

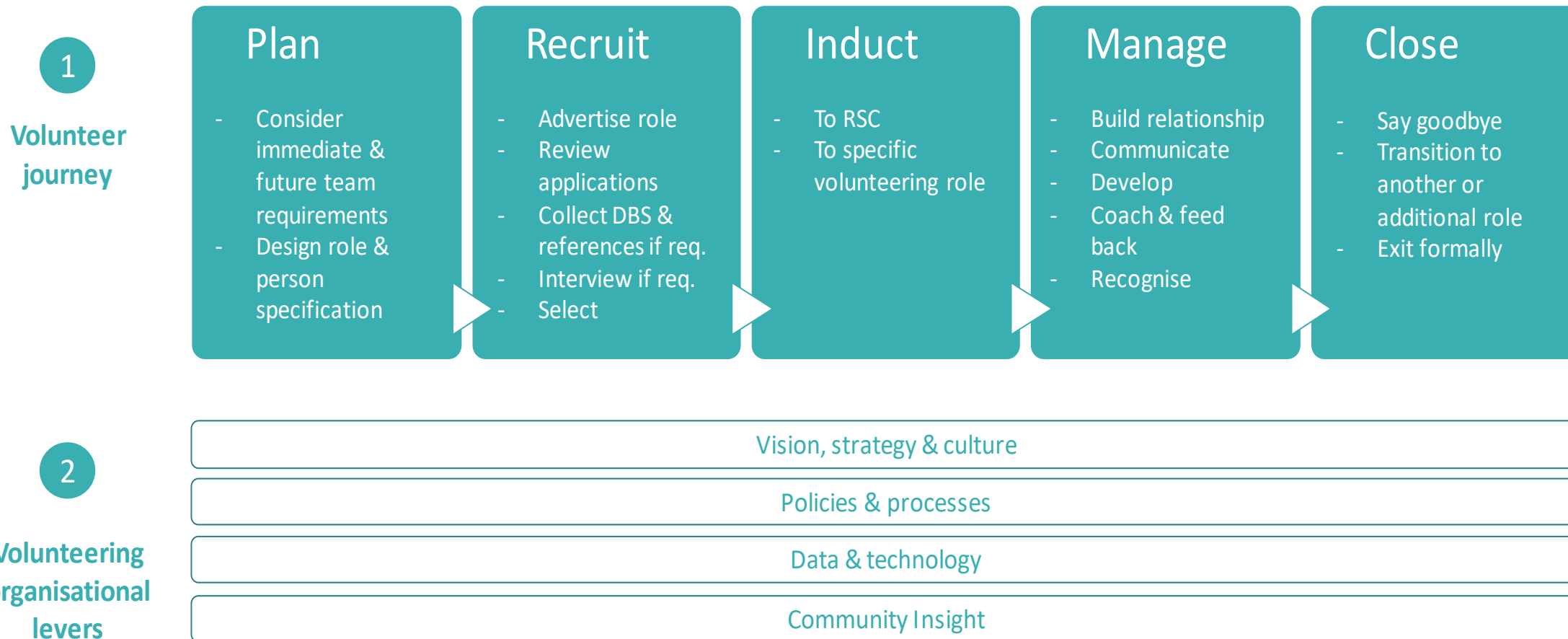


ROYAL SOCIETY
OF **CHEMISTRY**

Volunteer Survey 2022

Magda van Leeuwen and Fiona McMillan

Introducing the Volunteer Framework

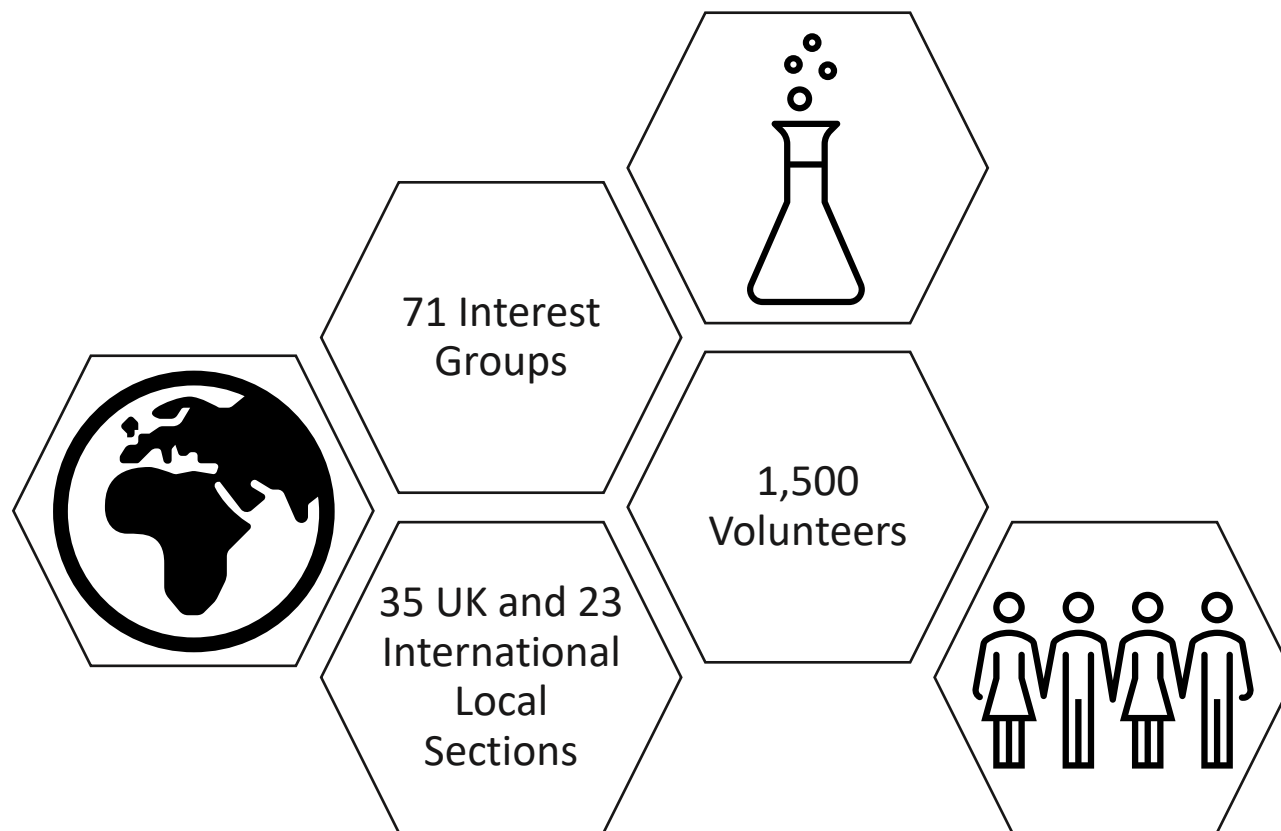


Volunteer Survey 2022

Core aims of the survey:

- Assess volunteers' perceptions and opinions of their experience of volunteering with the RSC
- Gather views on volunteer recognition and support
- Identify segments or areas that need to be developed
- Explore aspects of culture and trust within committees, with governance boards and with staff

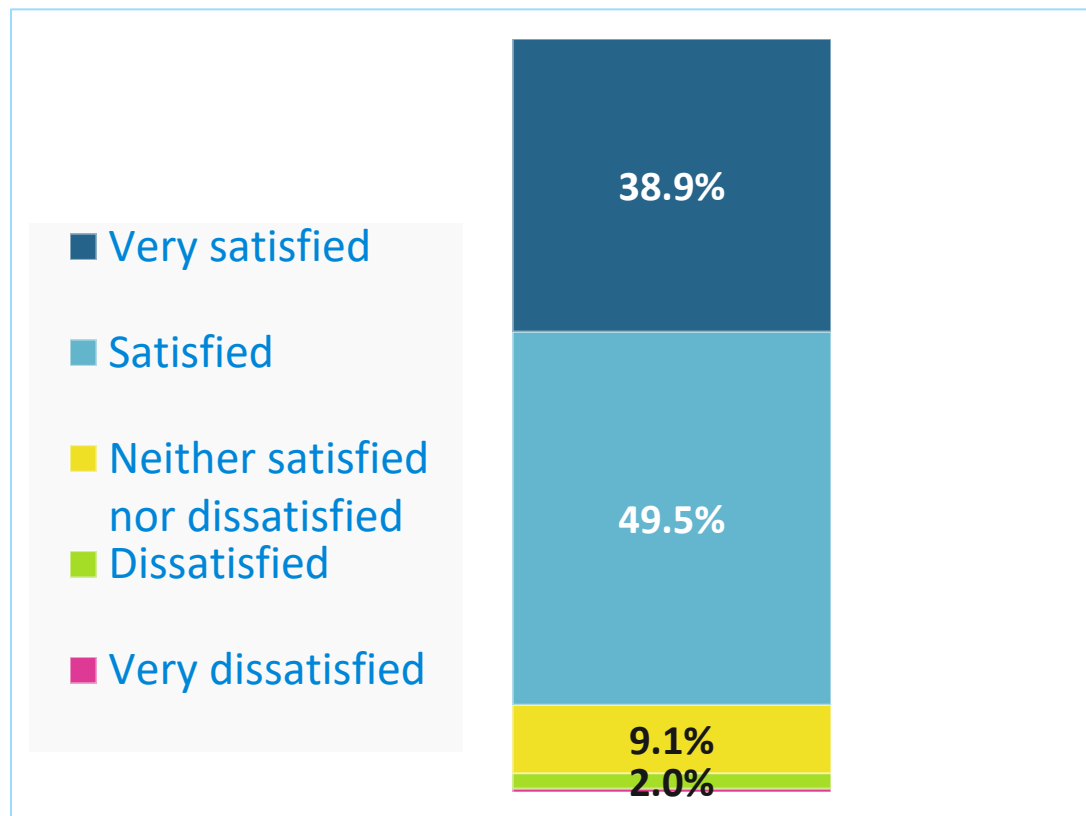
Overview of Member Networks



Volunteer Survey 2022 – Key Points

- Survey open 11 March to 24 March 2022
- 199 participants – 13% response rate
- Balance of views across career stage and sector
- Overall participants are overwhelmingly positive about their volunteer experience

Level of Satisfaction



88% are very satisfied or satisfied with volunteer experience

“It is one of the most rewarding experiences you can volunteer for”

Top 5 Benefits of volunteering

Meet new people and build networks

62%

Join an exciting community with plenty of opportunities to meet with fellow scientists

I enjoy it

61%

It's enjoyable and empowering to support your community to be stronger and better

Feel I am making a different

57%

This can be rewarding in many ways, career-related, socially and personally and supporting fellow chemists.

It broadens my experience

55%

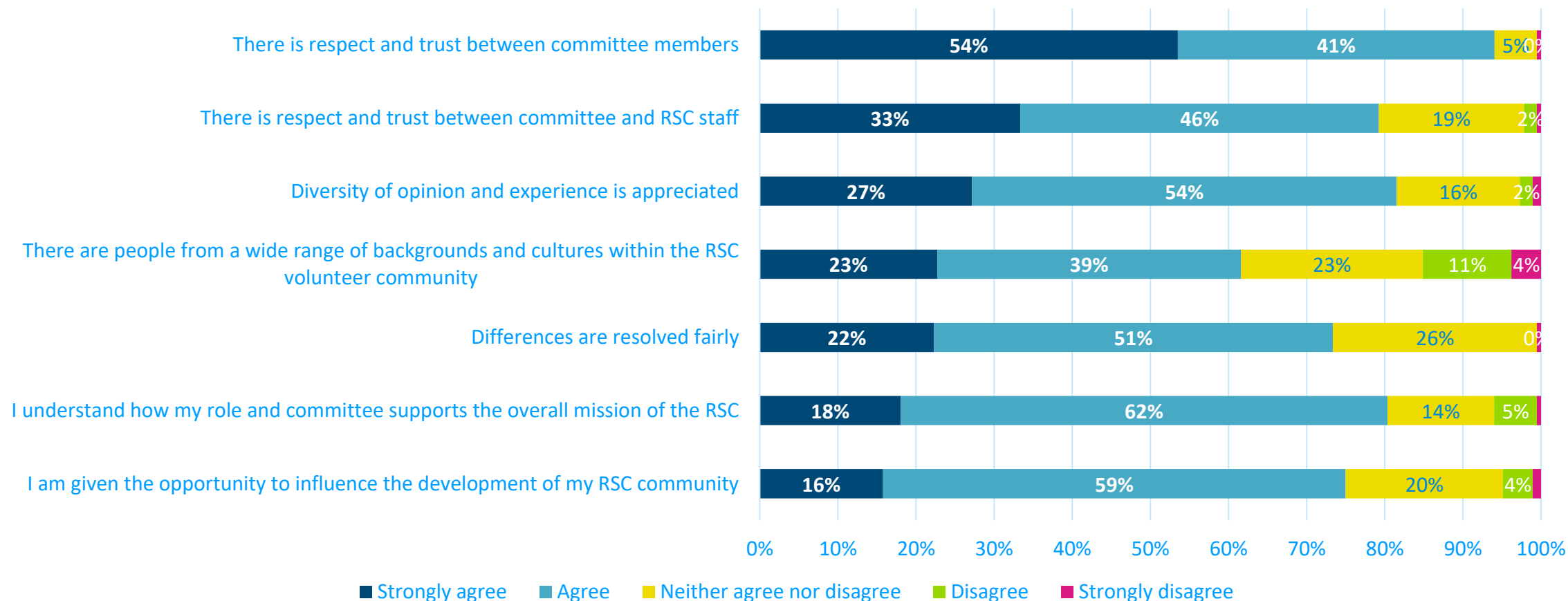
Great opportunity to meet other chemists of similar and different backgrounds.

Contact with people from different backgrounds/cultures

52%

You meet wonderful people from all walks of the scientific and non-scientific community

Culture and Trust



Challenges facing committees



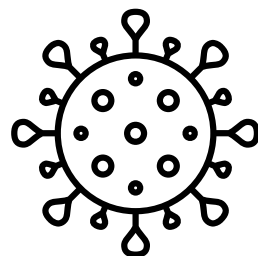
Engaging/Reaching
wider community
55%



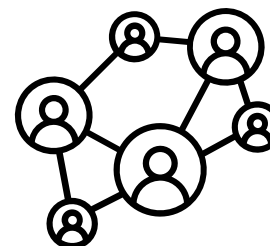
Volunteers have too many
pressures on their time
47%



Not enough **volunteers**
47%



Responding to the **impacts**
of **COVID-19**
31%



Not enough **opportunities to share**
experiences/resources with each other
13%

How could we improve the volunteer experience?

An induction would be very useful for people who have not been part of interest groups/committees before.

Encourage participation and offer support to help new committee members

Find more volunteers to share the load

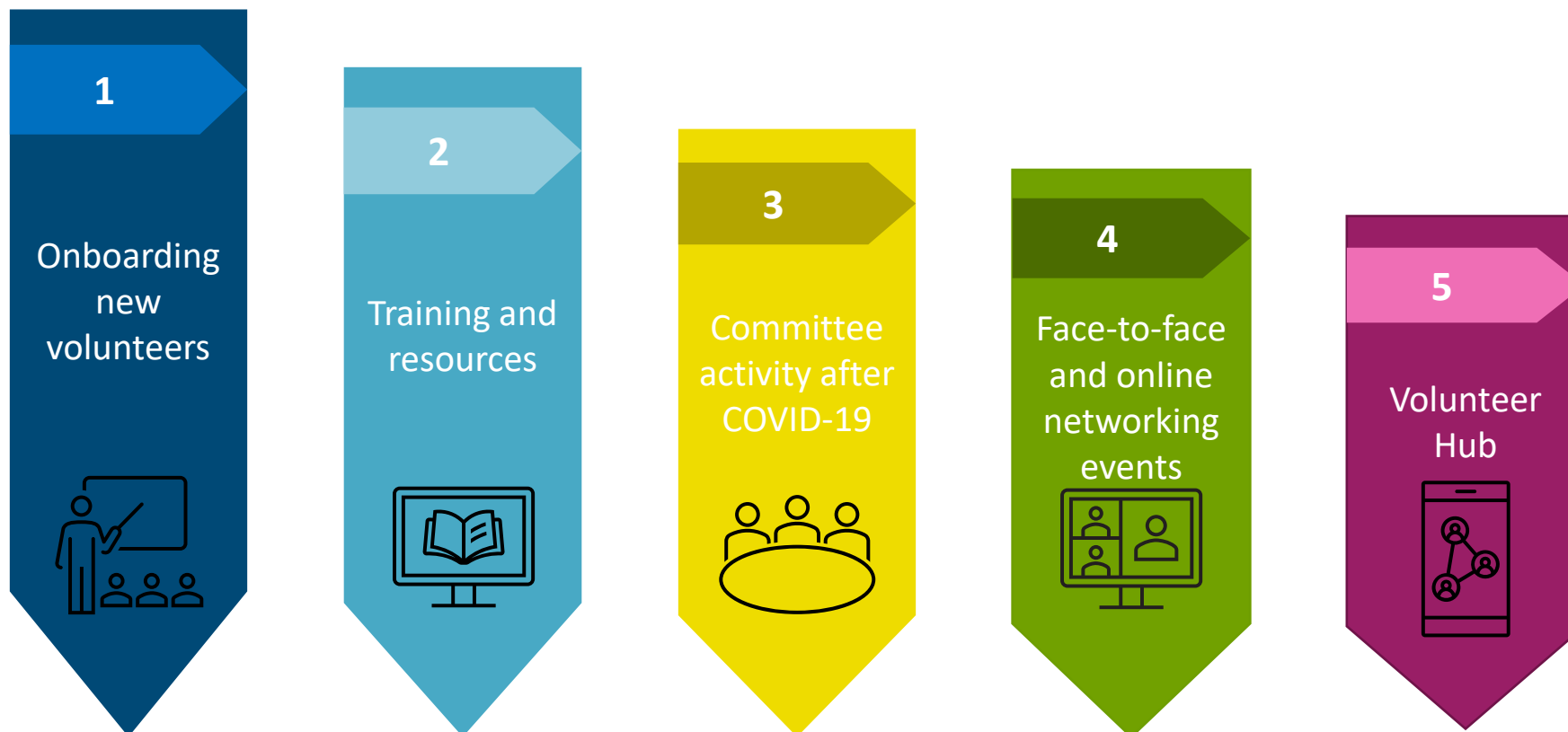
Having a virtual space where all the volunteers can access all the important policies, information, training, meeting, files, etc

I have missed the networking opportunities afforded by face-t-o-face contact during the pandemic

Clear information/induction when starting a role as to what is expected.

More centralised resources for volunteers to start organising their own events.

In response to the survey we will



Encourage others to volunteer

82% very likely or likely to encourage volunteering to other RSC members

"Your time with the RSC can be very rewarding - you will be part of a community of people who love chemistry and want to share their passion."

"Go for it!"

"It is a rewarding experience that will improve your understanding of the community and form valuable links across all aspects of your career."

“Many thanks to the RSC Staff who have given great support to members during this Covid pandemic. As ever, all RSC staff are very helpful whenever contact is made either by email, telephone or Zoom.”