



UHAQAC Planning Forum outcome and recommendations

UHAQAC Planning Forum Feedback

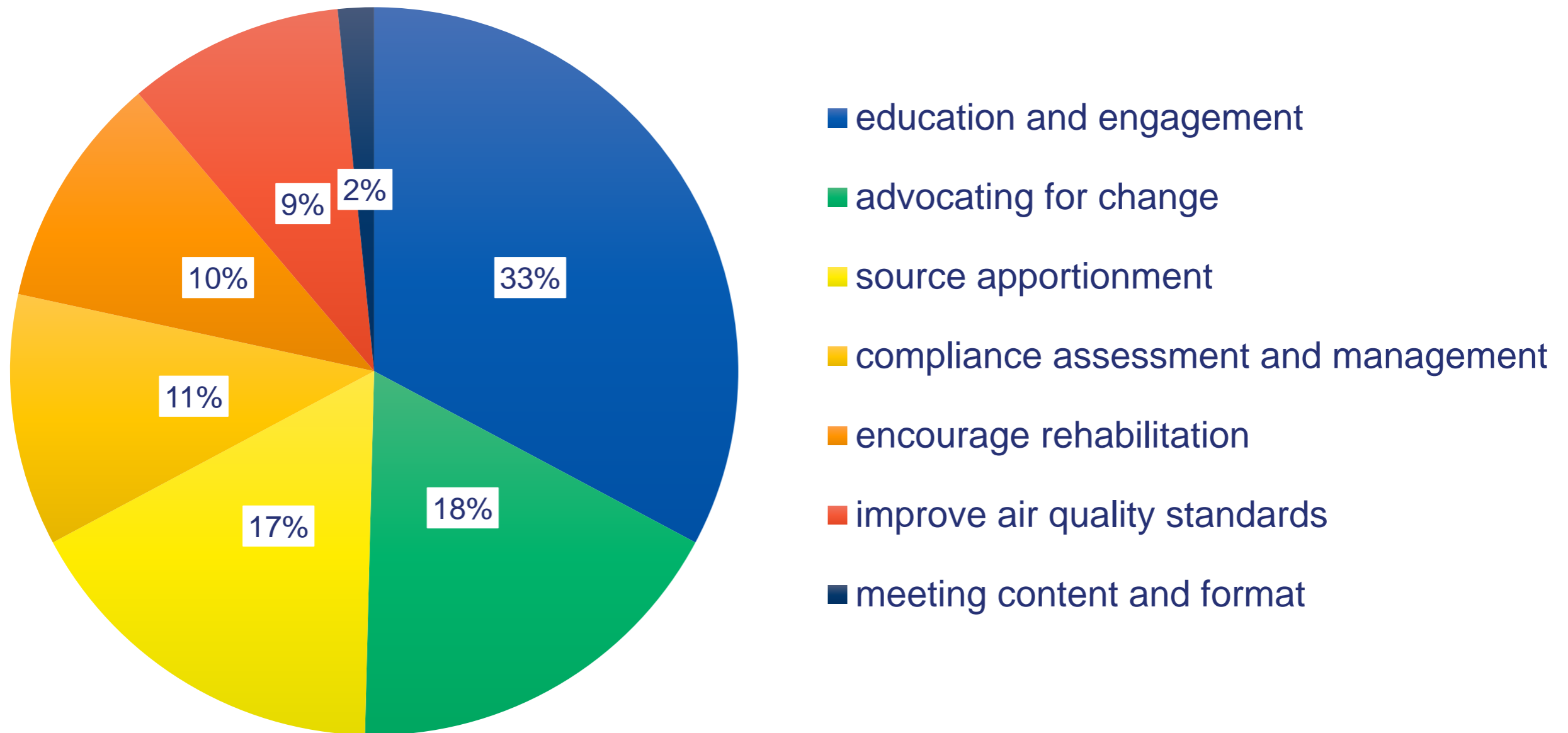
UHAQAC

- A total of 23 issues were raised at the planning forum by members
- Each of these issues were voted on, and letter sent to the EPA outlining these issues

EPA

- Grouped the issues into 7 main categories
- Provided an **Action, Responsibility** and **Timeframe** for each individual recommendation

Votes for each category by the Committee (%)

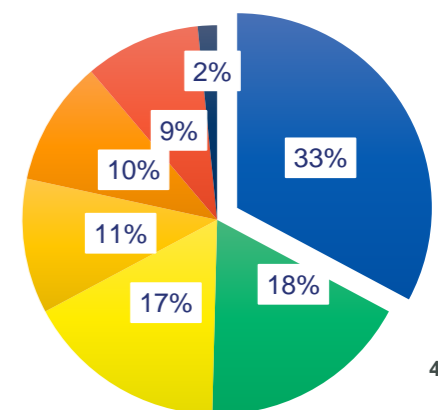


Education and Engagement

Category	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Education and engagement	Education – impacts of dust via Facebook	Air Quality Communications Strategy	EPA/OEH and Committee	Ongoing
	Education – targeted community education campaigns	Air Quality Communications Strategy	EPA/OEH and Committee	Ongoing
	Education for communities on recording exceedances	Air Quality Communications Strategy	EPA/OEH and Committee	Ongoing
	Connect with other stakeholders eg CCC's	For the Committee to discuss a meeting with the Namoi Region AQAC.	Committee	TBC



This category received 33% of total votes

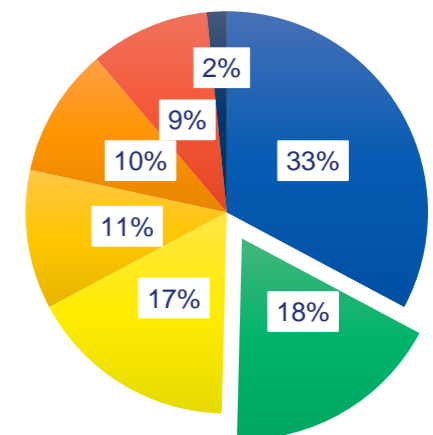


Advocating for change

Category	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Advocating for change	Transition from fossil fuels	This item is outside of the UHAQAC Terms of Reference.	Members are free to undertake this independently of the UHAQAC	N/A
	Input into development assessment process	This item is outside of the UHAQAC Terms of Reference.	Members are free to undertake this independently of the UHAQAC	N/A
	Advocacy role – industry and community	For the group to discuss further.	Committee	25 July 2019
	UHAQAC to detail proposals for policy alternatives	For the group to discuss further.	Committee	25 July 2019



This category received 18% of total votes

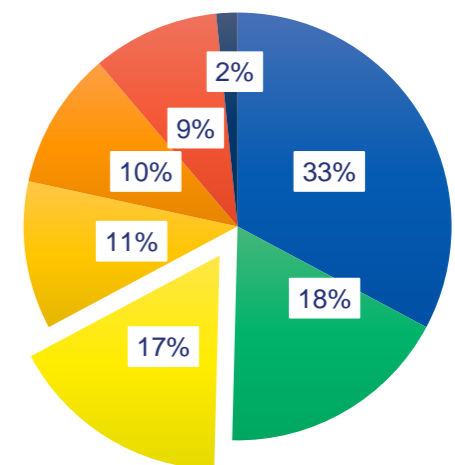


Source Apportionment

Category	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Source apportionment	Investigate apportion of pollution sources	An Upper Hunter Particle Characterisation Study has already been completed by the CSIRO for PM2.5, which targeted Singleton and Muswellbrook. https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/air/research/previous-research/upper-hunter-fine-particle-characterisation-study The EPA is exploring the feasibility of assessing PM10 with OEH, and will provide an update to the Committee.	N/A	N/A
	Commission independent study by UON – cumulative impacts of dust	The EPA will review existing research.	EPA / OEH	2019
	Further develop site source monitoring	For the group to discuss further.	Committee	25 July 2019



This category received 17% of all votes

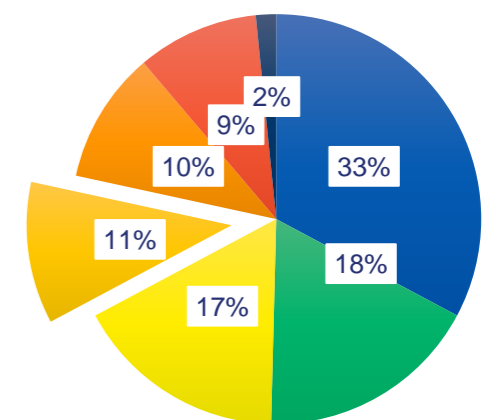


Compliance assessment and management

Category	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Compliance assessment and management	Local compliance officers	The EPA utilises a regional service delivery model and our Hunter region office is based in Newcastle.. The EPA is able to deliver an appropriate level of regulatory oversight from the Newcastle office, with targeted campaigns, routine inspections, and incident response ensuring a regular presence, particularly during high risk dust conditions.	EPA	Ongoing
	Use a drone daily for compliance	The EPA is currently investigating the logistics of having a drone operator on retainer. The drone would only be used on high risk dust days, or for other targeted campaigns.	EPA	Ongoing
	Lobby for night time monitoring	The EPA will commit to night time monitoring	EPA	TBC
	Develop ways to incentivise good behaviour / fines for bad behaviour	This already exists as part of the Risk Based Licencing. The RBL Framework is currently under review by the EPA to ensure that it is effectively identifying areas for improvement.	EPA	Ongoing
	Change reporting to mines / EPA	For the group to discuss further.	Committee	25 July 2019



This category received 11% of all votes

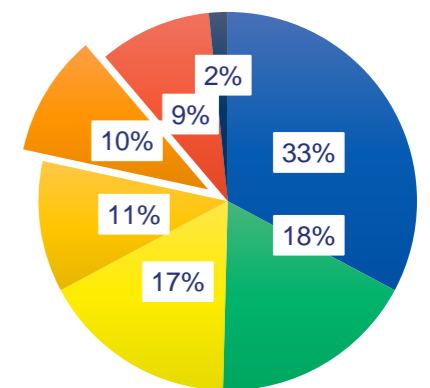


Encourage rehabilitation

Category	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Encourage rehabilitation	Fast tracking of rehabilitation areas	Resources Regulator is currently working on an Operational Rehabilitation Reform, which will aim to set clearer, more focused rehabilitation requirements throughout the mine life to ensure progressive rehabilitation occurs and sustainable post-mining land use outcomes are achieved. They will make operational improvements to compliance and reporting requirements for rehabilitation. Public consultation will be happening later this year. The EPA has also addressed this via the Pollution Reduction Program (PRP) in 2014 for open cut mines to assess their wind-erosion exposed areas. More information is on the EPA website. https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/air/regional-air-quality/minimising-particulate-pollution-coal-mines	Resources Regulator	2019
	Backfilling of voids - rehabilitation	The EPA is approaching mines to review their potential wind exposed areas. This work follows on from the PRP mentioned above.	EPA	2019



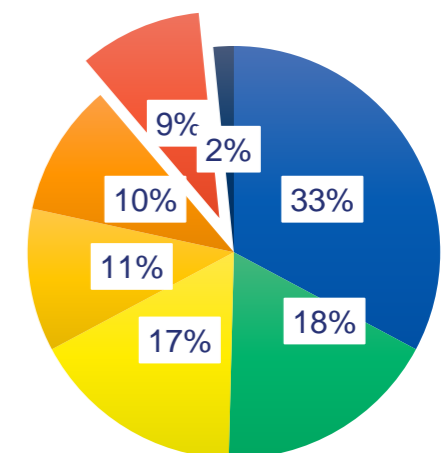
This category received 10% of all votes



Improve air quality standards

Category	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Improve air quality standards	Advocate for change NO2/SO2 alert levels	The review of NEPM for ozone nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide currently underway. Committee members are attending and will be providing a summary at the next meeting. Submissions close 7 August.	Committee	25 July 2019 (Submissions close 7 August)
	Lobby 12 hour average – not 24 hour	The EPA, OEH and Health will discuss averaging periods and will update the Committee with the outcome.	EPA/OEH/Health	2019

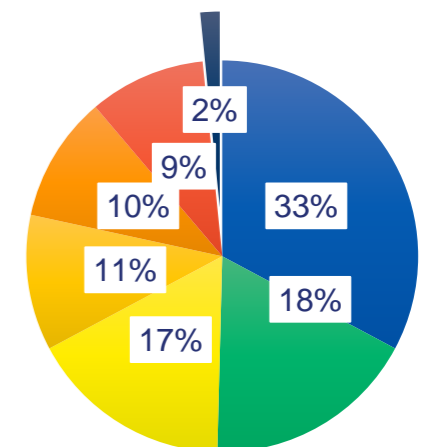
This category received 9% of all votes



Meeting content and format

Category	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Meeting content and format	UHAQAC mining representatives to provide recommendations to improve air pollution from open cut mines	For the mining representatives of the Committee to action	Mining Representatives of the Committee	TBC
	Review EPA complaints and responses	EPA is providing a presentation on EPA complaints and response	EPA	25 July 2019

This category received 2% of all votes





Questions?