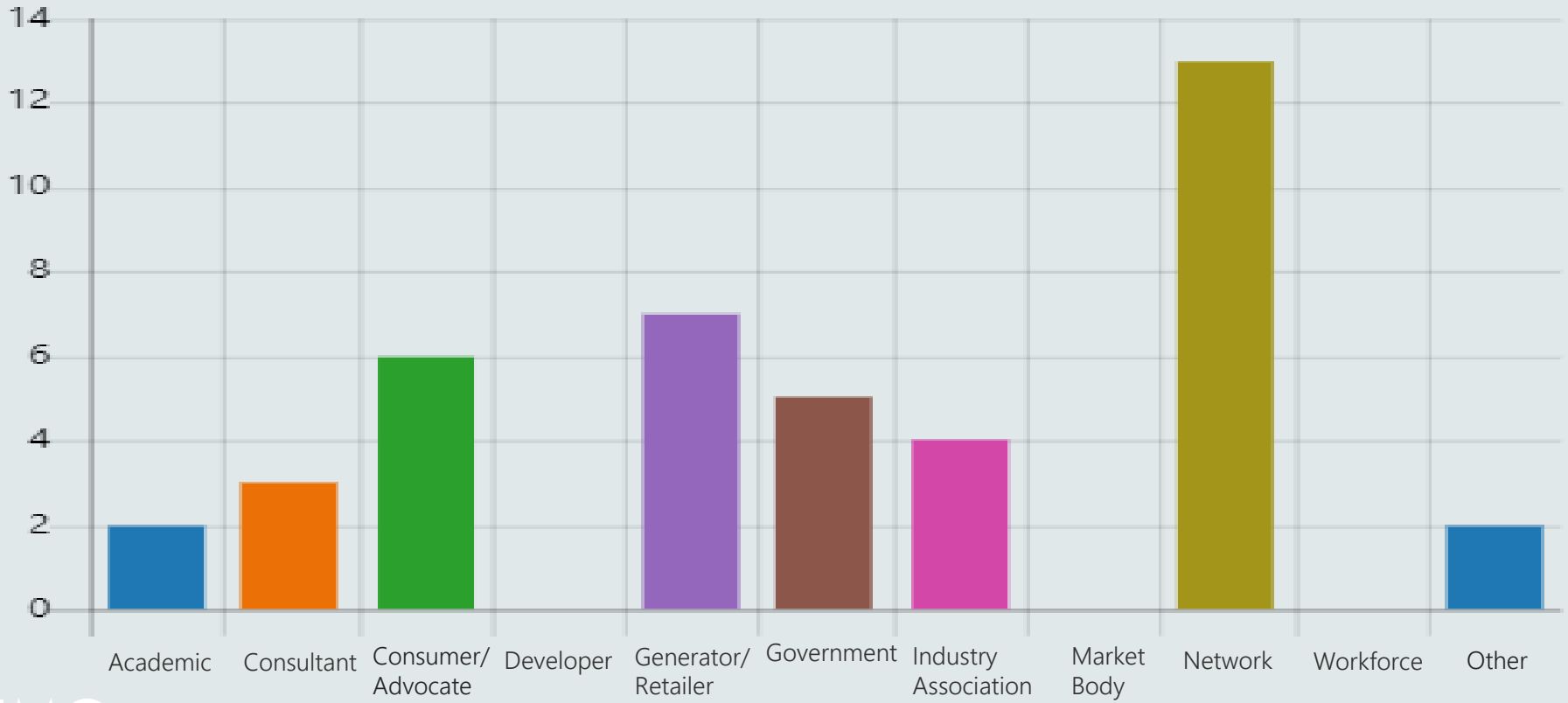
2021 FRG poll results

This presentation shows poll results on the Forecasting Reference Group (FRG) during the 27 October 2021 meeting

A range of stakeholders attend the FRG

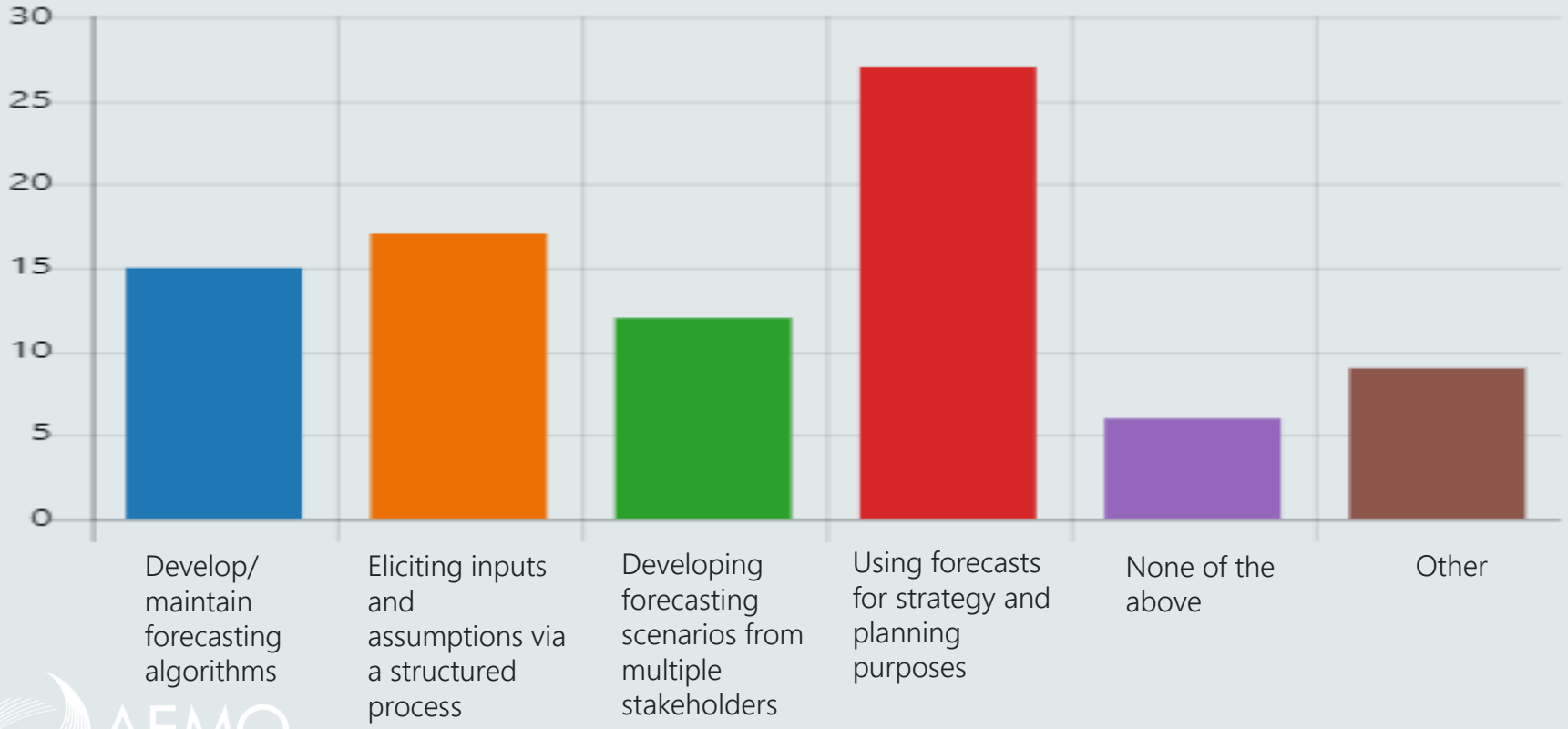
- Stakeholder Category (Select one response that best describes you)



Other:
- Consultant and Hydrogen Company (1)
- Investor (1)

Respondents have various professional experience

- What forecasting experience do you bring to the FRG? (Select all that apply)



Other:
- Industry experience
- Develop and monitor pricing strategy for resets
- Being previously involved within AEMO in forecasting
- Using forecasts for policy development; reviewing forecasts
- Contact with consumers
- Providing critical input into the processes
- Modelling and model interpretation
- Exploration of emerging technologies
- Using weather and demand data for scenario modelling

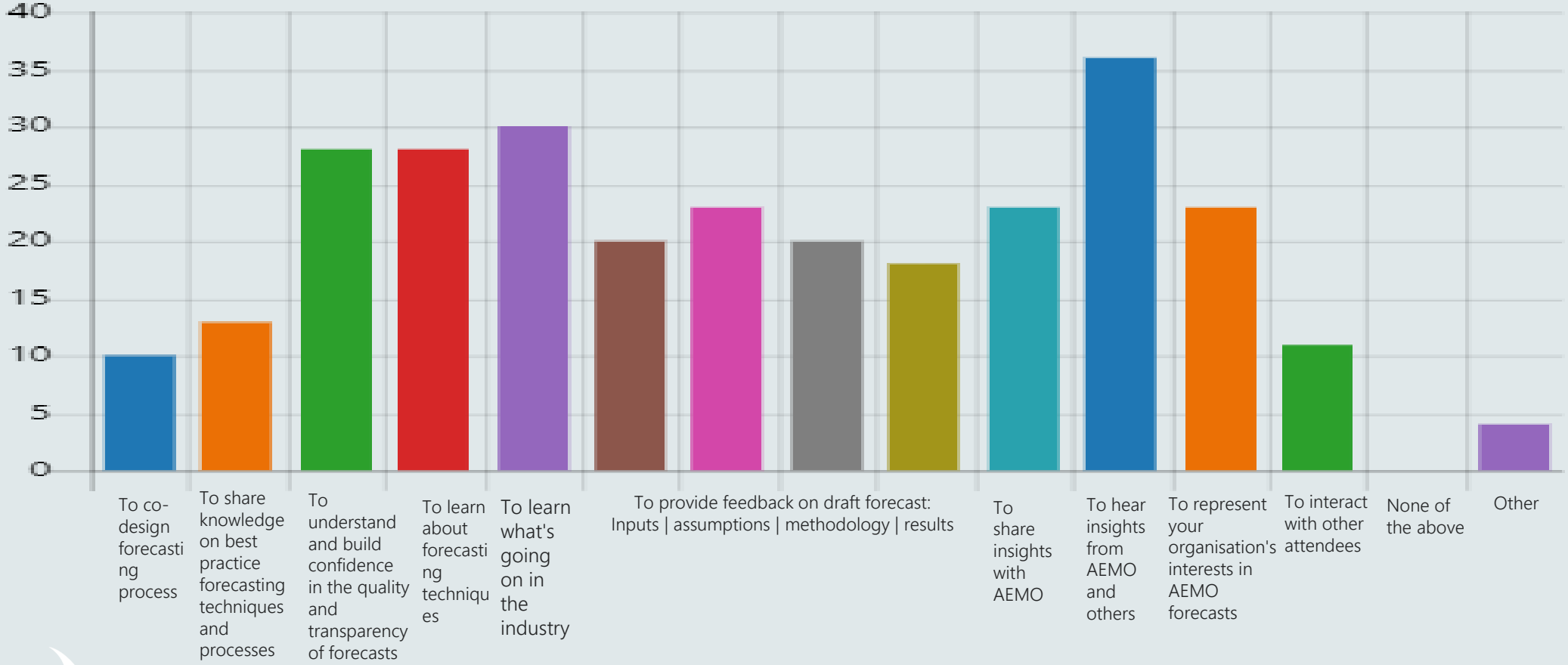
Respondents appreciate early circulation of meeting material

- For the last three FRG's you've attended, the amount of pre-reading you've had time for is: (Select one)

Other:
- I review relevant topics to assess participation in FRG meeting
- I always review the papers, so that I can ask someone else to attend if I can't
- New to the role, no FRG's attended

Multiple motivations drive respondents' FRG attendance

- Why do you attend the FRG? (Select all that apply)



Other:

- Provide critical input to the processes used and the development of the forecasts
- See FRG as a forum o share and discuss knowledge
- Critical to understand how AEMO forecasts are "reconciled" with NSP forecasts and how we can help to make all forecasts more accurate
- To understand expected trends in Victoria

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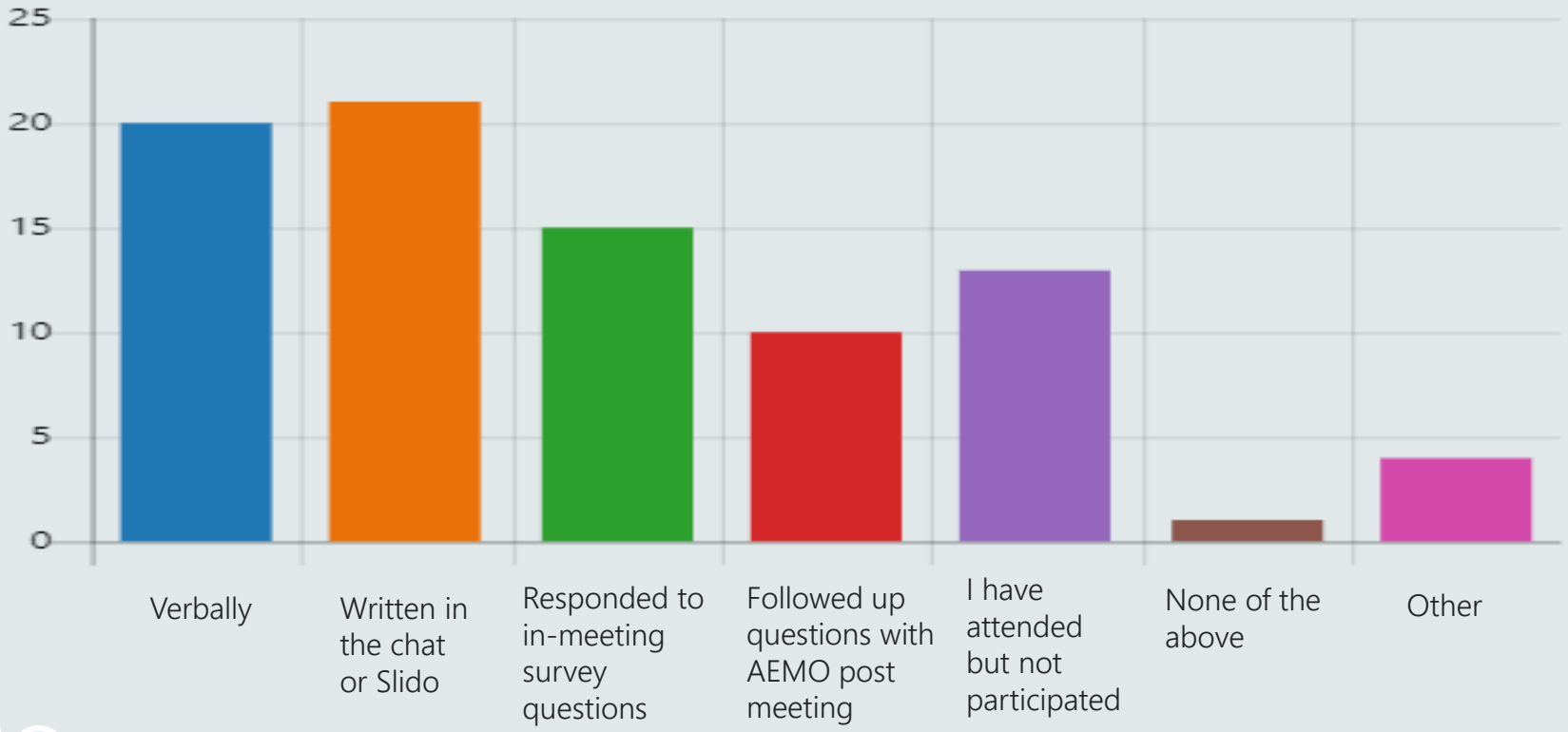
Not all respondents actively participate

- In the last 6 months, how have you participated in the FRG discussion? (Select all that apply)



Other:
- I find the size of the group intimidating, given my needs are very specific
- Time constrained currently and so attending for me is a luxury
- Engaged with AEMO staff outside the FRG process

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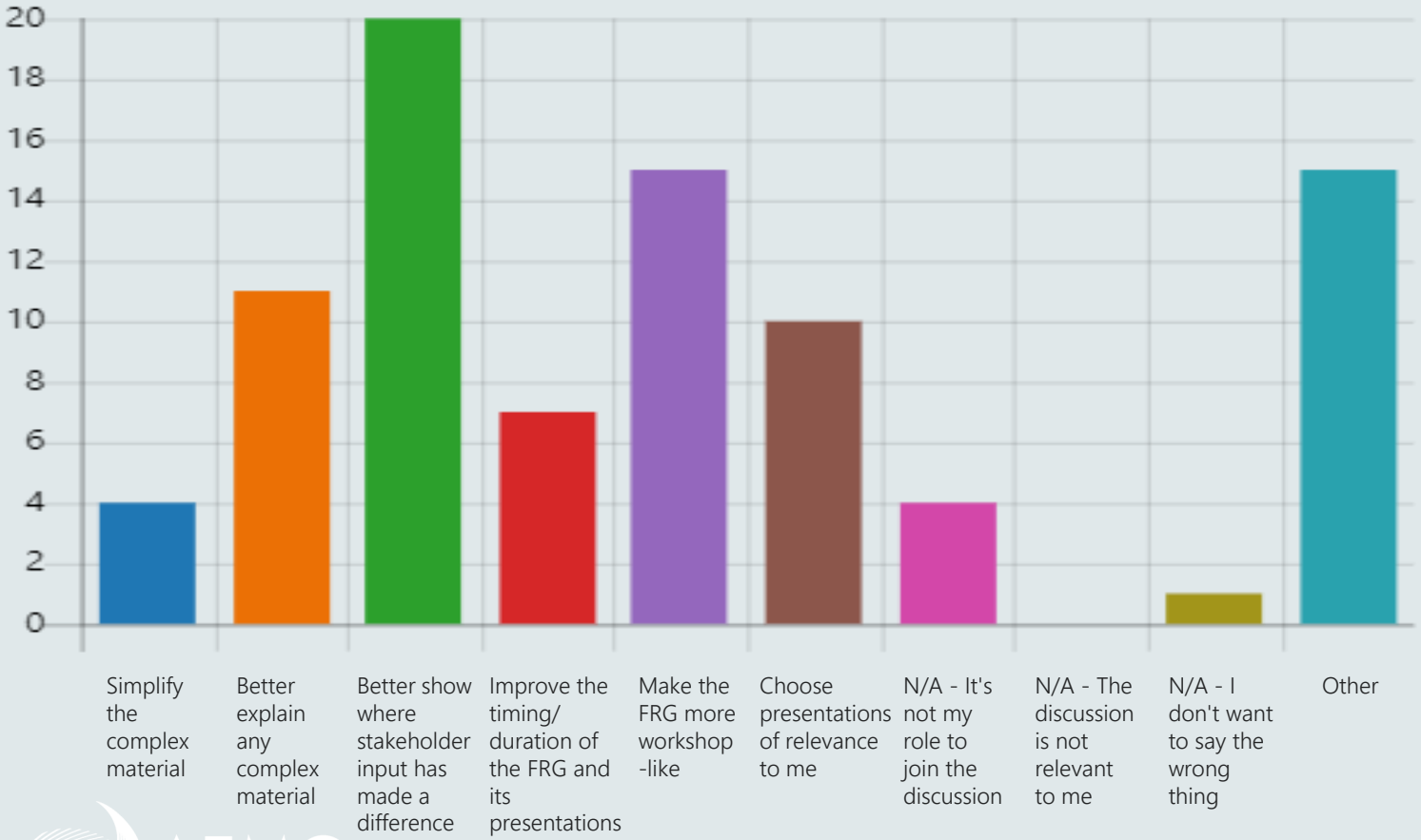
Better showing where stakeholder input has made a difference is a key improvement

- What should AEMO prioritise to secure your participation? (Select all that apply)

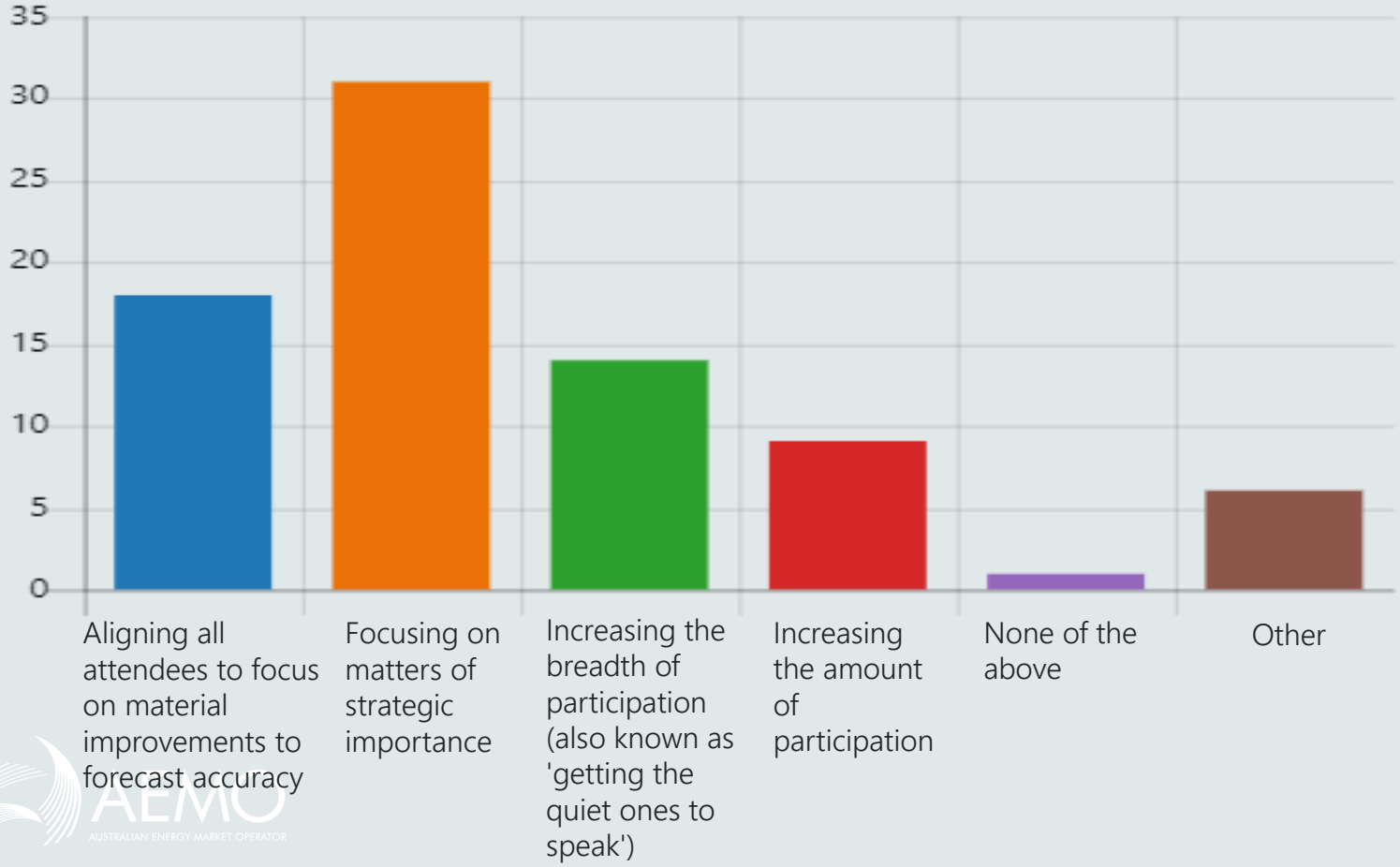


Other:

- It would be good to have targeted meeting for some participants, i.e. pricing managers, network planning, future networks
- I think the material is at the right level: don't dumb down. Discussion is good, but also need to keep it under control, which AEMO usually do well.
- Focus on material issues; explain materiality; explain how content will be used in ISP and other key documents
- Facilitating out of meeting discussion between FRG members to strengthen the forecasting knowledge pool overall
- Possibly offline participation? Perhaps a shared repository for working documents, like a Github or Confluence?
- More sharing/transparency with respect to detailed results
- Will input if there is a relevant point to make
- If the intention is to simplify presentations, it would be helpful to have more detailed appendices/packs to better understand and enable us to provide feedback on the impact of the forecasting
- I'm not sure how the forecasting per se is relevant to us, but just forecast data. Also my colleague who would be a more suitable attendee since she runs our scenario model
- The FRG is many things to many people. Difficult to be all things to all people. The AEMO-DNSP ISP 2022 WG is probably a better place to explore developing forecasting approaches to improve accuracy while minimising duplication, e.g. joint scenario testing. Perhaps its more about the FRG being a forum to share the more detailed work done elsewhere? So a \"forum\"?
- Forecasting is not my specialty and I often don't feel equipped to provide input
- Set out key questions in advance of meetings and/or email key questions following meetings
- I have been joining the FRG's to get informed about the AEMO forecasting, but I'm still trying to wrap my head around some of the concepts since I'm relatively new to the field.

Respondents want the FRG to focus on matters of strategic importance

- Reflecting on the FRG's culture over the past 12 months, what aspects should be a priority going forward? (Select all that apply)

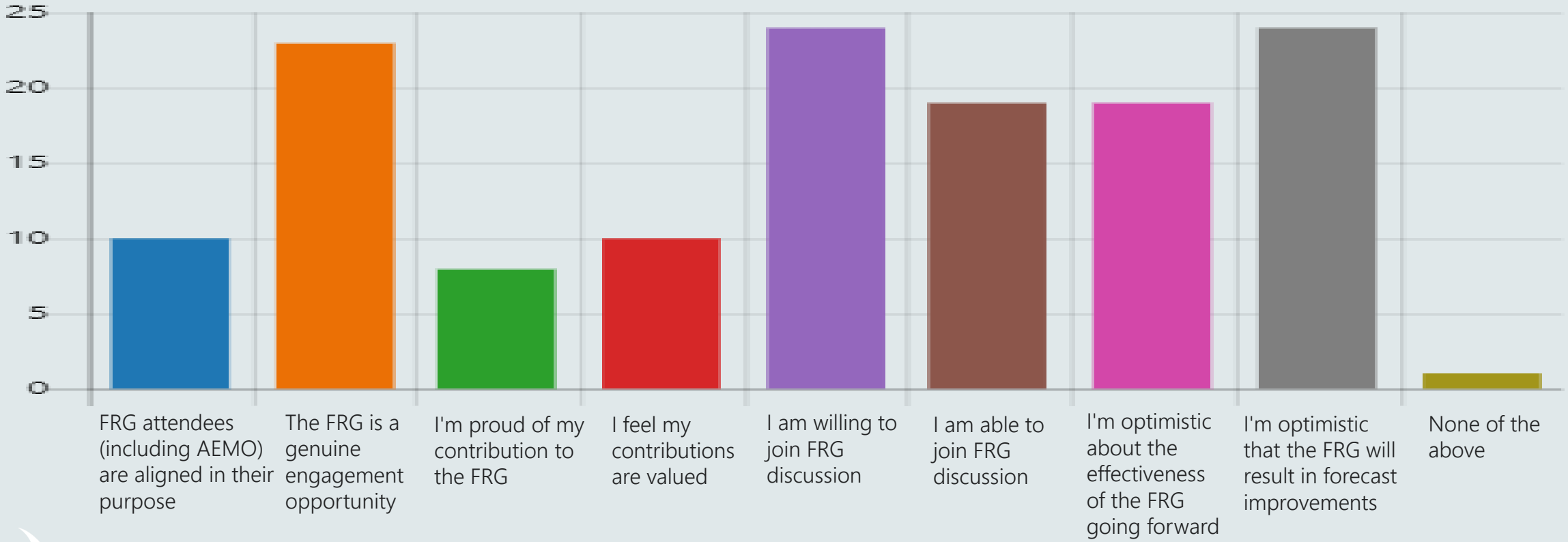


Other:

- Getting the loud ones to speak less
- Be clear about where FRG adds value and supplement it with other engagement tools to reach a broader audience
- Make all participants details and their company visible to all attendees. Clarify how information from the FRG can be used in the public arena.
- Facilitating participation in the meeting by encouraging all views and allowing time for this to occur
- I hear the same critical voices all the time. AEMO needs to find an approach to sometimes muting the loudest opinion.
- Ensuring the right people attend each FRG to deliver the outcomes needed by industry and AEMO (may not always be the same people). Targeted.

Respondents' varied outlooks suggest opportunities for improvement

- Which statements do you agree with (select all that apply)?



Respondents want to engage across the engagement spectrum*

- Going forward, how do you expect to engage in FRG meetings? (Select all that apply)

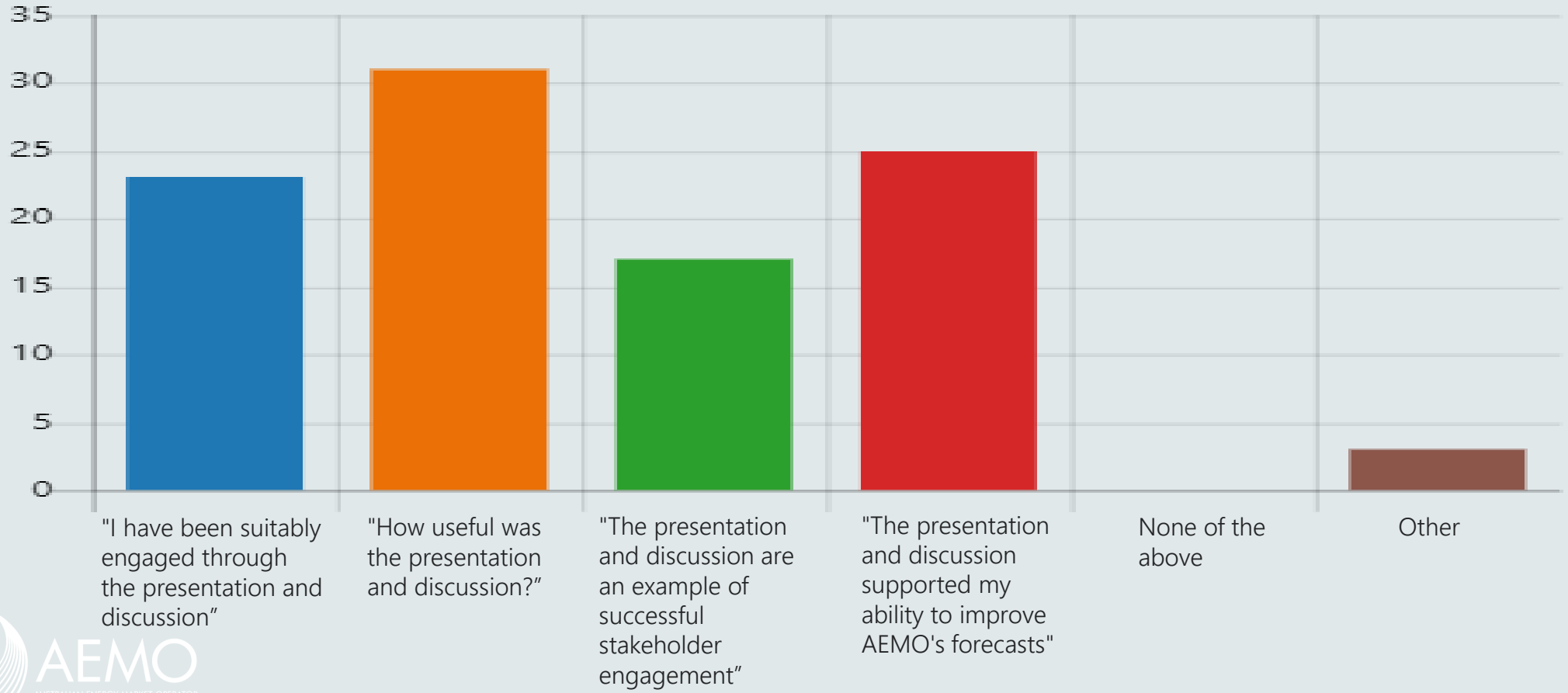
Other:

- Be able to provide critical input to the processes and the development of the forecasts
- But as indicated earlier, perhaps FRG is not the correct vehicle for detailed work?
- There may be merit in engaging in sub-groups with different types of stakeholders, like those that are wanting to improve the forecasting methodology v those that want to be informed
- Collaborating with AEMO on modelling future low-carbon grids
- Ample time to provide feedback post meeting

* Note: this poll question did not introduce or explain the IAP2 spectrum and terminology

Utility is the most popular engagement metric

Which of the following questions are suitable for measuring effective engagement, using a scale of 1 – strongly disagree, to 5- strongly agree? (Select all that apply)

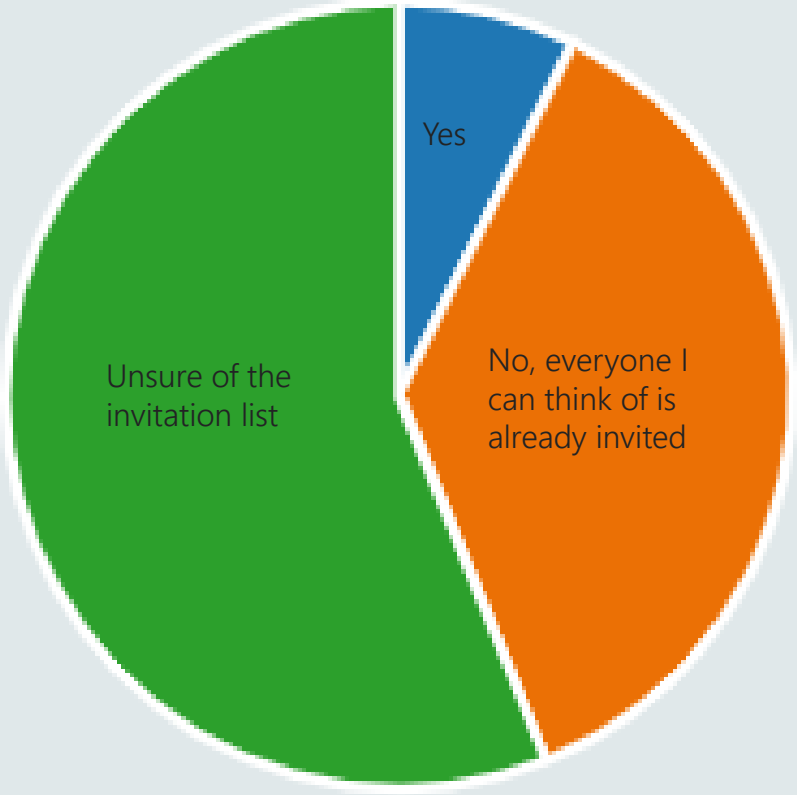


Other:

- I have been suitably informed on forecasting approaches
- The FRG process facilitates engagement through the presentation and discussion process
- My feedback was heard and valued

Most respondents are unsure of the invitation list

- Should the FRG include any specific or types of stakeholders that don't currently attend? (choose one)



Other:

- Stronger contributions from DNSPs. Transport electrification. Social license for Transmission. … All relevant but not all the time
- Need to tailor the attendees based on the topic, not just have the same people attend every session. Eg; need greater participation from transport sector on demand forecasts and electrification of other sectors, greater participation from climate/decarbonisation experts on those issues, energy efficiency experts on those issues, etc. To do that, AEMO needs to reach out to those stakeholders proactively and make it much easier for them to know about and join relevant sessions.
- Additional representatives with finance/investment backgrounds may be valuable.