



RULES REVIEW CONSULTATION SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

Our review of the Engineering New Zealand Rules is underway. The Board agreed to three formal rounds of consultation with members to inform the final set of Rules that will be put to the vote at our 2019 AGM. We have now completed two of these three rounds of consultation.

The first round of consultation ran from February to March 2018. We received two submissions from individual members and some high-level feedback from some of our groups.

The second round of consultation ran from May to August 2018. This round of consultation was supported by a discussion document and survey that set out at a high level what specific rules are intended to achieve and options for possible changes to them. We received 194 submissions in response to the second round of consultation.

This paper summarises the feedback we have received so far from the first two rounds of consultation.

We start below with a high-level summary of trends and themes arising from the consultation. Then, in **Appendix One**, we have set out a more detailed summary of submissions, including the raw data from the survey as well as a summary of commentary from the survey and written submissions.

HIGH LEVEL SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK

The following themes were the strongest themes that have emerged from the consultation so far – support for:

- improving the usability and readability of the Rules, using plain English and removing detail not required;
- our Objectives staying substantially the same;
- keeping the provisions relating to member obligations and rights substantially the same;
- introducing a reciprocal membership class;
- greater transparency around Board decisions on membership applications;
- updating aspects of our concerns and complaints process, including incorporating our new early resolution process into the Rules/Regulations.
- maintaining our current governance structure – areas for improvement in branch representation and engagement with the Board were noted, as was the need to advocate more strongly for broad diversity in the Board membership;
- the procedures, powers and duties of the Board saying substantially the same;
- increasing transparency and engagement around the Annual General Meeting and Special General Meeting processes – this includes allowing for virtual attendance and remote voting;
- clear, transparent and accessible guidelines and policies for consultation on any Rule and Regulation change; and
- removing operational detail from the rules relating to Branches and Groups to enhance operations and allow for greater flexibility, and combining them where possible to streamline and avoid duplication.

APPENDIX ONE: CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

** Statistics/percentages of responses are based only on the online survey but the commentary includes all submissions received.

** Respondents could choose more than one option, so percentages for questions will not necessarily add to 100.

SECTION I – TENETS

Current Rule	Feedback
<p>Rule 1 :: Name</p> <p>This Rule prescribes that our legal name is the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand Incorporated.</p>	<p><i>Answered 85</i></p> <p><i>Skipped 96</i></p> <p>The vast majority of people who answered this question in the survey agreed that the legal name should remain as the Institution of Professional Engineers of New Zealand (61 online survey respondents, with 7 supporting a change and 16 expressing no view or an alternative view). There was also support for including our new Te Reo Maori name in the Rules.</p>
<p>Rule 2 :: Interpretation</p>	<p>Two submissions were received relevant to this Rule.</p> <p>The Southland Branch recommended a definition for “engineering professional” be included, where engineering professional is defined as a person who holds the relevant accredited tertiary qualification applicable to their class of membership.</p> <p>A Manawatu Branch Submission also stated that professional engineering should be defined as being the practice of a person holding a Washington Accord academic qualification, “and who has [achieved] codified professional qualities, and who maintains current knowledge and ability”.</p>

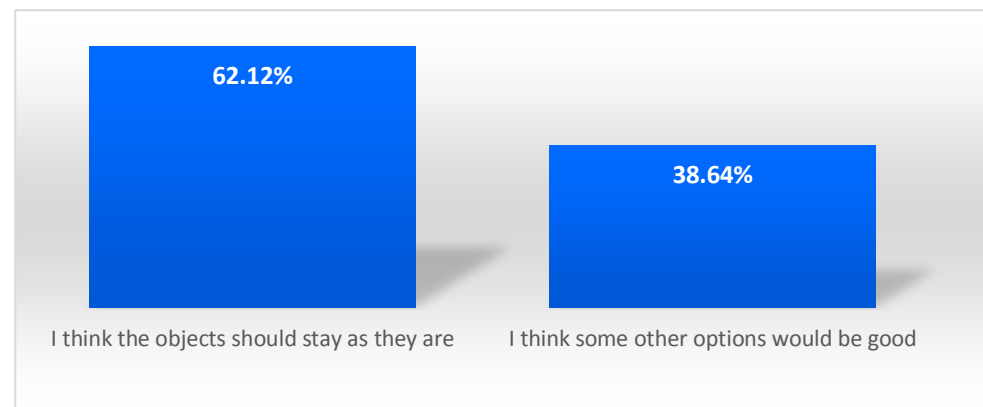
Rule 3 :: Object

The object of Engineering New Zealand is the advancement of New Zealand's engineering profession. The Rule then lists some of the means by which this is achieved.

This list is broadly worded and not exhaustive, and therefore allows flexibility.

Answered 132

Skipped 49



Respondents supported the objects staying as they are. There were some suggestions that would already be covered by the broad wording of our current objectives, given how broad our current objectives are (for example, that Engineering New Zealand should develop industry publications that advance good engineering principles and practices).

Other comments were that the objectives should include:

- supporting the welfare of engineers
- the role engineers play in ensuring the sustainability of our natural environment. This was seen to align nicely with the ethical obligations. But this could be broadly seen as already covered by “contributing to the needs of the community”
- the promotion of engineering education and knowledge within society, in recognition that society is becoming increasingly technology based, and provide for the promotion of the profession and growing tomorrow's engineers
- international alignment
- Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the promotion of partnership, protection and participation.

A Manawatu Branch submission submitted that the purposes of Engineering New Zealand should be refocussed on professional engineers.

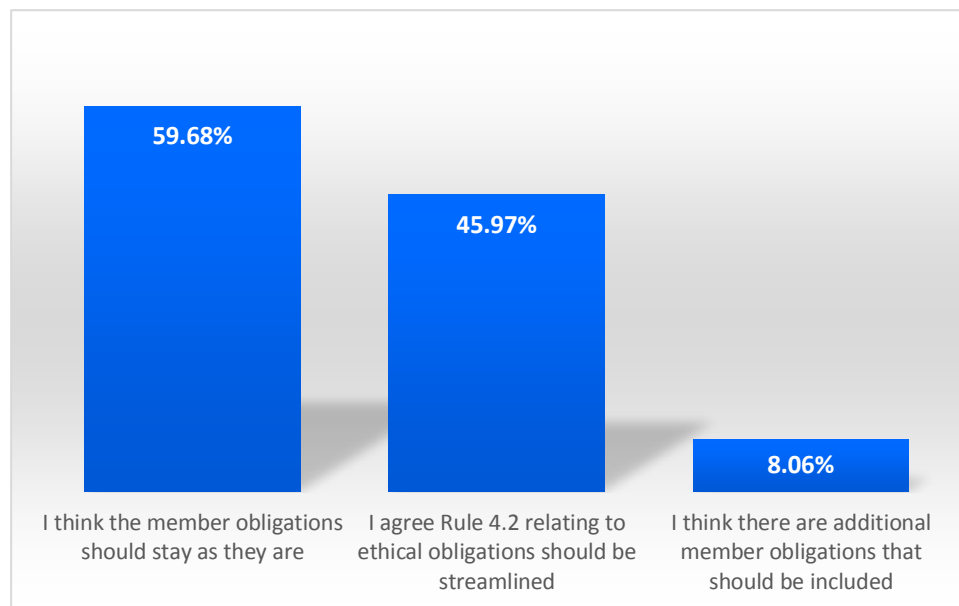
Rule 4 :: Member obligations

Answered 124

Skipped 57

This Rule requires Engineering New Zealand members to abide by the Rules and Regulations, comply with the Code of Ethical Conduct, and conduct themselves in a manner consistent with being a fit and proper person to be a member of Engineering New Zealand.

The Rule also requires certain member classes to commit to the Code of Ethical Conduct, comply with the CPD policy, and perform engineering activities in a careful and competent manner.

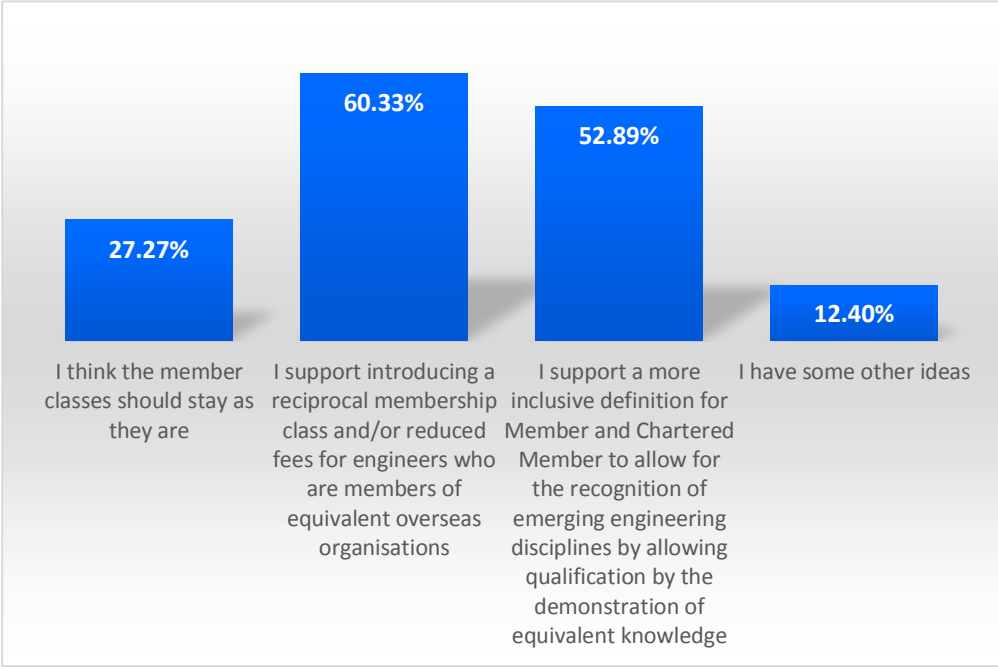


Views included that more emphasis should be placed on ensuring engineers live up to these obligations than the obligations themselves, and that we need to be more proactive with consequences when engineers violate their obligations.

Although these are not issues for the Rules:

- several members noted that the obligation to advise another engineer if you are reviewing their work should be reinserted into the Code of Ethical Conduct (it was removed from the new Code that came into force on 1 July 2016, as it was seen to be more of a professional courtesy to do this than an ethical obligation).
- Some members commented that the good character obligation is ill-defined and would be hard to enforce.
- A member commented that, in line with Te Tiriti o Waitangi, we should define the public good as encompassing “care and respect for the environment, and for humanity’s cultural, historical and archaeological heritage, as well as the primary responsibility members have to protect the health and well-being of present and future generations”.

SECTION II – MEMBERSHIP AND AWARDS

Current Rule	Feedback										
<p>Rule 5 :: Membership Classes and Membership Register</p>	<p><i>Answered</i> 121 <i>Skipped</i> 60</p>										
<p>Rule 6 :: Definition of Membership Classes</p> <p>These Rules establish and define our membership classes. These Rules were reviewed and updated with our membership pathway in 2017.</p> <p>There are two key issues that members have raised with us about these Rules that we asked members about in the survey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> whether our Member and Chartered Member classes should have a more inclusive definition and allow for recognition of emerging engineering disciplines; for example, by allowing qualification by the demonstration of equivalent knowledge. 	 <table border="1"> <caption>Survey Results for Rule 6 Feedback</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Response</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>I think the member classes should stay as they are</td> <td>27.27%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I support introducing a reciprocal membership class and/or reduced fees for engineers who are members of equivalent overseas organisations</td> <td>60.33%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I support a more inclusive definition for Member and Chartered Member to allow for the recognition of emerging engineering disciplines by allowing qualification by the demonstration of equivalent knowledge</td> <td>52.89%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I have some other ideas</td> <td>12.40%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Response	Percentage	I think the member classes should stay as they are	27.27%	I support introducing a reciprocal membership class and/or reduced fees for engineers who are members of equivalent overseas organisations	60.33%	I support a more inclusive definition for Member and Chartered Member to allow for the recognition of emerging engineering disciplines by allowing qualification by the demonstration of equivalent knowledge	52.89%	I have some other ideas	12.40%
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- if we should introduce a reciprocal membership class for overseas engineers.

Emerging disciplines and equivalent knowledge

While there was general support for a wider acceptance of engineering backgrounds, disciplines, training and education, there was a view that equivalent knowledge is difficult to evaluate, particularly in emerging disciplines, and rigour would be required to this assessment.

It was noted that knowledge is not the same as competence, and it was suggested that the test should be demonstrating equivalent competencies. Another respondent suggested the test should be sufficient knowledge as well as demonstrable skills and commitment to professional behaviour.

One submitter stated that, for Chartered Membership, there should be a requirement that the engineer has practised in New Zealand for a set period and have demonstrated familiarity with New Zealand's regulatory environment, society and accepted good practice.

There were a few views expressed that Engineering New Zealand membership should be limited to people with engineering degrees only/Washington Accord, and that the academic standard must be maintained. Some respondents expressed concern over allowing software engineers that do not have an engineering degree. One respondent stated: "I understand that Engineering New Zealand wishes to cater to a diverse range of professionals, but please don't make the church too broad. If you continue the expansion philosophy I feel the focus on core functions will be eroded."

There was also a view that recognition of emerging disciplines could be fulfilled under the Affiliate member class. Another view was that Member class could be defined sufficiently broadly to allow engineering "in all its academic guises" but that Chartered Membership may not need to be as broad.

Reciprocal member class

There was a view that reciprocal membership classes could giving a backdoor CPEng equivalence but overall it was generally supported.

Rule 7 :: Approval, Resignation, Suspension, Removal and Reinstatement of Engineering New Zealand Members

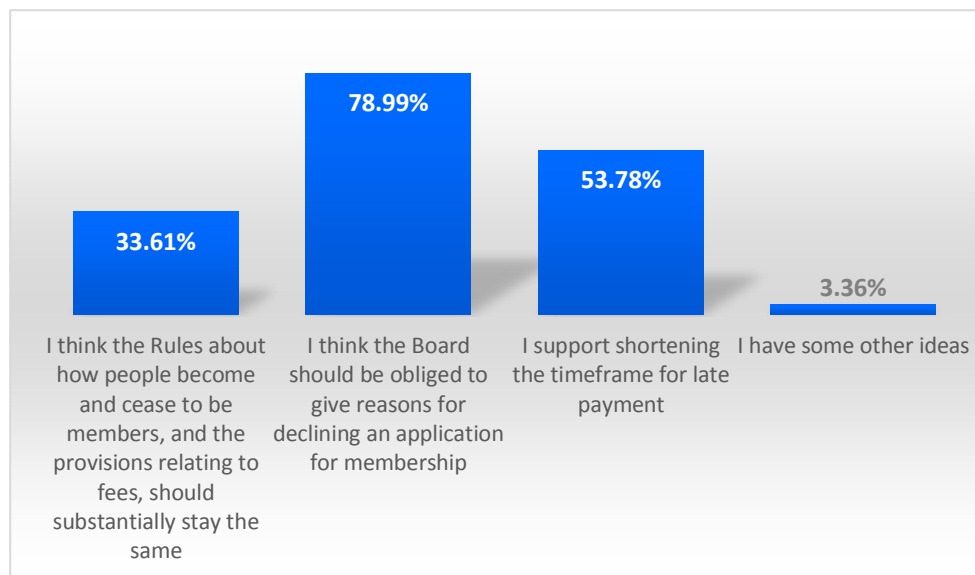
Answered 119

Skipped 62

Rule 8 :: Entrance Fees, Rebates and Annual Subscriptions

These Rules set out the operational elements of how someone becomes a member or ends their membership, and membership fees. These Rules were updated in 2017 in line with the new Membership Pathway.

We asked members two questions about these Rules, relating to whether the Board should give reasons for declining a membership application (currently they don't need to) and whether the timing for membership removal due to late payment of subscription fees should be shortened (currently 11 months).



There was strong support for transparency and the Board giving reasons for refusing any application for membership, although a couple of respondents expressed concern that the Board should have discretion here given decisions are seldom clear-cut and unanimous.

There were mixed views on whether the timeframe for late payment should be shortened. There was concern of the effect this might have on members who were unable to pay because of financial hardship. This could be managed through providing for discretion and good communications with members about payment timeframes and consequences of non-payment.

One member expressed concern about fees for Fellows and Distinguished Fellows being higher than other membership classes.

One member expressed a view that there should be a minimum stand-down period for a member removed due to disciplinary reasons. Currently the CPEng Rules allow a CPEng to reapply for registration after a stand-down period specified by the Disciplinary Committee. The Engineering New Zealand Rules do not provide for this.

Another member suggested that there should be authority in the Rules to suspend a member if they are charged with a serious offence that leads to them appearing before a Court in New Zealand. Currently the Rules allow a Disciplinary Committee to consider a complaint where the member has been convicted but they do not provide for interim suspension pending the outcome of a Court process.

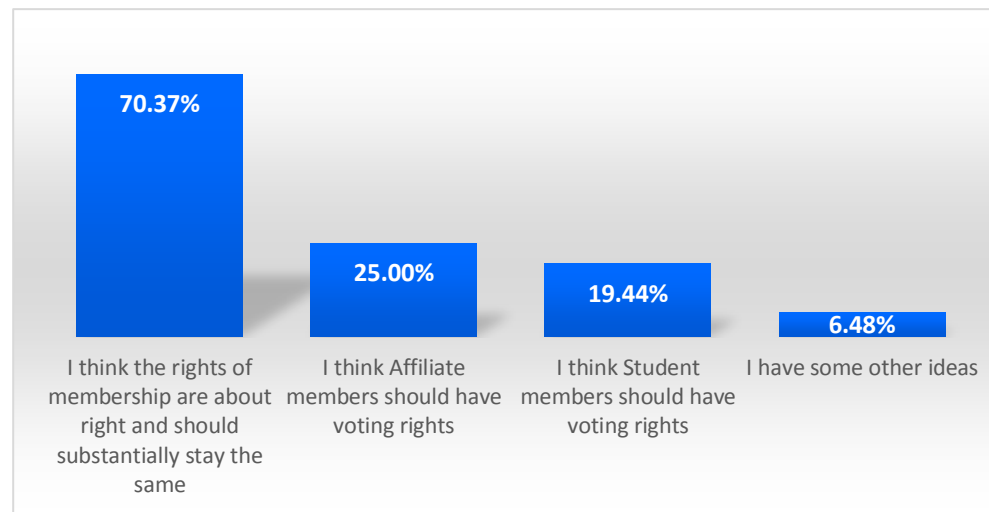
One respondent suggested that Rule 7.2.2(b) should be removed. This is the Rule that the CE may refuse to permit a member's resignation if the member has failed to pay all the subscriptions. This respondent also pointed out a potential inconsistency between Rules 8.2.3 and 8.5, regarding authority for allowing rebates or remits on a subscription.

Rule 9 :: Rights of Membership

Answered 108

Skipped 73

This Rule sets out the rights of members to attend General Meetings, seek advice and support, vote, be nominated to the Board, and receive a copy of the Journal.



Most respondents felt that the membership rights are about right and should substantially stay the same.

There was more support for giving Affiliate members voting rights than for giving voting rights to students.

Two respondents commented that allowing Student members to vote makes their membership more meaningful. They noted that students are the future, and they should have a say in their future.

Respondents supporting Affiliates having voting rights commented that all financial members should have voting rights – if you are committed enough to pay a subscription then you should have a right to say how the Institution is run.

One member stated that the Rules should be encouraging rather than restricting membership rights. They noted that when they were Branch Chair of their region, it was the Student and associate members who were far more active and involved than many of the more senior members.

Respondents less supportive of giving Affiliates and/or Students voting rights commented that these members have less obligations under Rule 4 (with regards to committing to the Code of Ethical Conduct and undertaking continuing professional development) and therefore not having voting rights was consistent with this. A respondent suggested that if they are to have voting rights then they should be accountable to the obligations in Rule 4. (Under the current Rules, Companions and Honorary Fellows have voting rights but they are not required to commit annually to the Code of Ethical Conduct or undertake CPD, and CPD is not required of retired members who still maintain a right to vote – so this view is less clear cut than it seems.)

One respondent commented that it is when students become Emerging Professionals that they can be judged to have a significant interest in the operation of the organisation. Another respondent felt that to strengthen its credibility, voting should be restricted to Chartered Members and Fellows as “Emerging engineers are not engineers, nor are students”.

Rule 10 :: Complaints on conduct of Engineering New Zealand members

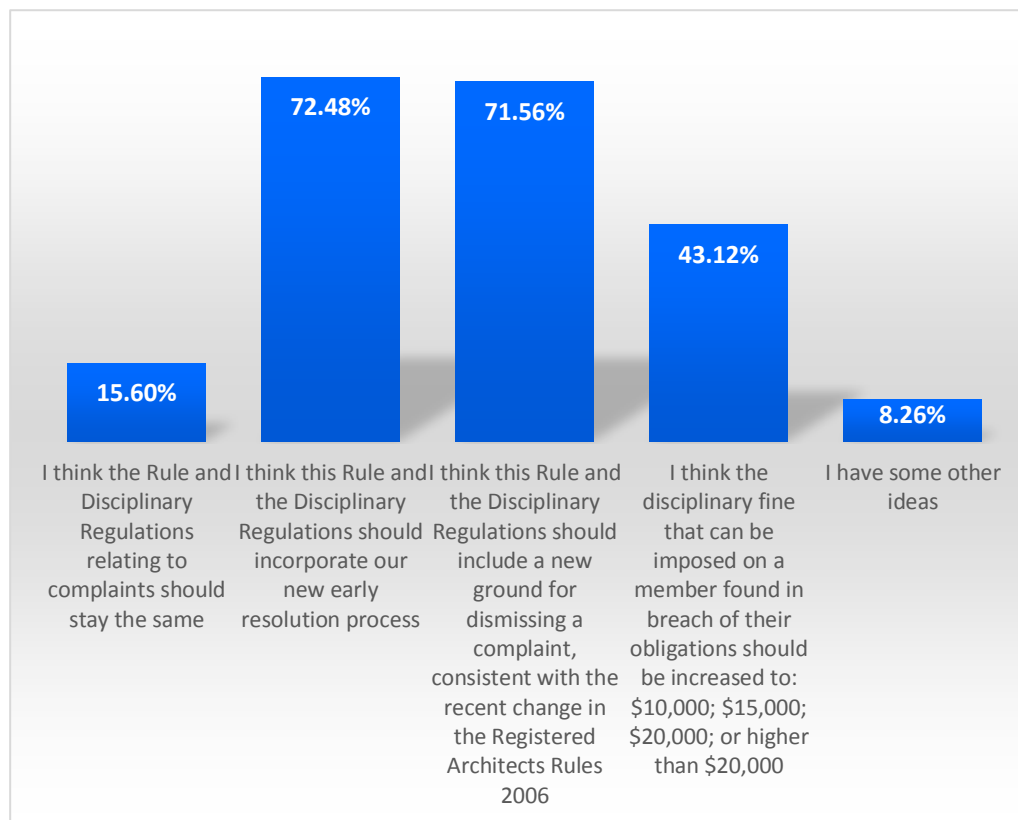
Answered 109

Skipped 72

Disciplinary Regulations

These Rules and Regulations govern Engineering New Zealand’s role and procedures in responding to complaints about members. The Rules and Regulations closely mirror the Chartered Professional Engineers Act and Rules.

We asked members for feedback on the complaints provisions, including whether we should incorporate the new early resolution process into the rules, whether the disciplinary fine is at the right level, and whether we should include a new ground for dismissing a complaint.



There was strong support for incorporating the new early resolution process for managing complaints into the Rules and Disciplinary Regulations, and for including a new ground for dismissing a complaint – when there is no real prospect of the complaint being upheld by a Disciplinary Committee, consistent with the new ground in the Architects’ rules.

There were mixed views about whether the disciplinary fine should be increased to be more consistent with other professions. Some respondents thought it was a good idea but were concerned that there could be administrative issues with having different levels for members and Chartered Professional Engineers. Other respondents felt that the real penalty is loss of

reputation, which is more of a punishment than the fine itself. Many of the respondents that felt it was a good idea, supported raising the maximum fine to \$20,000 “in order to have teeth”.

Other comments were that the process needs to be faster and it takes too long. Another respondent commented that there should be scope for dealing with minor misdemeanours or competence disagreements with a fine or warning from the Investigating Committee, with only repeat or serious complaints proceeding to the Disciplinary Committee. This means giving the Investigating Committee power to make orders and recommendations. (This is something the architects are currently considering but it could be difficult for us as it would make the Engineering New Zealand complaints process significantly different from the legislated Chartered Professional Engineers process – and create administrative difficulties in application.)

One respondent expressed concern that engineers and councils are not raising concerns with Engineering New Zealand about poor quality work because they don't want to initiate a complaint. This respondent commented that there should be a way to raise concerns about poor quality outside of the formal complaints process, where repeat concerns (for example, three matters raised) would trigger a more formal response, which may include peer review of the engineer's work. (The new early resolution process, which members support incorporating into the Rules, now offers greater opportunity to address these types of issues outside of the formal complaints process.)

There were views put forward that the disciplinary procedures should be able to be applied to someone who was a member at the time of action leading to the complaint but is no longer a member at the time of the complaint.

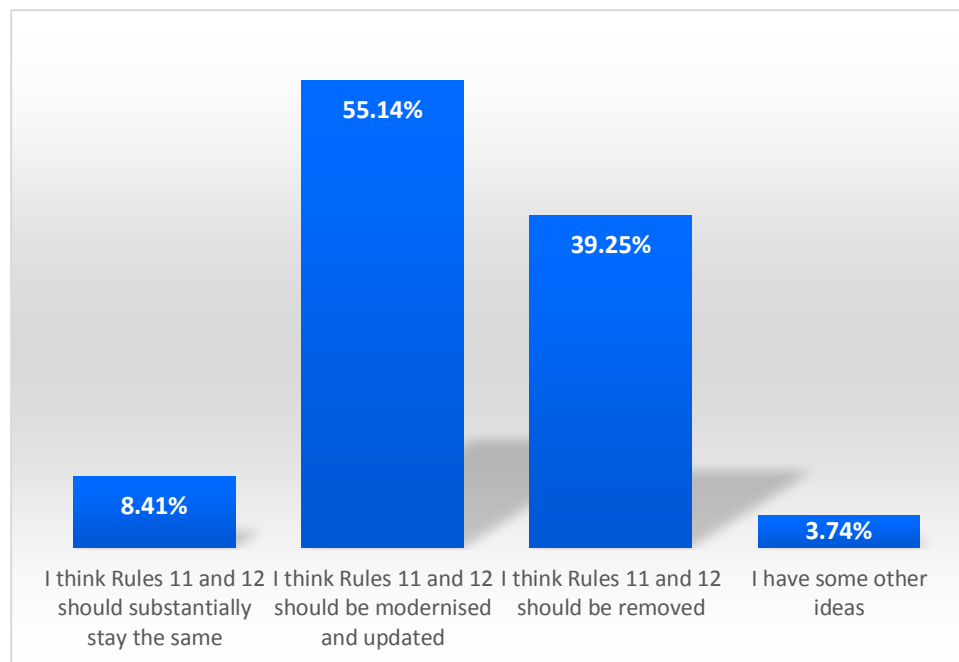
Rule 11 :: Papers and Articles

Answered 107

Rule 12 :: Awards

Skipped 74

The Incorporated Societies Act does not require us to have rules about publications and awards. Removing these Rules would not affect Engineering New Zealand's ability to produce publications or make awards. We asked for members' thoughts in the consultation.



Views were expressed that the publishing of papers is an important role and it is good to have a Rule around it. Most respondents who commented considered that the author should hold copyright and the Rule relating to this needs to be updated or removed.

A concern was expressed about Engineering New Zealand's reduction in publishing scholarly works.

SECTION III – GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Current Rule	Feedback										
<p>Rule 13 :: Composition, Office Tenure and Elections of the Board</p> <p>This Rule provides that Engineering New Zealand’s activities will be governed by a Board. It sets out the Rules about the composition of the Board, tenure, and the election and appointment process for Board members.</p> <p>Some details are now outdated with the move to electronic voting. Some members had previously suggested that voting for Board elections use preferential voting, so we asked members about this in the consultation.</p>	<p><i>Answered</i> 104 <i>Skipped</i> 77</p> <div data-bbox="848 485 1839 940" data-label="Figure"> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Feedback Category</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>I think Rule 13 should substantially stay the same</td> <td>18.27%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I support Rule 13 being modernised and simplified</td> <td>65.38%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I think all elections for Board member positions should use preferential voting</td> <td>39.42%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I have some other ideas</td> <td>7.69%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <p>There was no strong mandate in the responses for any change in our current Rules relating to the composition of the Board or office tenure or voting.</p> <p>There were views that the Board needs to better reflect the diversity of the membership, for example, smaller firms and young engineers. One respondent felt that “the odds are against ‘minority’ disciplines where a candidate might be from a smaller branch or technical [group] and lacks the backing of a major consultancy”. There was a suggestion that there should be more work upfront to ensure diverse nominations are put forward.</p> <p>There were views that there needs to be increased engagement between the Board and Branches, and more Branch participation in decision-making. While there were a couple of calls for Branch representation on the Board, it was also noted that “the Board is massive”, and there is a need for efficiency in decision-making.</p>	Feedback Category	Percentage	I think Rule 13 should substantially stay the same	18.27%	I support Rule 13 being modernised and simplified	65.38%	I think all elections for Board member positions should use preferential voting	39.42%	I have some other ideas	7.69%
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There was also a view that there should be more than one candidate standing for the Senior Office Holder positions. And that Senior Office Holders should have a longer term of Office to allow for more continuity and time to enact plans.

There was some support for exploring preferential voting for Board member elections, and it was noted that this might help increase the Board's diversity.

A Manawatu Branch submission stated a concern that executive decisions are being made by non-engineers. It submitted: "Our governance should come from one and only one body of professional engineers each of whom is elected by defined group of members and is answerable to that group." (Currently the organisation is governed by a Board, all of whom are elected representatives and engineers.)

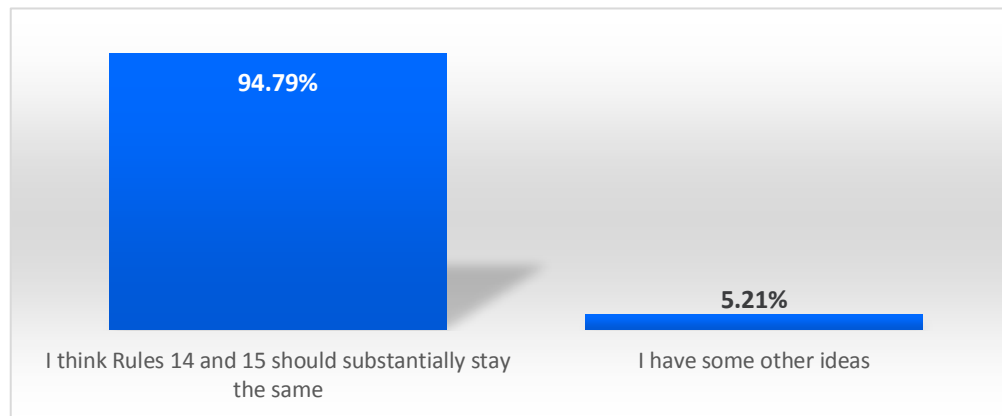
Rule 14 :: Procedures, Powers and Duties of the Board

Answered 96

Skipped 85

Rule 15 :: Appointment and duties of the staff and auditor

These Rules are in line with the general powers and duties commonly invested in a governing board. These include developing and implementing strategic plans, control of funds, reporting requirements, appointment of staff, determining the Chief Executive's remuneration, and ensuring compliance and accountability across the organisation's functions.



There was a very strong mandate for keeping these Rules substantially the same. There was a comment that the Board could get members opinions more often to feed into decisions, and that the quorum should be a certain proportion of sitting Board members not a set number (currently six).

There were two views expressed that staff (either all or key members of staff) should be "professional engineers" (in a Manawatu Branch submission and from one individual member).

A Manawatu Branch submission stated that members need more powers in decision-making, the Board must publicise and record delegations, and that staff functions should be limited (administrative only). They also submitted that members should be able to clearly see the national office organisational structure, job descriptions and role holders, and advocated for direct involvement of core expertise in the membership for projects, maximisation of volunteer responsibilities, and greater transparency around Board functioning, debate, decisions and voting. (These are operational matters that do not require a Rule change.)

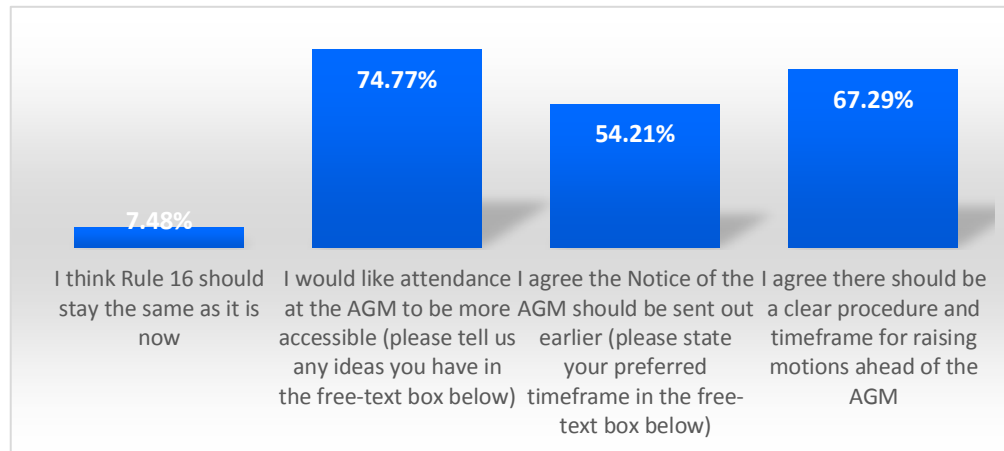
Rule 16 :: AGM

Answered 107

Skipped 74

This Rule says members should be given 14 days' notice of the AGM. We wonder if this is long enough. It also does not provide for how and when remits can be submitted for the AGM, and voting has to be in person.

We want our AGM to be as accessible as possible to our members and the Rule is currently quite restrictive in that regard. We asked members what they thought about this.



There was very strong support for amending this Rule to allow greater access to and transparency of the AGM. A range of timeframes were suggested for the sending out of Notice of the AGM, with the most common suggestion being one month. It was noted that with live streaming of the AGM, online voting would require some thought, especially in respect of motions raised from the floor.

One member commented on the need for transparency, including ensuring accurate reporting of votes at AGMs (and SGMs).

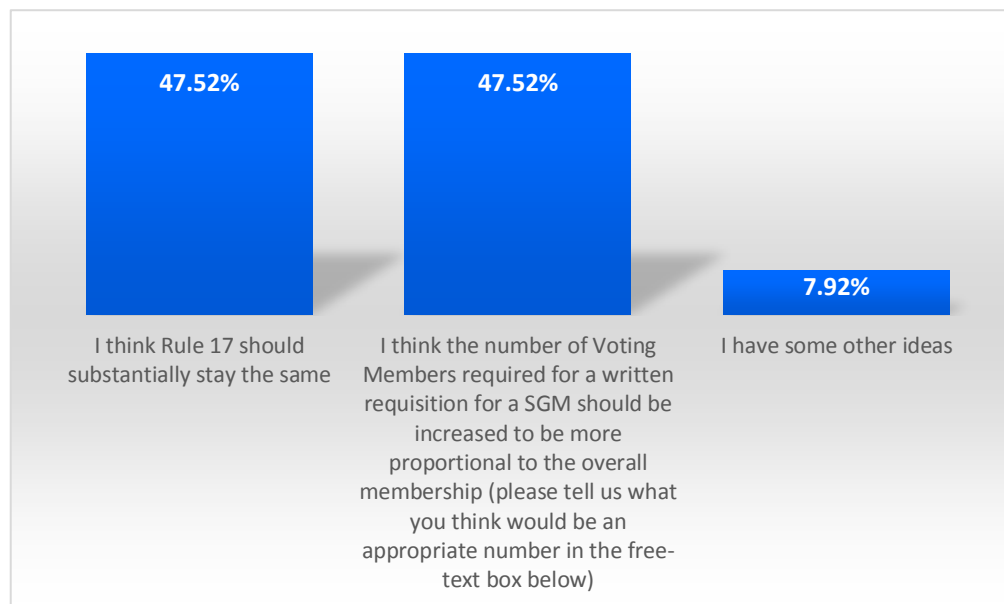
Rule 17 :: SGM

Answered 101

Skipped 80

This Rule provides that a Special General Meeting can be called at any time on the written request of 30 or more Voting Members. Thirty is also the quorum required for an SGM.

This Rule was drafted when the membership base was much smaller and we asked members if the number of voting members required should be revised to reflect our growth and be more proportional to total membership.



There were various views about the number of voting members required for a written requisition for a SGM and the quorum required. One member noted that it has to be possible that a significant minority can call an SGM. They noted that the bar has to be high enough to stop frivolous calls but not so high as to make the “establishment” safe from challenge.

Some members suggested that 5 – 10% of membership aligns better representation, while others suggested a set number, such as 30, 50 or 100 voting members. One member commented that 100 would align with the current requirements for a referendum and represent a reasonable number of professionals with a strong view on a particular issue that the wider membership might wish to hear. One view was that the quorum is inadequate as it doesn’t ensure that those voting at the SGM are representative of the membership.

Another view expressed was that it would be less democratic to make the number too large.

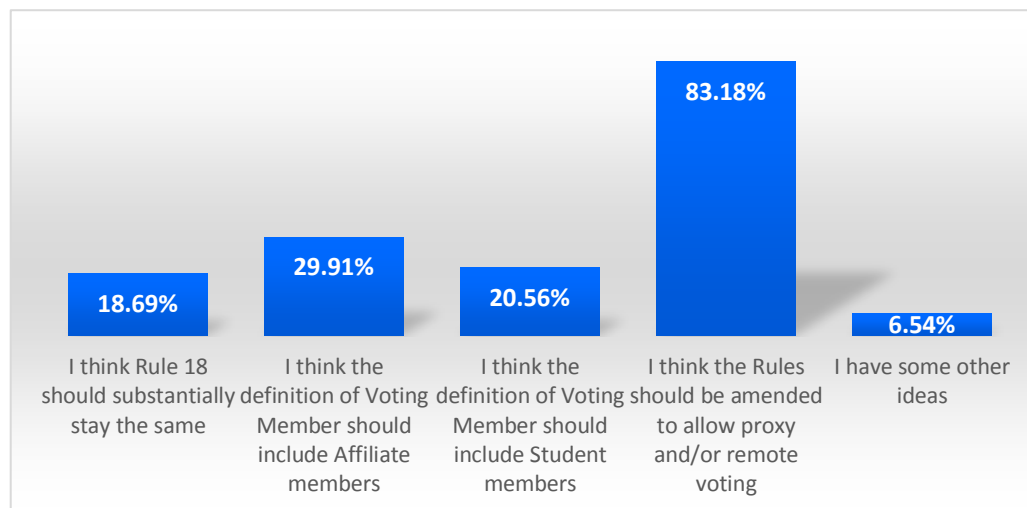
Rule 18 :: Voting at meetings

Answered 107

Skipped 74

Currently, only members physically present at a Board, committee or General Meeting can vote, and votes are required to be 'by the voices'. This would not be practical if we move to allow proxy or remote voting.

Also, Affiliate and Student members are currently excluded from voting, as they are not Voting Members as defined in Rule 2 – Affiliate members can stand for and be voted onto the Board but, according to this Rule, cannot vote at a Board meeting.



There was a strong call in the responses to amend the Rules to allow for proxy and/or remote voting. A member suggested that for proxy or remote voting to work, non-attending members should be required to register in advance that they may wish to vote.

The responses to whether the definition of Voting Member should include Affiliates and/or Students were less definitive (see above).

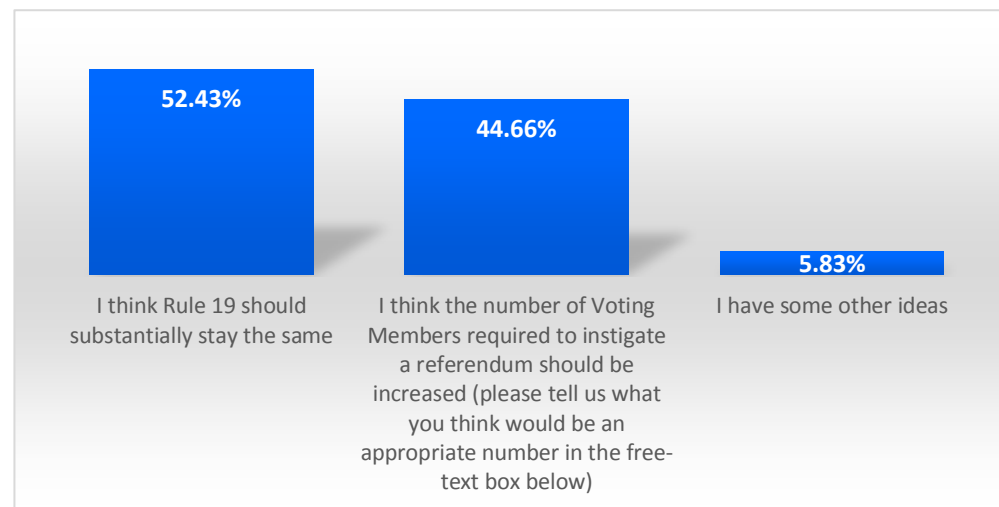
A Manawatu Branch submission stated that voting on matters affecting the profession should be limited to those who have achieved "professional standing".

Rule 19 :: Referendum

The Board is required to take a non-binding referendum on the written request of 100 Voting Members. This Rule was drafted when our membership base was much smaller. We asked members if it would be appropriate to reconsider this number given our membership growth, and whether there are any other criteria that could be used to trigger a referendum (for example, changes to certain policies or procedures).

Answered 103

Skipped 78



Responses were reasonably split on whether the number of voting members required to instigate a non-binding referendum should stay at 100 or increase. Views were expressed that the Board should be able to initiate a referendum on its own initiative as well as on request from a number of members.

One member noted that given the ease by which a referendum can be deployed online, and the fact it is non-binding, means that the calling of a referendum should remain accessible. Another member said the number should be 500 voting members so minority groups “don’t waste our time and funds”.

Other respondents indicated that there should be consistency with Rule 17, and the number of voting members required to call a SGM.

One respondent (Southland Branch) noted that the outcome of a referendum should be binding. A Manawatu Branch submission also noted that referenda are not binding, which diminishes the Board’s accountability. (There is a process for binding member voting in the Rules, by way of a Special General Meeting.)

Rule 20 :: Alteration of Rules

Answered 108

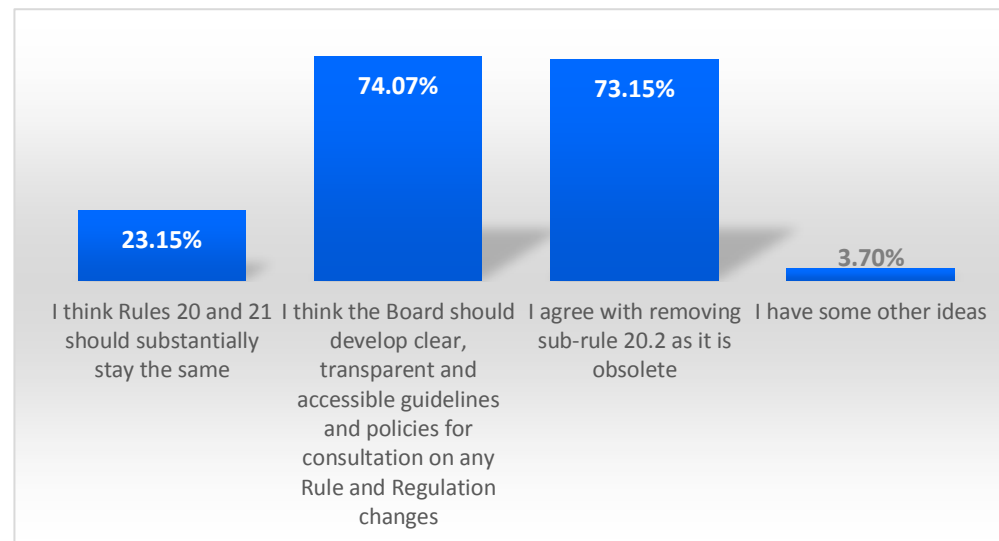
Rule 21 :: Regulations

Skipped 73

Currently Rules can only be made, amended, or rescinded by a resolution at a General Meeting. However, changes to our Regulations can be made by the assent of two-thirds or more of the Board. We think this is a good balance between representation and efficiency.

The Rules do not include any clear consultation requirements for changes to the Rules and Regulations.

Under sub-rule 20.2 no change may be made to Rule 24 (Winding Up) without the approval of the Inland Revenue Department. This is an obsolete Rule and is not a requirement of the Inland Revenue Department.



There was strong support for the Board developing clear, transparent and accessible guidelines and policies for consultation on any Rule and Regulation change, and with removing sub-rule 20.2. One respondent suggested that a formal review of the Rules should be required on a 10 or 20-year basis, to ensure alignment with societal and legislative changes.

A Manawatu Branch submission stated that separate processes and decision criteria need to be established for changes to constitutional matters; for example, a larger quorum, a higher threshold of support, and two-stage voting processes.

Rule 22 :: Property

Answered 43

Rule 23 :: Control and use of common seal

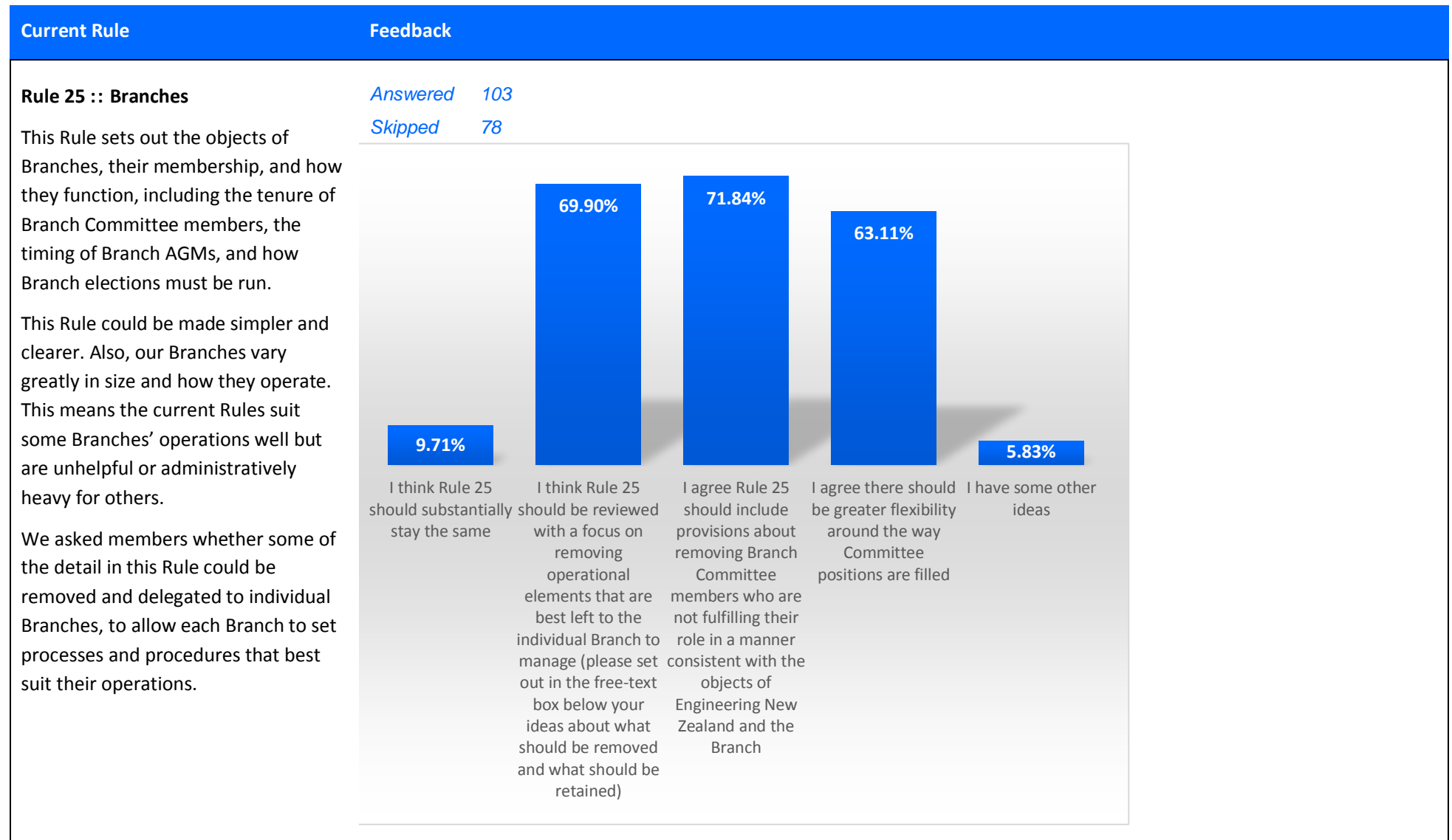
Skipped 138

Rule 24 :: Winding-up

There was general agreement that these Rules should stay as they are, with an update in language.

The Incorporated Societies Act requires us to have Rules about the control and investment of funds, the control and use of our common seal, and the winding up of the society.

SECTION IV – SUBSIDIARY ORGANISATIONS



There was support in the responses for reviewing Rule 25 with a focus on removing operational elements that are best left to the individual Branch to manage, but without compromising the worthy objective of making Branch administration simpler. A respondent noted that it is a difficult challenge between managing the Engineering New Zealand brand centrally and yet giving flexibility to branches. One respondent noted that there needs to be flexibility for branches to operate according to local circumstances, but also minimum thresholds and discipline around how the branch committees are selected and to ensure accountability for branch funds. This was also seen as necessary to discourage insular cultures or perceptions of 'closed shop' for small local branches. The benefit of having consistency in operation across all branches to ensure they meet the strategy was also noted.

One member suggested that Rules 25 to 27 may need more substantial review and modification from time to time, so it may be simpler to remove most of the clauses from the Rules and allow the Board to set expectations via regulations as required from time to time. Another member commented that there could be three levels of Rules for Branches: first, the basic items over which a Branch has no discretion and which ensure compatibility with the objectives of Engineering New Zealand; second, default requirements that are applicable in most cases to ensure consistency across Branches, but which the Branch is able to vary if necessary; and thirdly, items which the Branch can provide for itself.

One member commented that nominations and voting for Branch committee positions should occur electronically, and by the whole Branch/group, well before the AGM, as limited attendance at the AGM is not representative of the group. The AGM could then include the formal appointment of the roles following voting. Other respondents noted that elections for Branches should be administered more by National Office, as it is time consuming for the Branches to organise this.

There was also support for including provisions about removing Branch committee members who are not fulfilling their role in a manner consistent with the objects of Engineering New Zealand. One respondent noted that there needs to be some rules around Branches to ensure they represent the organisation's overall vision, values and views. Another respondent suggested this could be achieved through a brief charter with each Branch, and an annual report back to Engineering New Zealand through a templated report that provides for consistent reporting with respect to who is on the committee, how many meetings were held, financial summary, any issues etc.

There was also a suggestion to require all committee members to have Board approval to stand for more than three consecutive terms (this requirement currently only applies to the Chair). There was also a suggestion to bring in rotations for committee members as part of succession planning.

A Manawatu Branch submission stated that to overcome the issue of one branch representing 50% of all members, we should consider setting a total of 20 branches (around 500-2000 persons in each) and carry out a one-off adjustment of boundaries to achieve this, or make provision for sub-branches. (A Rule change would not be required for this.)

Rule 26 :: TIGS and SIGS

Answered 102

Rules for groups also cover details such as the tenure of Committee members, the timing of group AGMs, membership eligibility, and how group elections must be run.

Skipped 79

Some parts of this Rule are overly wordy and could be made simpler and clearer. We asked members whether some of this detail could be removed and delegated to our individual groups.

- 62.75% of respondents agreed that Rule 26 should refer to Groups more generally, rather than being separated out into technical and special interest groups
- 59.80% of respondents agreed that Rule 26 should be reviewed with a focus on removing operational elements that are best left to the individual Group to manage
- 68.63% of respondents agreed that Rule 26 should include provisions about removing Group committee members who are not fulfilling their role in a manner consistent with the objects of Engineering New Zealand and the Group
- 69.61% of respondents agreed there should be greater flexibility around how Group committee positions are filled
- 60.78% of respondents agreed that the Board should have greater discretion to create and dissolve Groups, subject to reasonable and fair processes.

Many respondents referred back to their comments on Rule 25 (Branches) in this section, noting that the Rules here need to provide groups with operational flexibility balanced with their obligations as representatives of Engineering New Zealand.

Comments included that the groups should be accountable for their output and have adequate oversight from Engineering New Zealand (particularly in respect of managing Engineering New Zealand's reputation and compliance with Engineering New Zealand's ethical requirements), but that some of the administrative and operational requirements could be removed – for example, holding AGMs and providing annual reports is a bit over the top for a group of volunteers operating with no specific timeframe – and perhaps a simple format annual report to ensure an historical record of activities would be more appropriate.

Some respondents noted the importance that group members who are not Engineering New Zealand members are nonetheless bound by Engineering New Zealand's ethics. A member recommended that the obligations of members of a group who are not Engineering New Zealand members could be covered by an obligation to comply with a charter, which in turn would be aligned with Engineering New Zealand's objectives. A Manawatu Branch submission also stated that members of TIGS and SIGS should be within the jurisdiction of Engineering New Zealand.

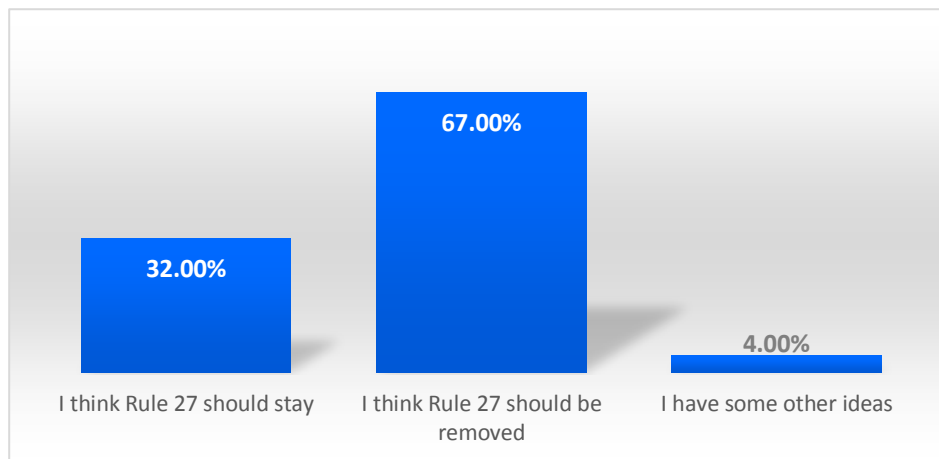
Rule 27 :: Practice Colleges

Answered 100

Skipped 81

This Rule allows the Board to create Practice Colleges and provides for their membership and management.

There are no Practice Colleges in operation, and the Board is not aware of any demand for any.



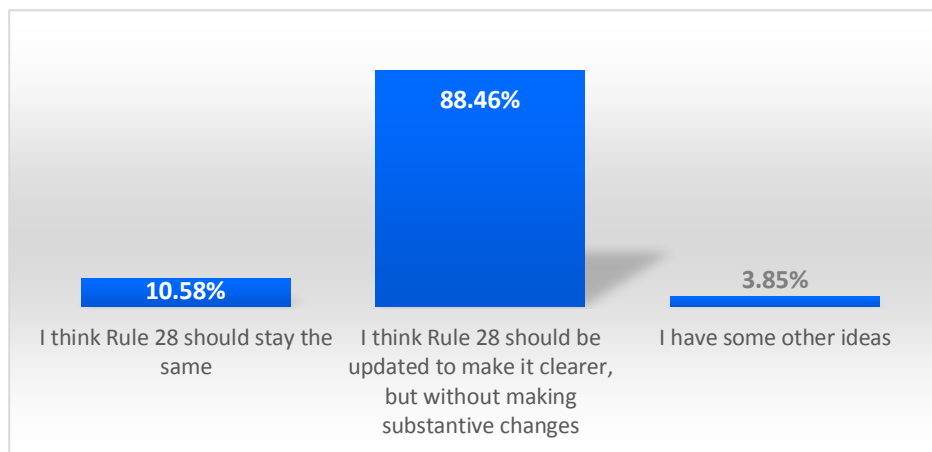
There was support for removing this Rule as it is obsolete but other members felt the authority to create a Practice College should remain in case a demand arises in the future.

Rule 28 :: Competence Registers

Answered 104

Skipped 77

This Rule states that the Board may establish Competence Registers and provides for their objects and operations.



There was support for keeping in the rules a power to establish competence registers.

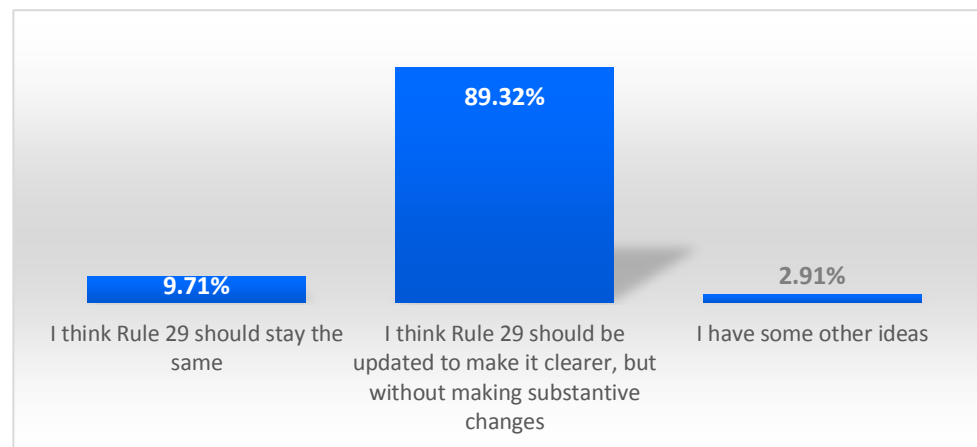
One respondent commented that the public should be made aware of an engineer’s Practice Area description, and that Engineering New Zealand needs to implement a nationwide campaign to educate stakeholders about practice areas and how to check an engineer’s competence. This is not a matter for the Rule changes, as it relates to CPEng, but we will carry it forward in our conversations with MBIE about occupational regulation.

Rule 29 :: Collaborating Technical Societies

Answered 103

Skipped 78

This Rule allows the Board to recognise independent societies or organisations, whose primary object is the development and sharing of engineering knowledge, as Collaborating Technical Societies.



There was strong support for updating Rule 29 without making substantive changes, and to encourage collaboration with other organisations. One respondent suggested combining this Rule with the Rule for groups.

Rule 30 :: Student Chapters and Student Engineers of New Zealand

Answered 100

Skipped 81

This Rule covers details including the terms for SENZ Council representatives, the timing of the SENZ AGM, and the quorum for Council meetings.

This Rule is overly complex for the nature of the group, and we asked members for their thoughts on retaining it as a separate rule.



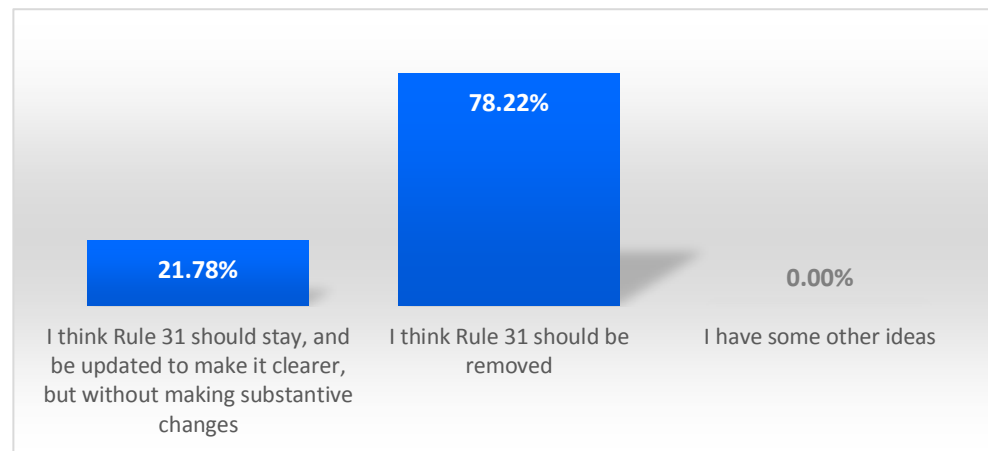
There was support for removing the operational details in this Rule, similar to the Rules for Branches and Groups, and also for integrating it into a broader rule for Groups generally. But it was also noted that as most of the members of this Group are new to this type of environment, a reasonable amount of operational direction and guidance is helpful. A suggestion was made that there could be operating procedures – and these could sit outside of the Rules.

Rule 31 :: Academies

Answered 101

Skipped 80

There are no Academies in operation, and the Board is not aware of any demand for any.



There was support for removing this Rule. If we create a general rule for groups, future need could be met through that rule.

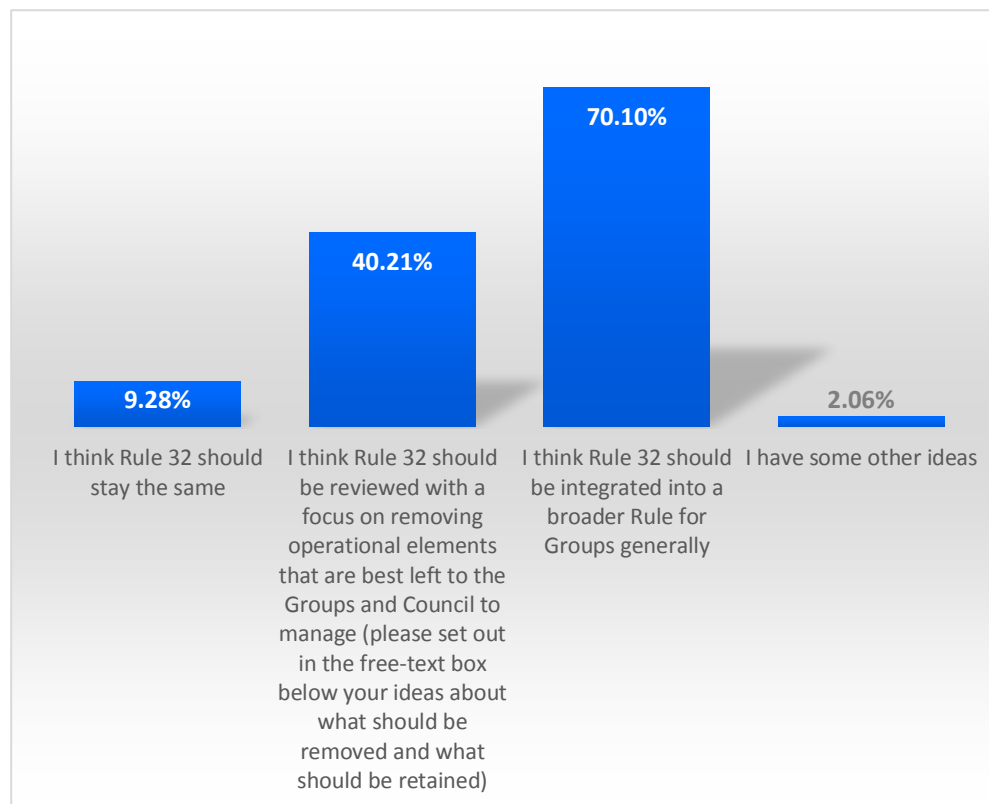
Rule 32 :: Emerging Professionals Group and the Emerging Professionals Council

Answered 97

Skipped 84

This Rule allows the Board to recognise an Emerging Professionals Group, and provides for its object, membership, committees, and operations. It also covers the Emerging Professionals Council.

We asked members whether a separate Rule for emerging professionals is necessary, or whether it could be integrated into a broader Rule for Groups generally.



It was interesting that there was less support here for removing operational detail than with the other rules relating to Branches, Groups and Students, but stronger support for integrating it into a broader rule for groups generally. The comments did not provide any guidance on why these were different.

One respondent noted the confusion between the name of this group in the Rules – Emerging Professionals – when it has now rebranded to Young Engineers, and noted that in their experience the group doesn’t operate with such formality as is prescribed in the rules.

SECTION V – STANDING ORDERS FOR MEETINGS

Current Rule	Feedback
<p>The Standing Orders for meetings are not part of the Rules, but are made by the Board under Rule 14.8. They set out certain requirements and procedures for meetings of the Board and committees, and general meetings of Engineering New Zealand.</p> <p>Our Standing Orders are often unclear, and sometimes ambiguous or contradictory. We asked members what they thought.</p>	<p><i>Answered</i> 43 <i>Skipped</i> 138</p> <p>Members agreed that the Standing Orders should be clarified and simplified. One member suggested they be limited to one page and only set out basic principles, such as respect, accurate record, and keeping an appropriate manner of running a meeting.</p> <p>One member commented that they were not aware of these Orders when running branch AGMs, so comms around their existence would be good.</p>