

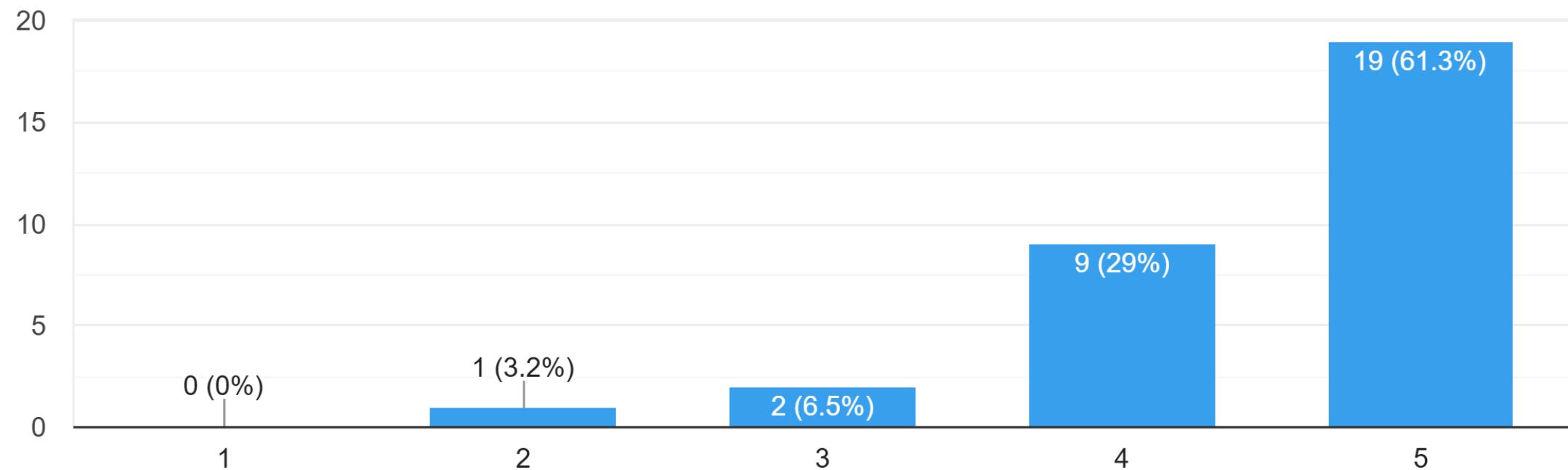
# ***SACREs taking a stand: positive responses to controversial issues***

**31 responses**

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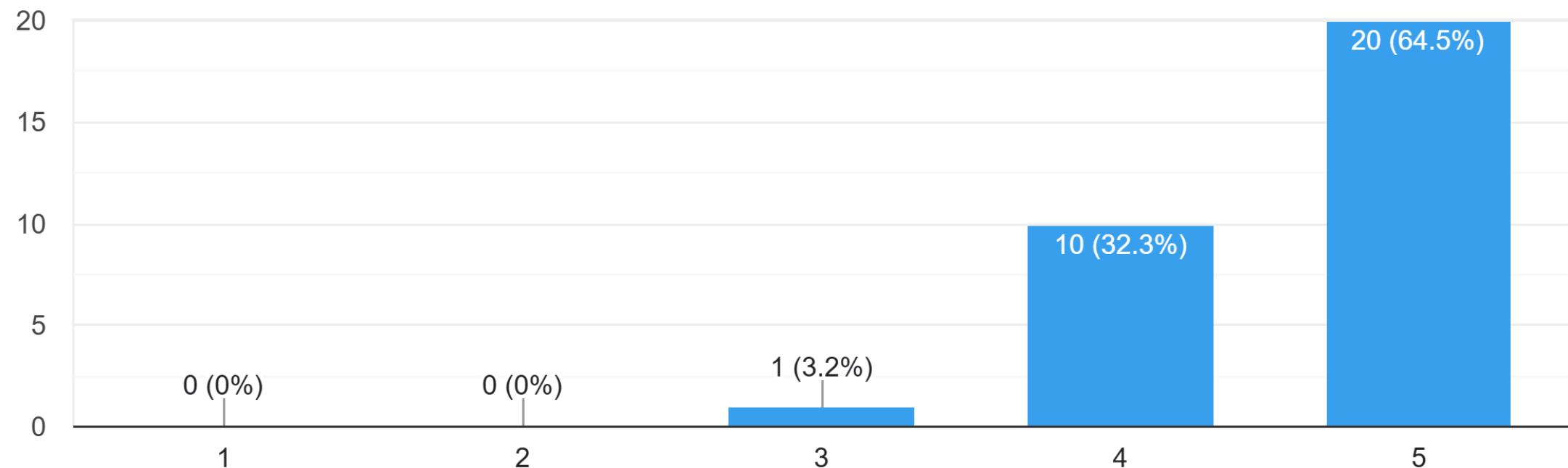
## 1. How useful was the early communication about Conference?

31 responses



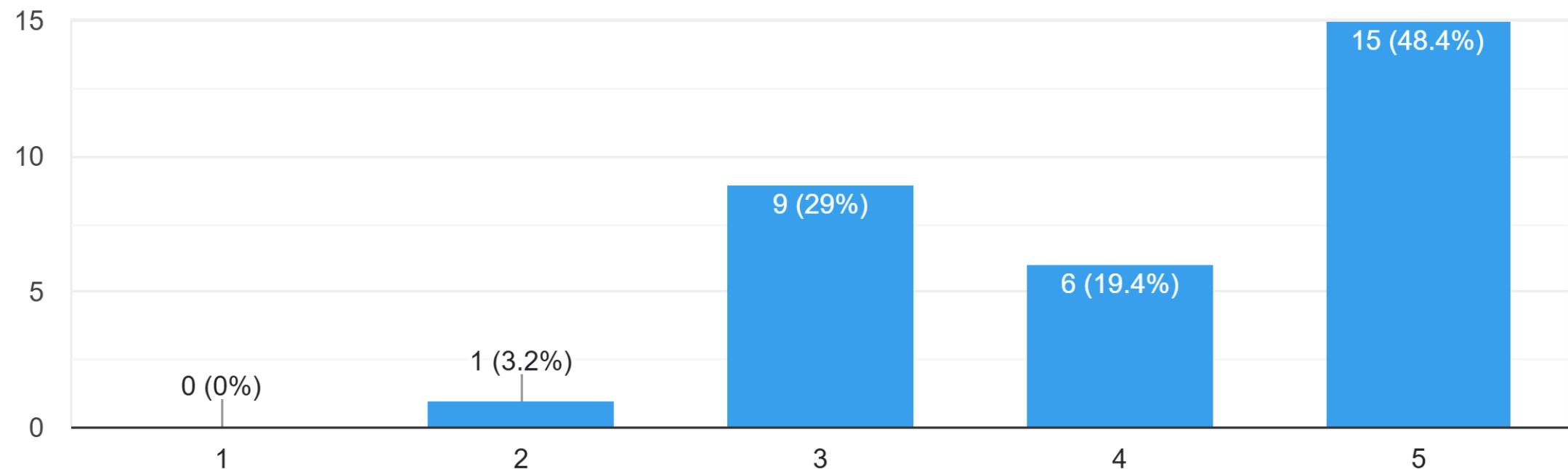
## 2. How easy was it to book the Conference?

31 responses



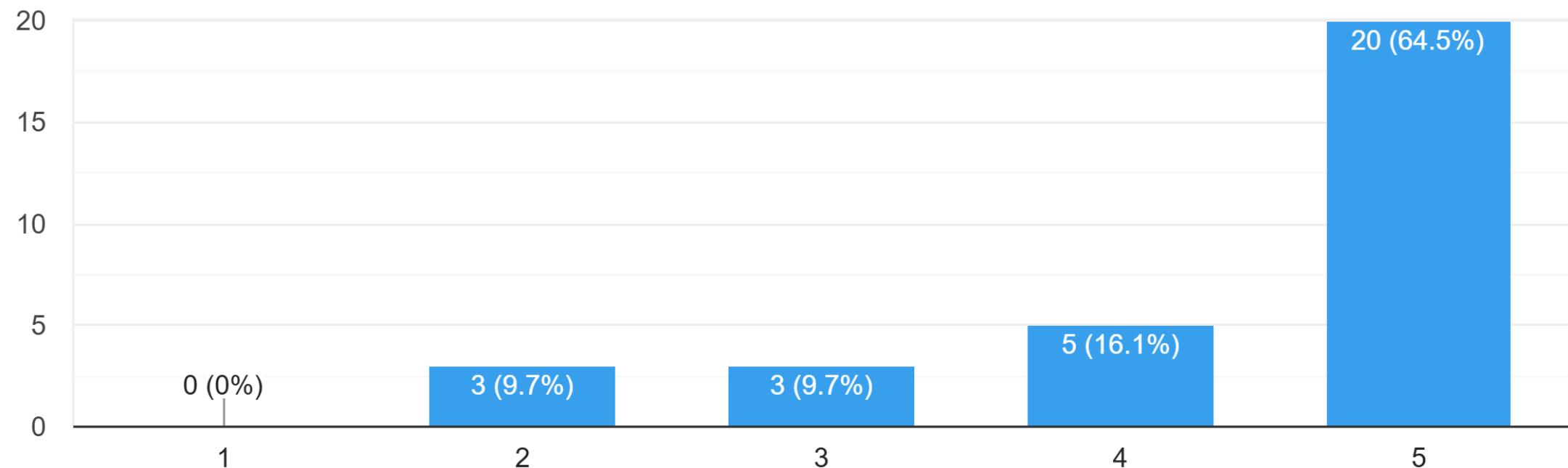
### 3. How informative were the Conference documents?

31 responses



#### 4. What was your experience of holding our conference in Stratford?

31 responses



**5. Please explain your response to Question 4. 31 responses**

Not too bad a trek for me

I live 20mins away!

Not easy to get to from the North

Easy to get to and find!

Based in London was ideal as I live here.

Easy to travel from Lancashire

Good transport links, super lunch

Good venue

The journey was very easy for me and took only an hour and a half. The venue was elegant and spacious, microphones worked very well and the food was absolutely delicious.

Really welcoming space, and excellent food!!!

Travel was easy and venue was large enough. Sound system and hearing loop inadequate

easy access, great room, fabulous food and useful keynotes

Very easy to get to from the West Midlands!

Easy to get to; great venue and food was first class

I was worried about arriving in Stratford in time but it was much easier than I thought. The venue was really comfortable and the refreshments were outstanding.

Great location. Great food. Nice space

Great venue but I preferred something more central

It worked well. Was easy to get to.

Good venue, but quite a long day due to the distance travelled.

Travel from Lancaster that morning went very smoothly and the venue was convenient for public transport and a light and airy building although with a slight echo.

Too far out of central London. Would prefer a more accessible location

A long way to travel and an early start but the welcome was the warmest I'd ever received and the local nature of the conference made it really enjoyable as I could get a sense of a totally different SACRE area in a way that a conference in a large hotel can't do. I found this really inspiring. The food was also local and fabulous. Thank you, Claire and team!

easy access, and plenty of room.

It was a long journey which cost my LA £400 in travel costs. It ended up being a 7 hour round trip

Good venue and great lunch!

Easy to access. Great venue.

Transport to the conference was very smooth and easy for me. I liked the venue, the sound was good, space was appropriate and the food out of this world.

Larger venue made networking easier

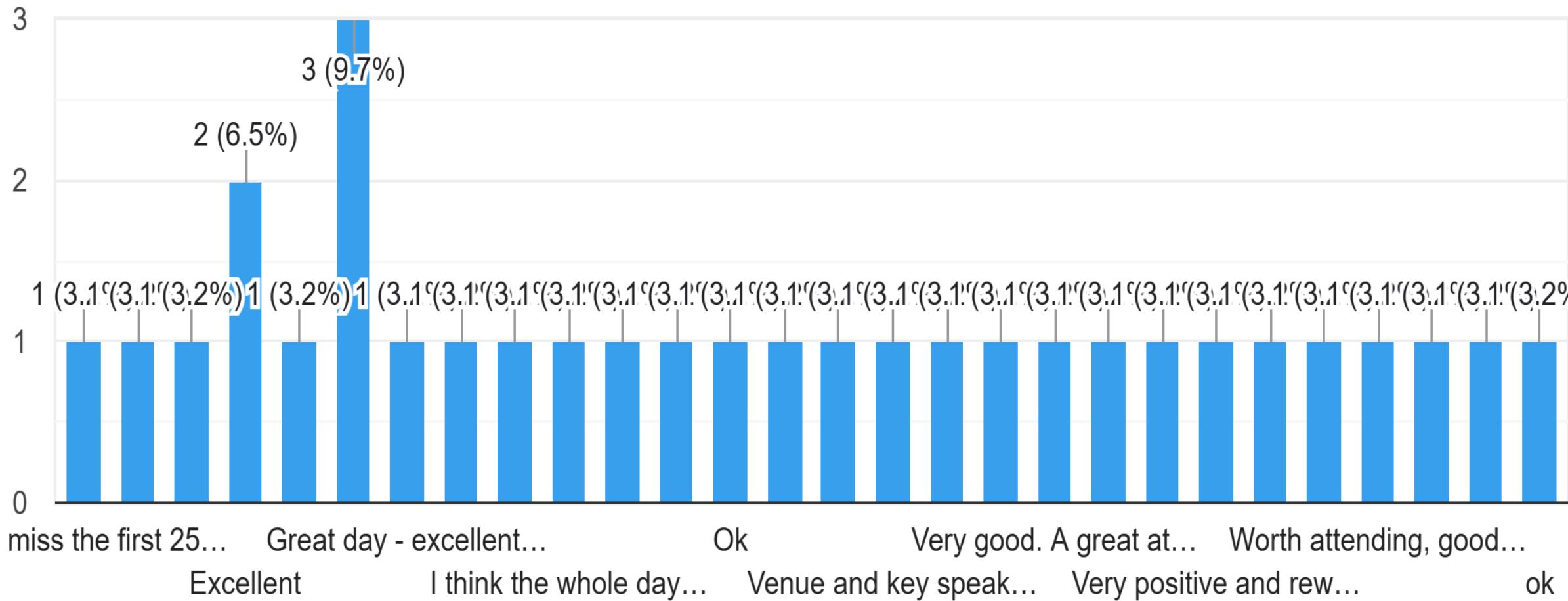
Easy to get to, good food and facilities and size of venue was good

I found Stratford an easily accessible location and as a resident of East London I appreciate the opportunity to showcase our community

Too far across London from the main train stations

## 6. How would you describe your overall experience of the conference day?

31 responses



**6. How would you describe your overall experience of the conference day? 31 responses**

Very well organised, nice touches like sweet stall.

Fantastic - I loved it all esp Dr Joyce Miller

Helpful and informative.

Excellent

Very good. A great atmosphere and opportunity to connect with people.

Excellent

Good

Very encouraging and informative

Very engaging and uplifting. A very good spirit of sharing yet rigorous in the membership's expectations and questions to the Exec.

Encouraging and uplifting

Ok

It was easy to find and the room felt spacious, rather than crowded and noisy.

Great day - excellent opportunity to network and very well thought out sessions

Good

I think the whole day was excellent but particularly the opportunity to meet different people and learn about their Sacré™s. The conference gives us the time and space to reflect on our work.

Very positive

ok

It was very interesting and I enjoyed meeting other SACRE reps.

Worth attending, good opportunity to network and speak to other SACREs and came away with a good sense of purpose.

Very positive and rewarding.

Good

Venue and key speaker were amazing and inspirational. Introductions from some NASACRE exec members went on for too long and it felt a bit cliquey for those of us not part of this group. Less from NASACRE exec and more time to talk with others/another key speaker would improve the conference.

Very informative

(I did miss the first 25 minutes). I found the session by Dr Joyce to be hugely informative and gave food for thought. I'm afraid that I found the afternoon to be poor value for money. I'd have learned more finding out about the awards that were given out and what they were planning to do as this could have informed best practice within our own SACRE. I'm afraid I found the whole discussion about the CIO status to be rather indulgent and the AGM at the end was not well planned, nor had I had communication about the documentation to have been able to partake. The concept of an interactive mentimeter session was a great idea but I'd have gained more from a table conversations that was then shared back through mentimeter so we could learn from our discussions.

Very positive. Really useful day

Positive. The lunch was a highlight.

I found it interesting and encouraging from the point of view of bonding as a national group with common priorities and concerns.

Positive

Brilliant. Some keynotes/elements more helpful than others but gained a lot from the whole day.

encouraging

not good value for money. Only one keynote speaker and no opportunity to really engage with others

## 7. What did you take away from Lord Khan's message to SACREs? 31 responses

It was hopeful but it feels like we are waiting for some actual plans, hopefully in Autumn

Social Cohesion

Missed it due to delayed travel!

Must lobby mp

It felt pretty wooden and very little surprised me. But feel encouraged that he was entirely focused on the role of RE.

Encouraging and hopeful

Only confirmed what I think of RE

Nurturing faith literacy

Too little. What he said was good but the way in which he said it was so poor that I remembered virtually nothing. way in which he delivered it was so stilted and poor

The role we play as the RE community in enabling social cohesion

NASACRE need to follow up with him

That the government are BEGINNING to listen and get it, but there is a long way to go.

That was the only disappointing aspect I'm afraid - so not much!

Hopeful that Government understands importance and role of RE

How important Sacres will be to supporting community cohesion and the government support for building communities.

SACREs are champions of unity

RE is more than a subject and important for social cohesion

At least he seems still to understand that community cohesion is the core purpose of RE, which is reassuring.

There is still a lot of work to be done in community cohesiveness.

Encouragement that RE and SACREs are important in the Government's education planning.

His message was scripted and predictable

Not a great deal other than he's passionate about RE. We could have been sent the clip ahead of the conference and then given more time to discuss in our groups. There wasn't enough time for this.

To strive for higher profile of RE/RS and ensure SACRE members (REFORM party) understand this

I'm afraid this was in the first part that I missed so I haven't seen it yet - I will when I review the slides

That Govt is interested in RE

Entirely predictable and non-committal, so not very inspiring or comforting at all.

I think I have already expressed my view. What he said was very encouraging but HOW he delivered it was dreadful, so much so that I had to work very hard to continue to listen to him.

He needs help to improve his communication skills, especially in relation to speaking to camera.

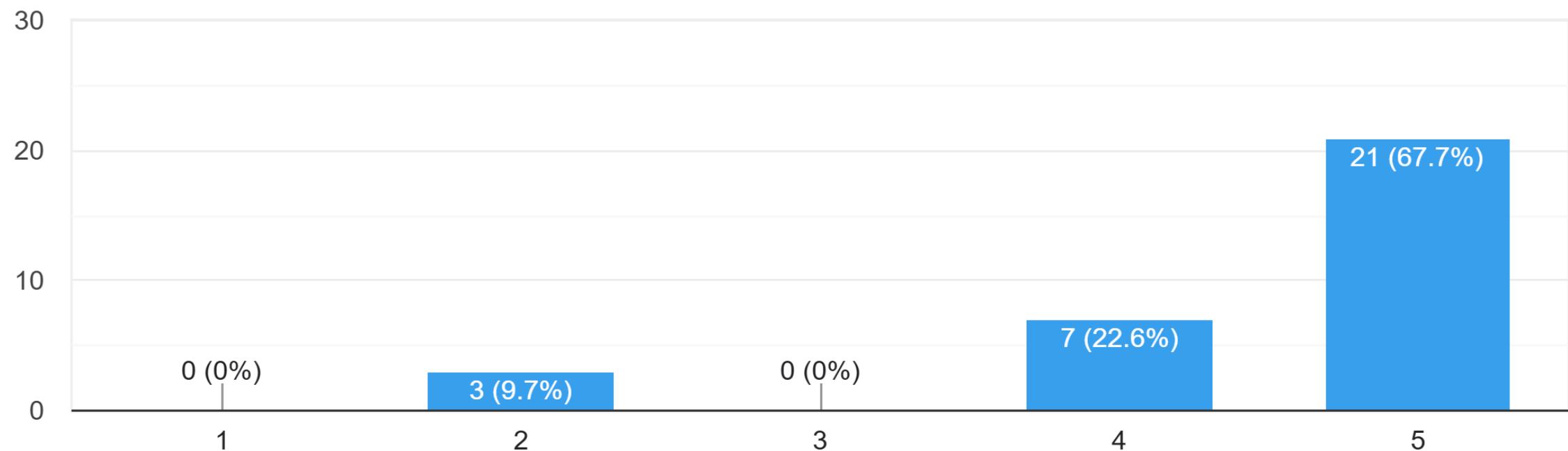
Key points of support which sounded somewhat like an Agreed Syllabus introduction!

That steps are being taken to move forward to SACRES and increase the profile and monitoring of RE in schools

Just the same old politicians answer

## 8. How helpful was Dr. Joyce Miller's session: Identity, community and commonality: What can Religion and Worldviews offer schools and society?

31 responses



**9. What did you take away from that session? 31 responses**

Challenging thinking, especially around language and communities

Lots. Media and division. RE CORE report needing more impact needing esp spirituality, secularity and morality. Teach wisdom.

Need to be clear what we are doing as a SACRE and why.

Consider the role of identity and social cohesion

That the long game doesn't and hasn't changed.

Intercultural Navigators

So much to think over - everything!

Find the wisdom in the knowledge

An enhanced realisation of the need for sensitivity when debating faith issues.

The conversations that we need to have in RE about spiritual development, plus having courage to engage in those challenging conversations

Unable to hear it

Her understanding of worldviews and identities, with relation to communities and cohesion.

Lots of food for thought!

Commonality - not identity boxes that divide us

The importance of socio/economic conditions are to building community.

Commonality should be central to the teaching of worldviews

RE is undervalued and under resourced but has great value and can focus on commonality, foster deep thinking and can be an antidote to generalisation and stereotyping and can help develop spirituality.

I am still digesting it. I agreed with many things she said, but found parts of it very concerning (Judeo-Christian is a kind of whiteness??!!) and she seemed to be scoring political points and pushing a particular agenda.

Some good ideas that I can 'feed' into the current review of our locally agreed syllabus.

The importance of Religion and worldviews in young people's education as intercultural navigators.

Insight into what the curriculum content for RE should be in the future

So much - I need time to digest what she said and hope her speech transcript will be available.

That what we are aiming for in Staffordshire is in line with her thinking

The complexities of worldviews - which in my naivety I thought would be an uncontested aspect. Her views aligned with my own and made me feel included in a community that I often feel an outsider in.

A reminder that spirituality was a key recommendation from CoRE

I thought the talk was ideologically driven by a Worldviews agenda and insensitive to the teaching of religion per se. This was exposed in her words about spirituality which was a Buddhist understanding showing little knowledge or appreciation of how this term is understood within Christianity, Judaism and Islam and her thoroughly unempathetic response to a question from a Jewish participant.

A more enhanced understanding of the sensitivities between cultural groups and the vast, vast numbers of groups that there are and hence identities.

Thought provoking outline of the journey of RE to RVE and the subject's future. Consideration of the negative outcomes of positive input with reference to Islamophobia and black history week.

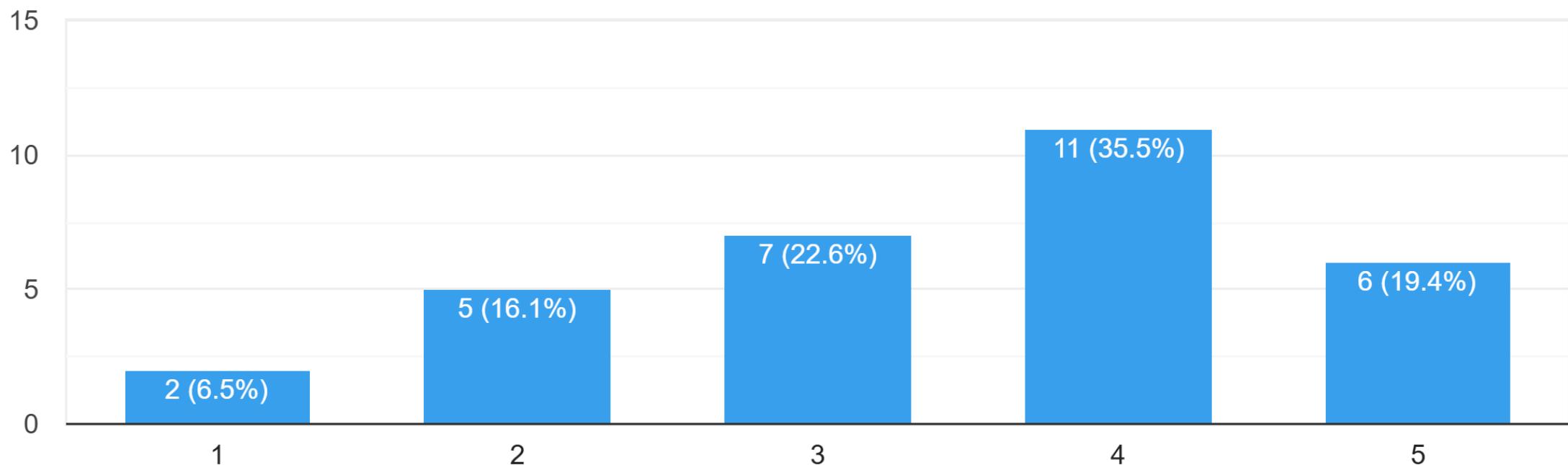
Boosted confidence that syllabus being planned for strong RE

That we need to be constantly creative in addressing new and ever changing and contextual challenges of our communities

Not a lot as some of it too out dated

## 10. How useful for your SACRE were the afternoon sessions?

31 responses



**11. Which part of our day together was the most useful to you personally and why? 31 responses**

Networking, listening to updates, RE hubs

The morning. It gave insight to what else we need to do and what not to do.

The networking and finding out how other SaCREs work.

No single part but as a collective

Seeing other members.

Joyce

Joyce Miller's presentation

Joyce Miller - inspiring

The main lecture.

The two keynotes, plus having the chance to ask questions

Meeting colleagues

Joyce Millar's keynote - and the questions!

All of it - great members to engage with on the table

Dr Miller- things to take back to our SACRE

Meeting people and making contact and Dr Miller's session

Meeting SACRE members from across the country. It was a very supportive environment

Dr Joyce Miller

the lunch hour. I had a chance to speak to people.

Dr Joyce Millar's keynote speech was very useful, as it made me think about how my SACRE can increase its 'offer' to the community.

Dr Joyce Millre's presentation as the most thought-provoking.

Dr. Joyce Miller's session: Identity, community and commonality: What can Religion and Worldviews offer schools and society? . Thought provoking

The speech from Joyce Miller because it was inspiring and fresh. I felt very frustrated that one delegate monopolised the questions section. This was very uncomfortable to witness.

Meeting and networking

Dr Joyce

Joyce's talk was inspiring

The wordcloud session seemed designed to provide evidence. It could have been done otherwise. I thought the workshops would be happening but now realise they are later online.

Communication around that was confusing. My best take away was the lunch. Thay was delicious.

The opportunity to spend time with others from our SACRE, to discuss the next Development Plan and what should be in it and to talk to the KS4 rep about partnership working with the other secondary reps on SACRE.

The keynote and networking

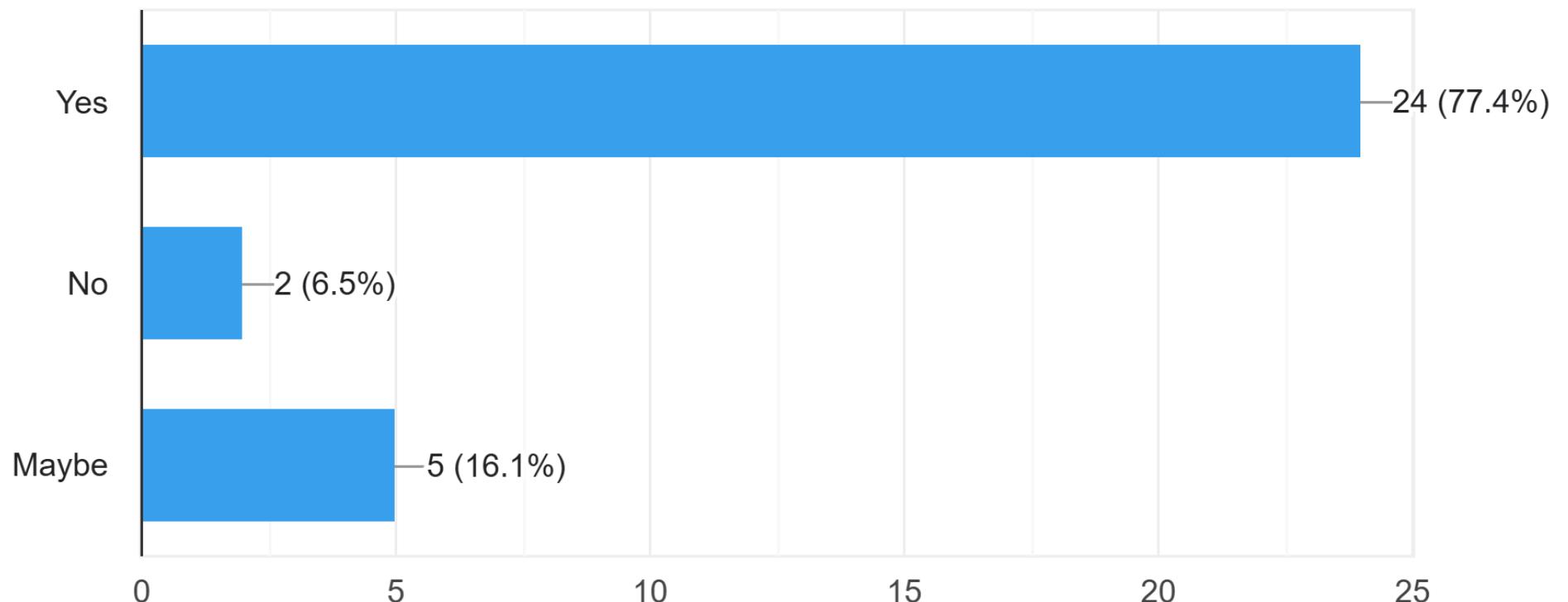
Joyce Miller- inspirational

Joyce Millers talk as it was informative and challenging

None

## 12. Would you recommend NASACRE conferences to others?

31 responses



**13. Please tell us about your response for Question 12. 31 responses**

It was a useful time

It's good to have a conversation with members of other SACREs and to learn where we need to be and go. Also, to reflect on the journey so far.

Very useful

Good network opportunities, good information, etc

Very helpful to be together in person.

Networking and informative

Good opportunity to network

Useful information and networking opportunities

It was an informative, well-rounded day with a bit of fun in the middle..

We all need to be able to look outside of our own SACREs to what others are doing

Sound issues need resolving

It's a great way to hear what is going on nationally and to meet new and old friends.

Found it a valuable day

You have some excellent speakers and thought provoking sessions

I think it's too easy to be in our bubble and the conference gives us the opportunity to meet people from across the country and different communities.

It is important to reflect on your local SACRE and consider what you do well, what you could do better, and where you can get support

I felt there was not enough time devoted to key speakers at the actual conference . For many of us we travelled to be in London and yet there are two online workshops that I need to fit into another working week after taking a day off work to attend the conference. Previous years have given more time over to other responses and speakers.

It is useful to network and find out what is happening.

The conference location can be 'challenging' and its 'value' to delegates is dependant on having good speakers with relevant experience.

They provide an unrivalled opportunity to talk with members of other SACREs, to compare and contrast experiences and solutions.

Great networking. Informative

I didn't feel as if I got value for money in the afternoon. I wanted more time to talk to other SACRE members in guided question sessions - this was really helpful - and less time listening to NASACRE exec members. I also find the post conference workshops difficult to attend - could some of those be offered on the conference day instead?

It was a very welcoming conference and felt as if we were a big family with similar aims

The cost for me to attend against the learning that I took away would mean I could not reasonably ask my LA to fund this again. I'd consider it if it wasn't such an expensive trip and the sessions were more focussed on how to be the most effective SACRE

I always encourage SACRE members to come to the NASACRE conference

More discussion and learning needed on the day. The AGM part was especially dull.

Everyone needs to see the bigger perspective which enhances their understanding of the local context. There was something very uplifting about being in the company of so many other LA SACRES. It was also very interesting to hear the questions that they wanted answering when we were given opportunities in the AGM to ask questions.

Essential in understanding the national aspect of local bodies

For all the above

The NASACRE conference is a chance to meet with colleagues from across the country, to listen and share perspectives and challenges. It also afford us the opportunity to have a corporate voice when moving forward with changes in policy

Felt after previous years this was not good value and did not fulfil its brief

**14. As you are aware, we run an annual webinar programme for SACREs. List any topics you would find most helpful to support your SACRE.**

24 responses

Updates, sacred and monitoring

Supporting your SACRE, Dealing with difficult SACREs as an advisor.

How to get more money out of the la

Exploring Wordviews

More on AI

Psychological safety in the light of political change

I need advance warning of this question and time to talk to SACRE members.

Engaging effectively with your local authority

Handling extremist views in SACRE members; Holding the LA to account

How to run really useful LTLRE groups and make the most of teacher input

Impact of changing to unitary authorities

I'll be honest. I don't sign up for these. I have many demands on my time, and these just don't make it high enough up my priority list

How to take ideas into concrete actions

How to deal with difficult situations in a SACRE, particularly how to make sure that SACREs are running properly. How to identify bad practice and challenge it. How to manage RE advisors.

From experience, the annual webinar programme is currently broad and reasonably comprehensive.

The range of non-religious worldviews

I'd find a session on how to be an effective LA Officer to SACRE helpful. I also think the current sessions are very helpful and hope some can re-run as membership changes.

Yes

see previous answer

working with RE hubs to continue networking SACREs

Re-assessing NASACRE's commitment to CORE report..some genuine balanced assessment of different views.

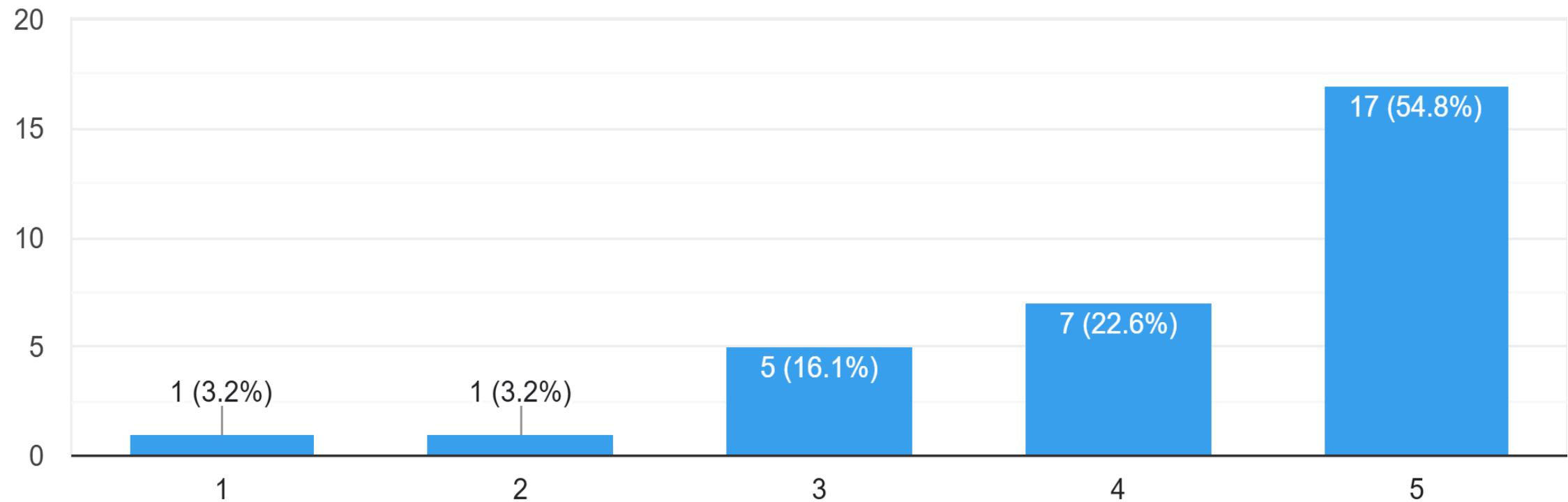
I need time to consider an answer to this question.

Group meetings for members, focussing on how all members can engage practically in supporting their SACRE/ actively improving RE and CW outside of full meeting time.

Yes

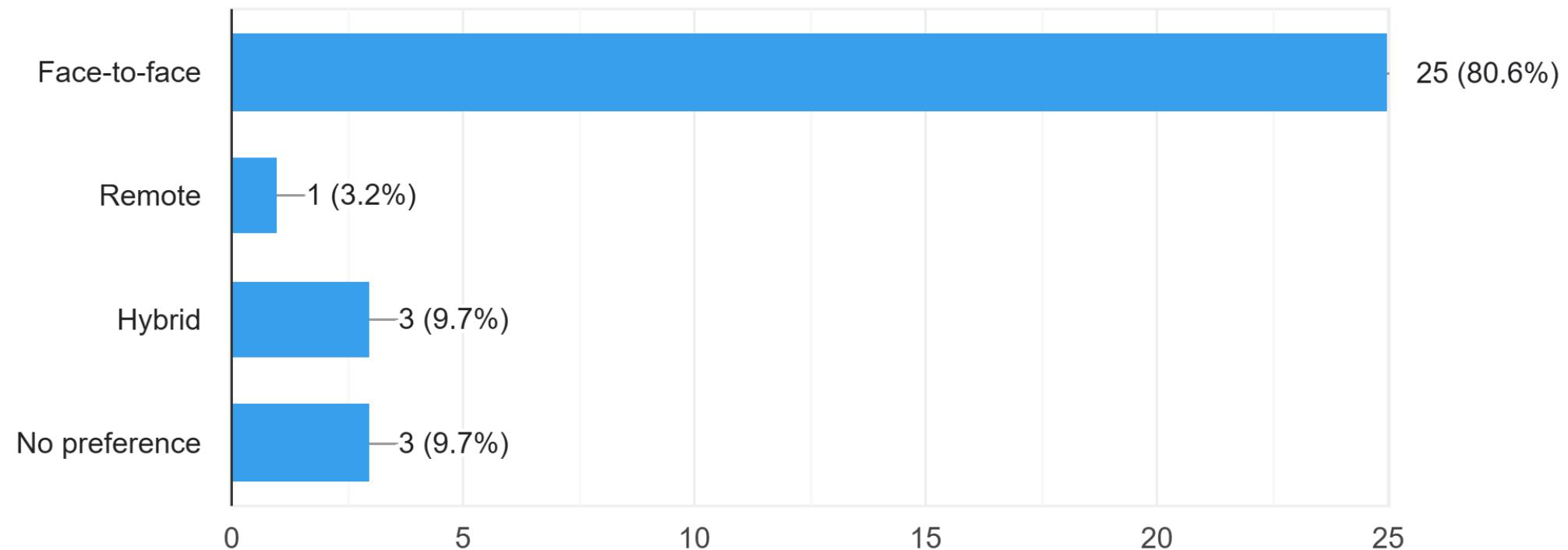
15. Overall, including the June workshops, how would you rate our 2025 Conference as value for money?

31 responses



16. Today we met together in person, but how do you prefer our conference to be?

31 responses



## 17. What is your message for NASACRE as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation? 25 responses

Go for it!

To continue your excellent work developing RE learning

Congratulations!

I don't know how to answer this?

Keep going and aim high

Thank you

Keeping doing the excellent work you already do.

I know you are all volunteers. I admire you, and thank you for your hard work. It is appreciated!

Thank you! This is really useful, supportive and needed.

Keep doing the good things you've always done and continue to capitalise on any benefits of CIO. Maybe - if it's possible- find funding for a national project that can be rolled out to schools / support schools through local SACREs that may be on the theme of finding commonality??

I realise that this has clearly been a significant process for your team, but this has no meaning to me in my day to day role so am unclear how to answer this question

Thank you for all that you offer to strengthen the role of SACREs

Thank you for all you've done.

Use your status to find the money and resources you need to best support SACREs.

Keep up the good work!

Stay independent. You don't have to agree with everything coming out of the RE Council and NATRE. Your job is to support SACREs, not to promote a particular approach to RE.

Listen to diversity of membership opinion and avoid ideological identification with CORE report.

Keep listening and sharing our views with DfE

I would like to thank the committee for undertaking the process of moving to be a CIO as this will afford the organisation access to charitable funds and a clear structure for accountability

To put on a conference that is good value for the money paid as this is probably the last I will go to as I cannot justify the money spent to the local authority.

Congratulations on getting through the process: having done it in our church context, I can only imagine how challenging it's been, as no one really understands how unique SACREs are!!

Thanks

Keep up the good work

I am very grateful to those who give generously of their time as volunteers.

Thank you for taking time to fill in this evaluation. We are delighted you joined us, and we look forward to seeing you at the follow-up workshops in June. Feel free to add anything else you'd like to say about how we did today. Thank you! 16 responses

I would just like to recommend that there is a .code of conduct for attendees, the question/attack on Dr Joyce Miller was not acceptable, attendees should model the ethics of religious literacy that we encourage the children to follow, all questions should be asked with curiosity and respect. Maybe questions could be submitted and filtered, either submitting them via a qr code or written down to avoid situations like this, Dr Joyce handled it very well but another speaker might have found this upsetting.

Thank you NASACRE EXECUTIVE

Great Food

Special thanks to the highly efficient Marie Cooper

Thank you to all, especially the Tiffin ladies for the delicious food!

Please don't use the caterer again - food was disappointing. I was sick shortly after eating (should not be serving cold curried chicken on such a warm day!)

As a rep for our SACRE, it's always good to take back more thoughts and ideas for reflection. So if at all possible, it would be great to have two sessions in a similar vein to Dr. Miller's.

I think an awful lot of work went into organising this day and it was well worth while,thank you

Excellent catering and lunch ! Snacks were also top quality

1. There is no point in having a conference that is not in person. The most useful aspect of the conference is meeting people.

2. It is important to support SACREs in adopting good practice.

NASACRE should encourage difficult conversations about what happens when things go wrong in SACREs and how to put things right.

Thank you for providing kosher food.

Had a great day...might have been influenced by the free sweets!!

I know some of my feedback has been quite negative. I don't mean to cause upset, I just want to be honest about how the day went for me and make you aware of the total cost to my LA, both financially and in terms of my time to attend this event

Thanks for the lunch!

Thank you to the Exec who come across as a very friendly bunch of people. At the conference they were well-informed, dealt ably with the odd 'difficult' customer and had a knack for engendering a spirit of 'team'. I like that. Claire is an excellent front woman.

I would like to add that the tone of the day was one of encouragement and kindness, which I greatly appreciated. I felt that supporting a local social enterprise for the catering was an excellent idea and the food was fantastic. Thank you too for the snack station



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## 2025 CONFERENCE & AGM



Our Conference Team is busy planning **#NASACRE26**, and we look forward to seeing you.