

Meeting: Nuleaf Steering Group
Date: 10th September 2025
Item: 6
Subject: Review of Annual Gathering and proposal for 2026
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Introduction:

This paper presents feedback from Nuleaf members on the 2025 Annual Gathering; and invited member views on the potential location and format for the 2026 Gathering.

Recommendations:

Members are invited to:

- Share any further comments on the 2025 event.
- Offer their views on the options presented for the 2026 Gathering.

1. Annual Gathering 2025

1.1 Nuleaf's 2025 Annual Gathering was held in Stratford, east London on the 10th and 11th June. Members arrived for lunch on the first day, which was followed by a Steering Group/AGM and a seminar on the future nuclear landscape in the UK, with presentations from the UK Government (DESNZ), Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA), EDF Energy and GMF Europe.

A guest dinner was held in the evening, where we heard from David Peattie, CEO of the NDA, and Gerben Dijksterhuis, President of GMF Europe. Members rose the next morning and took the train and bus to Dungeness B station for a site visit, followed by lunch.

1.2 There was an excellent attendance, with over 40 Nuleaf members, stakeholders and international colleagues participating.

1.3 All Nuleaf members who attended were sent a feedback form after the event, inviting them to score (out of 5) various aspects of the Gathering and offer other feedback and comments. Twelve responses were received. The results are set out in Appendix 1.

1.4 Ratings for the event were good, with an average satisfaction of 4.33 out of 5. Transport and accessibility scored a maximum 5/5; the suitability of the venue was

rated as 4.25/5 and the catering scored 4/5. The lowest score was for the site visit to Dungeness, 3.5/5 on average.

1.5 Members also offered their views (Question 6) on the speakers and the general feedback was very positive.

There was a unanimous view that speakers had delivered relevant and informative presentations and done so in a clear and easy to understand way. There was also a consensus that they had thoroughly answered questions. Slightly lower scores were given in terms of the extent to which audience participation was encouraged and in maintaining interest throughout the event, with one or two participants feeling that the speakers only performed 'somewhat well' at this.

1.6 Question 9 sought opinions on overall satisfaction with the event. Again the great majority of respondents were either 'somewhat' or 'very satisfied' with all aspects. One respondent was 'very dissatisfied' with the event and another was 'somewhat dissatisfied' with the overall content.

1.7 Ninety-two percent of respondents felt that they had received all the information required to travel and participate in the event (Question 11), while three-quarters of respondents were of the view that the event had met or exceeded their expectations.

1.8 Members were asked what they most liked. There was a good deal of positive comment on the seminar with statements that presenters gave '*great presentations*' and that the '*Q&A worked really well*'. The European dimension to discussion was also seen positively.

More widely members enjoyed the networking opportunities and ability to meet and socialise with others, and commented on the '*energy and enthusiasm of the entire group*' and the general level of friendliness and positivity.

1.9 Lastly, views on how future Gatherings could be improved were sought.

There was disappointment that the visit to Dungeness was more limited than previous trips and an expectation that it would involve more given the distance travelled.

One member commented that '*It would have been great if we'd have been able to have a site visit/tour of Dungeness, like we had for Trawsfynydd last year. The speakers and presentations at Dungeness were very good, but we didn't get to venture beyond the visitor centre.*' Another stated '*If we are to have site visits in the future, I believe it would be very much appreciated to get a tour of the site*' and a third member noted that they were '*expecting a trip around the facility. We have visited more active/secure facilities before and this site should have been able to cater for a visit..... Feeling was they did not want us engaging all that much.*'

Others noted that accommodation for two nights would have been preferable (which acknowledging the limitations imposed by hotel costs in London) and that while the hotel was of a high standard the bedrooms were felt by some to be too warm.

A final suggestion was that an 'ice breaker' exercise would have helped get proceedings underway and encourage everyone to converse with others at their table.

1.10 Nuleaf is very grateful for all the feedback received and will use this to help inform plans for the 2026 Gathering.

2. Options for 2026 Gathering

2.1 It is proposed that the 2026 Annual Gathering will take place in June. Planning for the event will begin shortly, and member views are sought on potential locations and themes.

2.2 Nuleaf's membership is spread across England and Wales, as are the UK's nuclear facilities. We recognise that any location will require some members to travel a considerable distance and have sought to base the Gathering in different parts of England and Wales in each year. In the four years that the Gathering has been held, we have met in Somerset (Hinkley Point), Cumberland (Sellafield/LLWR), Gwynedd (Trawsfynydd) and London/Kent (Dungeness).

2.3 As in previous years, the proposed format is for members to come together for an extended Steering Group and seminar on the first day, followed by dinner. On the second day it is proposed to arrange a site visit. Assuming the event will be held outside London, the aim would be to offer two nights accommodation to those with a long distance to travel, enabling members to arrive the day before if they wished.

2.4 Possible locations for the 2026 Gathering are set out below, along with a summary of the options for a site visit.

Location	Site visit
Ipswich/ Sizewell	A meeting in Suffolk would enable a site visit to Sizewell which has a decommissioning A site, an operational Pressurised Water Reactor (PWR) and is the location of the new Sizewell C station, preparatory work for which is now underway. Ipswich is well connected to London with travel via London to all parts of the country.
Carlisle/ Chapelcross	A meeting based in Carlisle would permit a visit to the nearby Chapelcross site. Chapelcross has developed a masterplan, working with the local authority and Scottish and UK Governments, to turn the site into a Green Energy Hub. It was

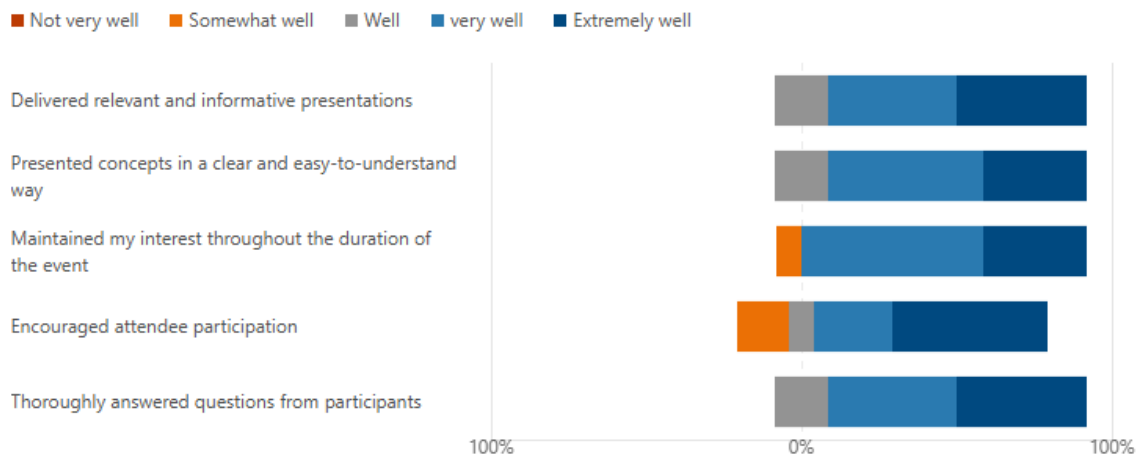
	the sister plant to the Calder Hall station at Sellafield and covers a large area (92Ha). Carlisle is on the main West Coast rail line.
Manchester/ Springfields	Hosting the event in Manchester would reduce travel times for many members. One option could be to include a site visit to the Springfields nuclear site near Preston, which has been making nuclear fuel since the 1940s. While still operational, many buildings on the site have been decommissioned or demolished and a Clean Energy Park has been established. The site is operated by Westinghouse on a 150 year lease from the NDA.

2.5 Member views are invited on these options.

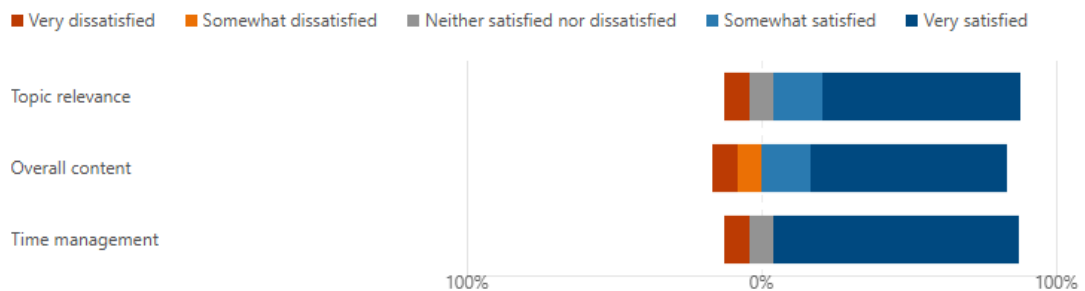
Appendix 1: Annual Gathering 2025 – results of member survey.

Question	Average score out of 5
Overall, how satisfied are you with the event?	4.33
How useful was the site visit?	3.5
Was the venue suitable for the event?	4.25
How accessible was the venue and how suitable was the transport that was provided	5
Quality and standard of catering provided?	4

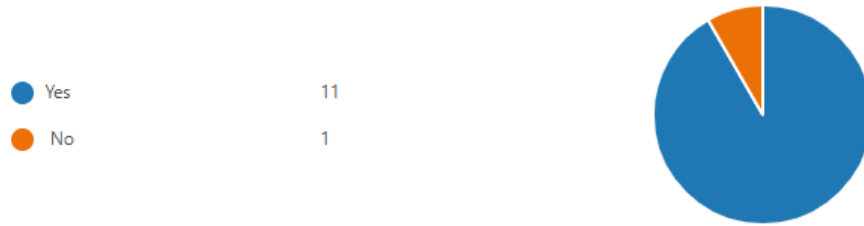
6. How would you rate the speakers at the event?



9. How satisfied are you with the following aspects of the event?



11. Did the organisers provide you with all the information you required to travel to and participate in the event?



12. Were your expectations of the event met?

