see what deadline we have.

I feel that I am happy to continue working to change our way of life gradually but irritated by some of the scare mongering of some of the speakers

More likely because I now understand how much of a problem it is in my area.

More likely because I now understand how much of a problem it is in my area.

Same as I was trying to take action anyway

More likely as wasn't aware of the extent

I have undertaken a great deal of research on the subject and I find myself on the other side of the argument. There has always been climate change and there will always be climate change. Human beings have very little impact on the climate and some of the radical proposals to "save " the world are immensely damaging and will impact those most in need. The poor and the economically limited are going to suffer enormously if many of these plans are implemented. There is very little discussion of the benefits of a warming planet and the fact that just like other members of the animal kingdom evolution will take care of many of those problems. If you investigate the true cost of achieving the Paris Accord you soon discover that many countries will return to the Dark Ages as the ever increasing cost escalates and their citizens suffer. Please



continue to keep an open mind and do your own research. Finally if you read just one book proposing alternatives select "False Alarm" by Bjorn Lumberg.

I have already been taking action as my family and I try to reduce our waste, only purchase items we need and make environmentally conscious choices.

Probably more likely - already fairly active politically, the Assembly has 'sharpened' my awareness,

Yes. I value human life and will do what I can to contribute to its flourishing. Something that I do not see in the policies that are the outcome of this process.

More involvedth

Yes - for Future Generations. The Well Being for Future Generations Act.

It has made me more likely to take action as I now have the confidence.

I already take considerable action but it has has educated me further on the issue.

More due :to the information provided

more action i am determined to make a difference

Yes because it's brought the topic to the front of my mind

Yes. I feel worried for our future if we continue living as we are. I have already started making changes to my own lifestyle and have been encouraging others to do the same.

More...I am now more aware.

More likely as there are smaller things that i will start to implement in my life

Most definitely YES, this is based on the horrible thought that my children, my grandchildren (if or when I have any) etc.... Could end up living in a world without experiencing such things as;

- Seasons and what happens during them (Seeing trees become full and green through spring or cwtching up in a warm thick blanket when winter brings us the cold or snow.
- Being able to breathe naturally as the air is fresh and clear of pollution and other crap.

When future generations are being taught about history, and why the world is in a bad place...the thought that it was because although my generation were given the chance to help stop climate change. But did nothing is not the legacy I'd like to be part of.

Yes we as a family have already started to change our way of living. We need to act now to make a difference

Yes, I feel more confident and proactive, will become more involved and take a more active stance within the future.

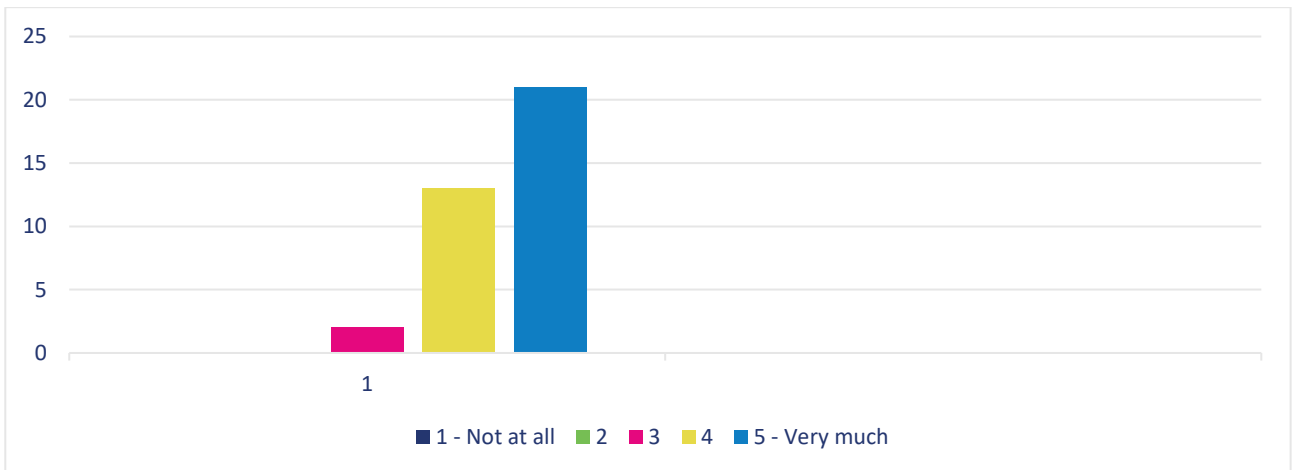
More because I understand the importance

More likely to make change as I feel more educated and informed

10. Please write three words to describe how you felt at the end of the Assembly?



11. Overall, how much did you enjoy the Assembly?



## 12. Any other comments?

Many, but none I believe this platform would be motivated to do anything about.

Thank you to all those involved in the process for the opportunity

Very Good until the last 20 minutes, then all control was lost. It was like a Car Crash.

I was impressed by the commitment shown by the admin staff.

really enjoyed being a part of this assembly, i am pleased that I have had some part in contributing to the changes Blaenau Gwent are making in response to the climate crisis

Thank you for the opportunity!

The process was well coordinated and well supported technically and by highly skilled facilitators. There was obviously a great deal of work being done behind the scenes

N/a

One again I would like to thank all facilitators, scribes and technical staff who managed a very difficult exercise with consummate skill, humour and professionalism.

Heartening to see a cross-section of fellow BG people commit to taking part fully, to getting stuck in to such a crucial issue.

I hope something will now happen

Amazing people with lots of fantastic ideas, if the world was full of peoples like this what a fabulous place to live in ..

A wonderful experience which I would like to repeat someday

Very pleased with the whole processed

Now realise how important the contribution of us little people is (bad grammar, sorry).

I am not convinced that significant numbers of participants either understood the basic issue or had a clue of the real effective measures needed to tackle it. Nor did many fully appreciate the purpose of the Assembly - all too often the discussion degenerated into a 'whats in it for us and why can't the Council do a, b ,c etc" approach Many of the discussions were to be absolutely frank vacuous e.g. on a number of occasions many delegates suggested wood burning stoves as a way to simultaneously tackle CC and fuel poverty. [One member spoke] about their data showing 'CC was all wrong' ... I think a better modus operandi would be for experts to put before the [Assembly] a series of alternative ideas and let debate rip. One bone of contention was little real mention of where the money for enacting ideas was to come from. I think incidently the debacle at the end of the Assembly re. few clear cut recommendations clearly demonstrated much of the above. The attempt to drop the target from 80% to 60% consensus on recommendations said it all - disappointment on the part of organizers as the realization dawned that there was in effect little agreement on what needs to be done and those recommendations that did stand 'tepid" in the extreme . One thing for sure is though that I'm even more convinced





of the need to publicize CC. Also we must not allow ourselves the luxury of not tackling unworkable suggestions head on. These days 'respect' is just a by-word for trying to ignore ignorance.

I believe some of the very good recommendation failed due to their wording. Therefore much more time needed to refine and refine final proposals. Consider a 75% threshold for recommendations to pass.

I think we were all tired at the end of the process when we started to vote. Not sure if the voting process was clearly explained which led to confusion and the process was nearly at the point of collapse.

For the future. Perhaps the list of recommendations could be presented to assembly members to reflect upon over night.

All start afresh the following day, clear instructions on the voting system and its implications. But well done Susan for holding it together at the end. Good luck for Future Assemblies. I hope you all also learnt from the process and are already considering improvements.

I was very disappointed with the ending. I felt the vote was very rushed and we didn't have time to read the poll as we were rushed to make a vote. I want to say thank you to all the facilitators, tech and scribes for doing a brilliant job. The speakers were brilliant and I learnt a lot.

Disappointed with the number of recommendations approved

thank you for the opportunity to make a difference for the future and the facilitators were outstanding

I'd like to thank the professionals who took us through and managed a disparate bunch of people with sensitivity and humour

Thank you to all of you who made it possible. The facilitators were great and really helped get people to share their thoughts in a comfortable way. Matt and Luke were fab!!!

I'm looking forward to see if the Assembly and its members have been able to give the Powers Of Be a Kick in the Butt and have executed some if any of our recommendations.

I would be willing to participate in any future assemblies or climate information sessions

I felt very frustrated at the end with the voting as felt that so much time had been spent working through the recommendations for them not to get the 80 percent . maybe if we could have been able to go back over and re evaluate them or more time had been given at the end to work through the rest of the groups suggestions then maybe I would have felt more satisfied that we had done all we could have.