

Our Area 2035

Results of the Public Engagement Exercise

(February – June 2022)

Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area



1 Introduction

- 1.1 The aim of the Our Area 2035 Project is to hold a discussion with local communities in order to identify what is important to residents and how they would like to see their area develop over the next 10 – 15 years.
- 1.2 Our aim is to work together and develop solutions with organisations, groups and individuals. At the end of the project 13 specialised regeneration plans will be created to reflect the priorities and aspirations of local communities.
- 1.3 The first step to the project involved holding conversations with Councillors, Community and Town Councils and local regeneration groups in order to establish:
 - **What is good about** the area?
 - **What is not so good about** the area?
 - **What changes would you like to see happen** in the area in the next 15 years, that would make the area a better place to live?
- 1.4 **7** Community/Town Councils, organisations, groups and local Members in the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area presented their ideas regarding what should be the local priorities for the area in the period up to 2035. These responses were used as a basis for the second stage of wider public engagement.
- 1.5 In February 2022 a public engagement exercise was launched for each of the 13 areas, with local people being invited to contribute to the shaping of the Our Area 2035 project by filling in a simple survey online or on paper.
- 1.6 In order to encourage as many people as possible to participate, a comprehensive engagement campaign was organised, which included:
 - Press releases and a radio item;
 - Advertisements in the local papers;
 - Information leaflets;
 - Messages and videos through social media;
 - Prominent messages on the Cyngor Gwynedd website home page;
 - Attending the North Wales Pride event in Bangor.

1.7 In addition, a series of visits and face to face meetings were organised to hear the voices of groups and individuals that are seldom heard. These included:

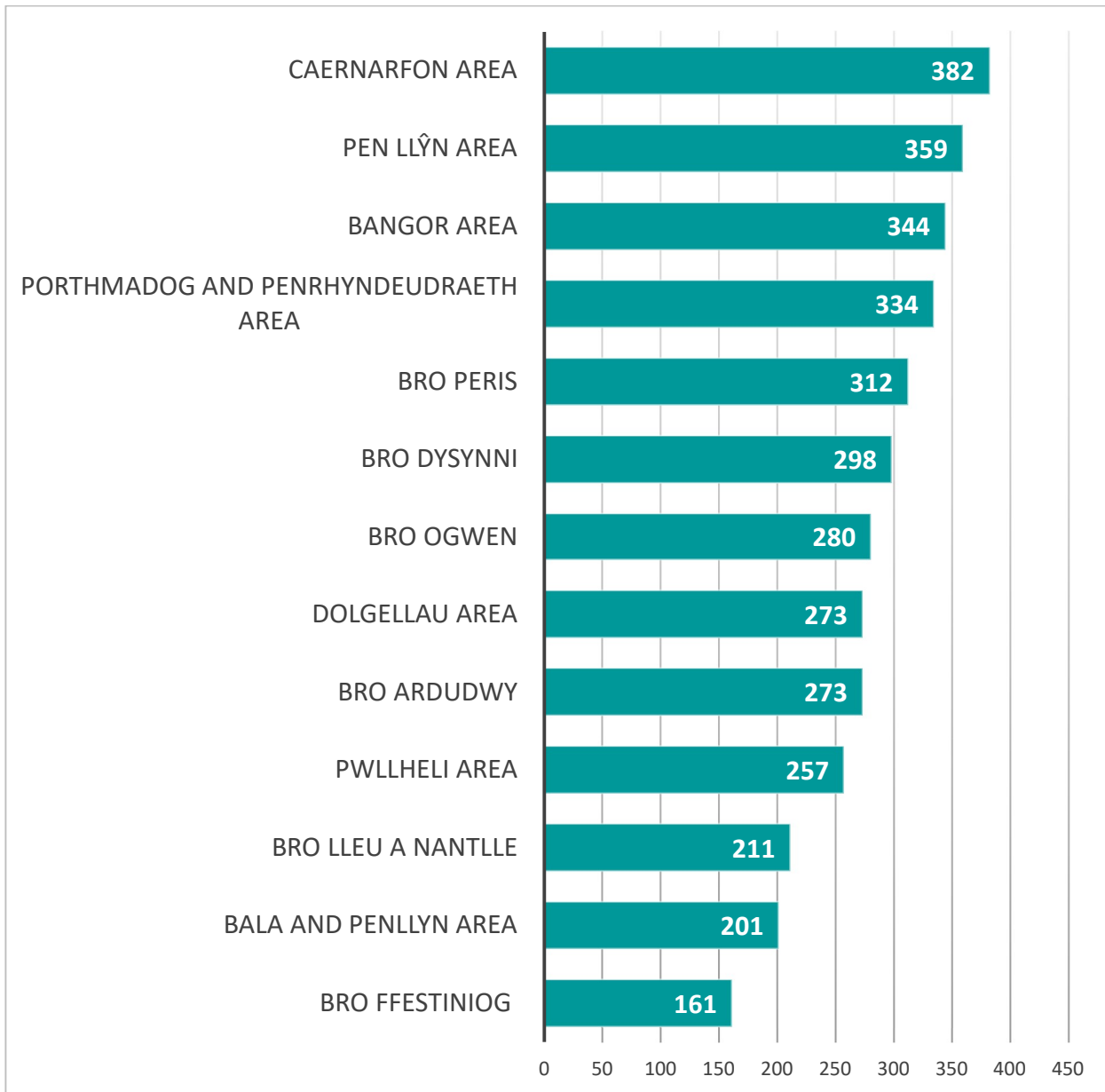
- GISDA Blaenau Ffestiniog – A discussion session with members of the Young People Board and a session with members of the GISDA LGBT+ Club.
- GISDA Caernarfon – A discussion session with members of the GISDA LGBT+ Club.
- GISDA Pwllheli - A discussion session with members of the GISDA LGBT+ Club.
- Dementia Actif Gwynedd, Barmouth - A discussion session after the physical exercises.
- Dementia Actif Gwynedd, Dolgellau - A discussion session after the physical exercises.
- Dementia Actif, Nefyn - A discussion session after playing Boccia at Tafarn yr Heliwr.
- Dementia Actif, Caernarfon - A discussion session after the physical exercises.

2 County Overview

3,776 individuals across Gwynedd took the opportunity to have their say:

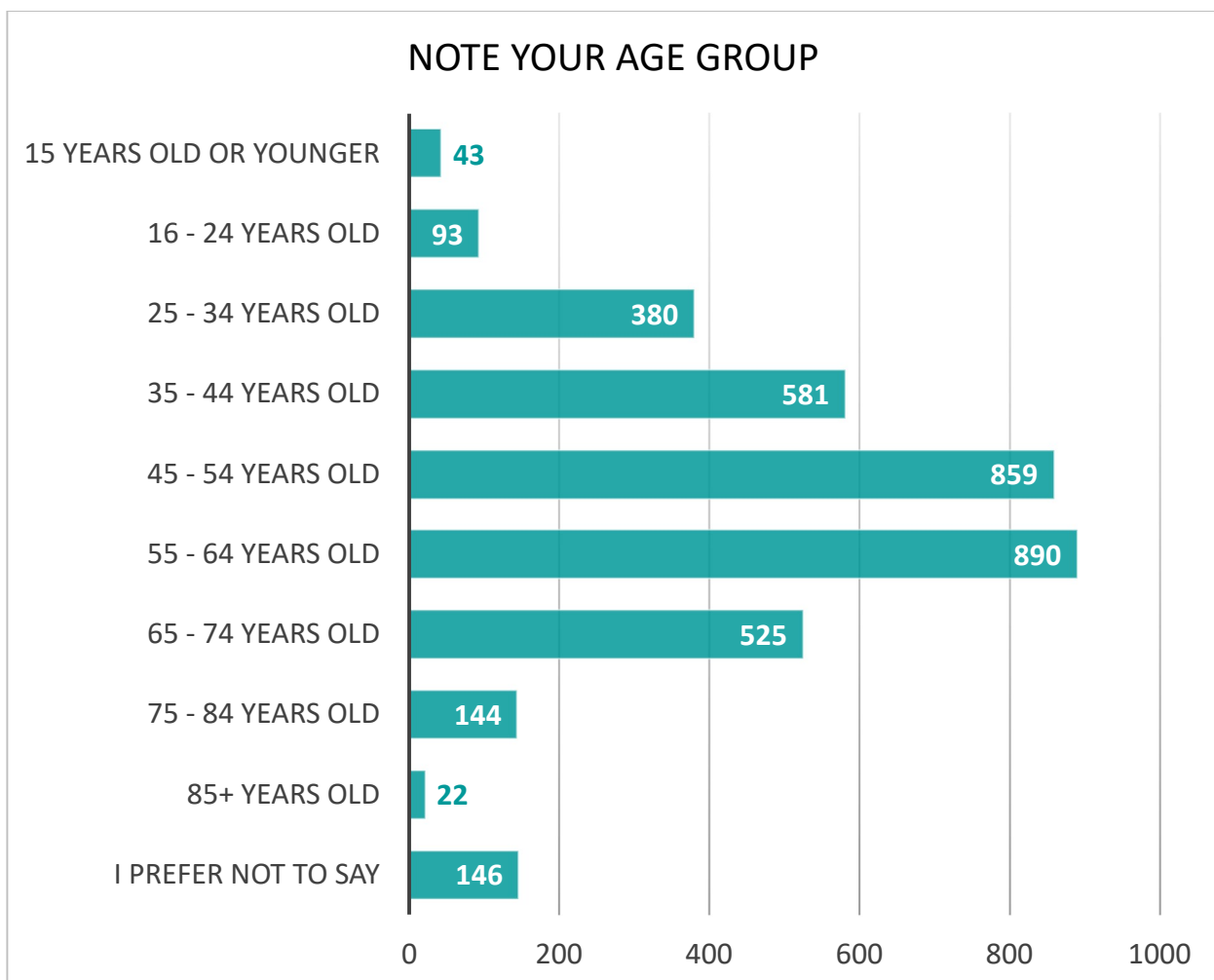
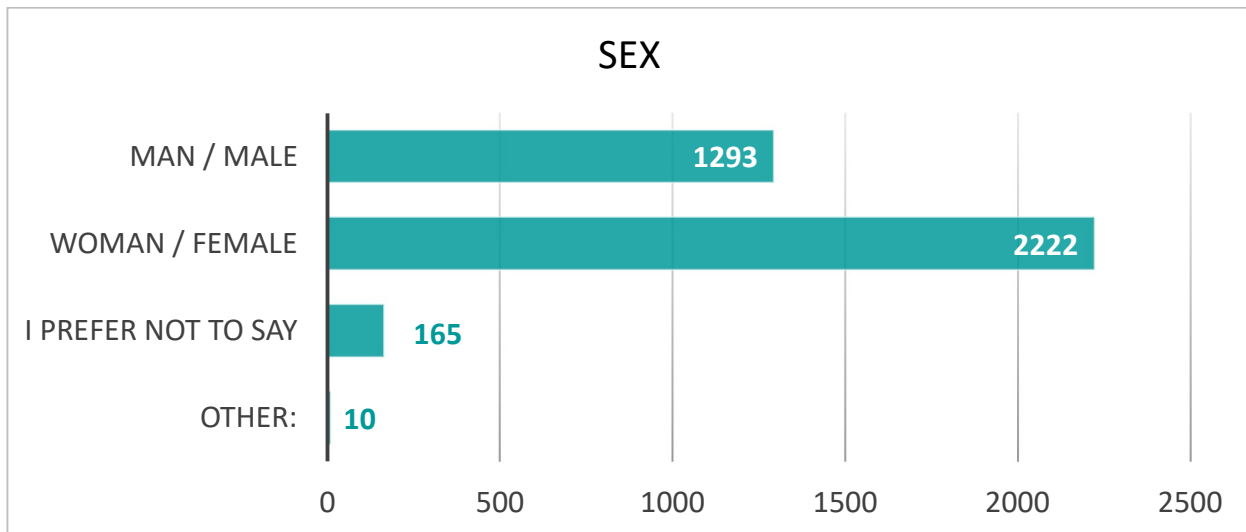
- **3,675** of these completed the online survey.
- **10** completed the paper survey that was available in libraries, 'Siop Gwynedd' or by phone request.
- **6** completed the 'Easy read' version of the survey.
- **85** people attended face to face sessions for **young people, young people in the LGBT+ community, older people and people living with dementia.**

2.1 Number of respondents per area*

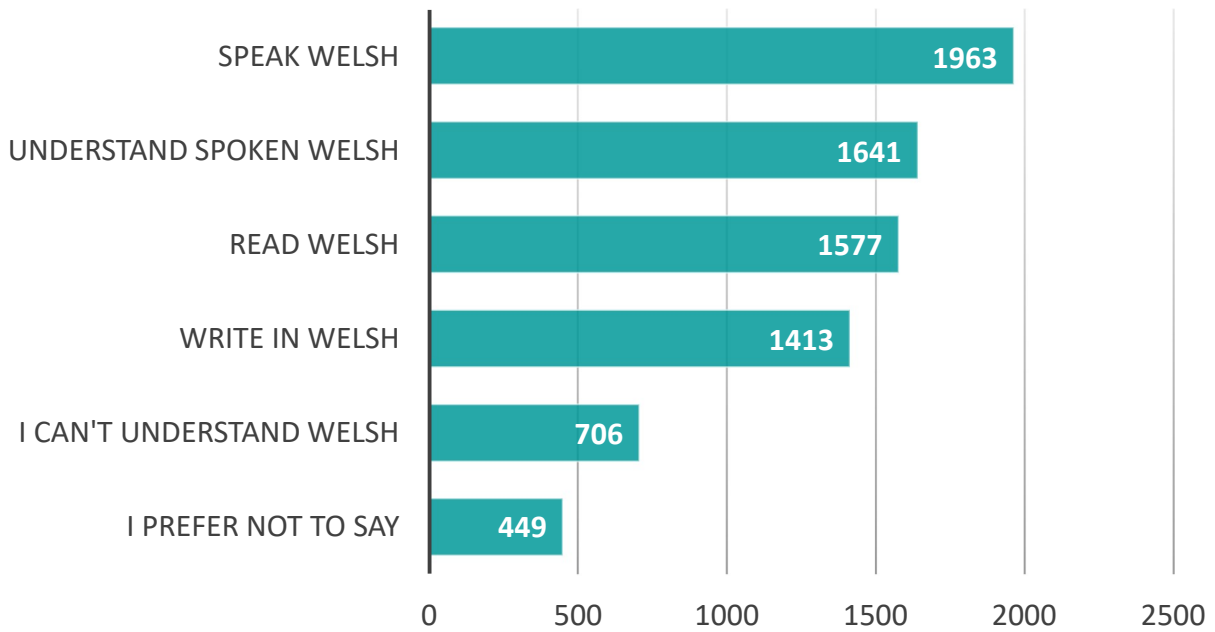


*For the online and paper survey.

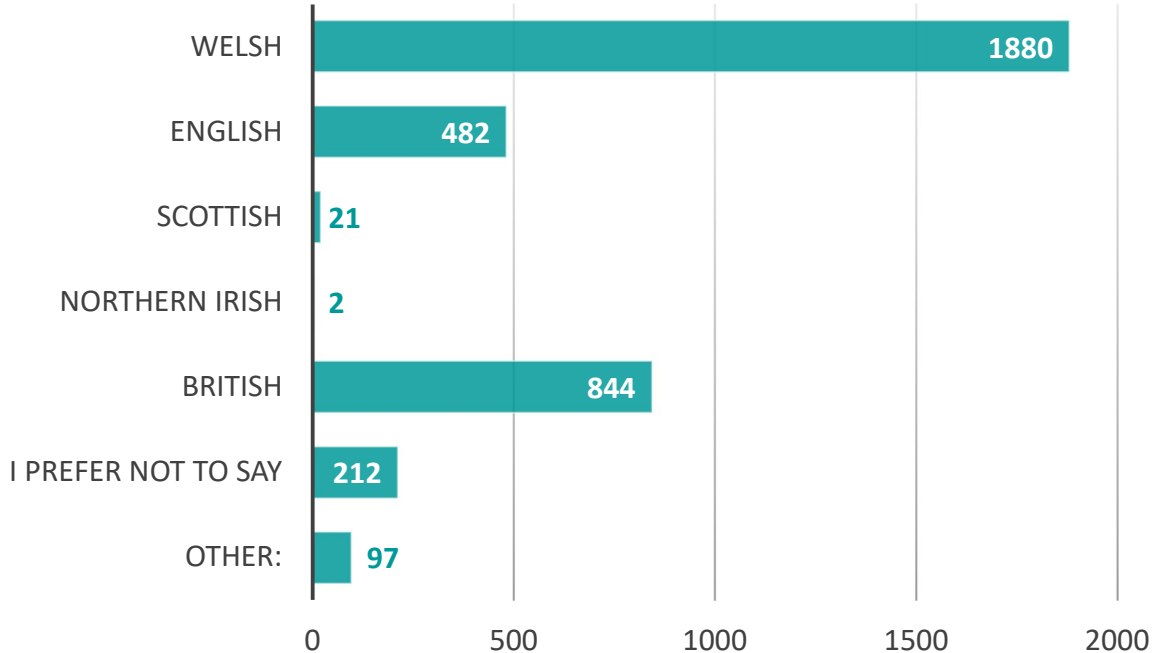
2.2 Overview of the Respondents to the Public Survey for Gwynedd



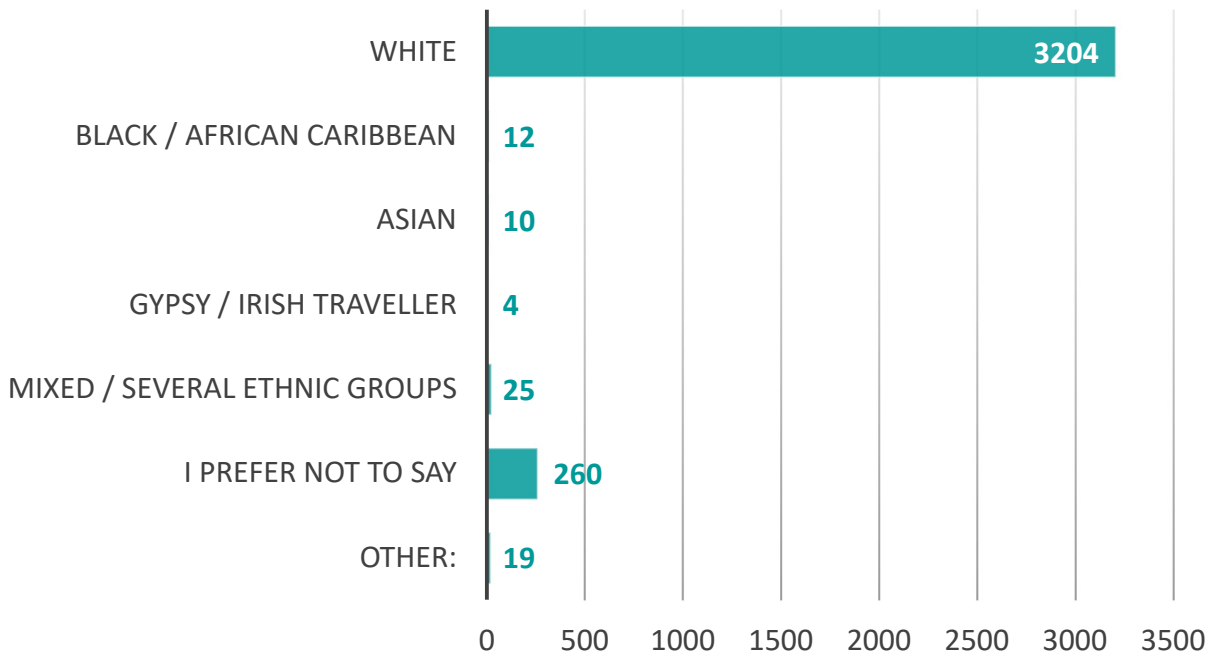
CAN YOU UNDERSTAND, SPEAK, READ AND/OR WRITE IN WELSH?



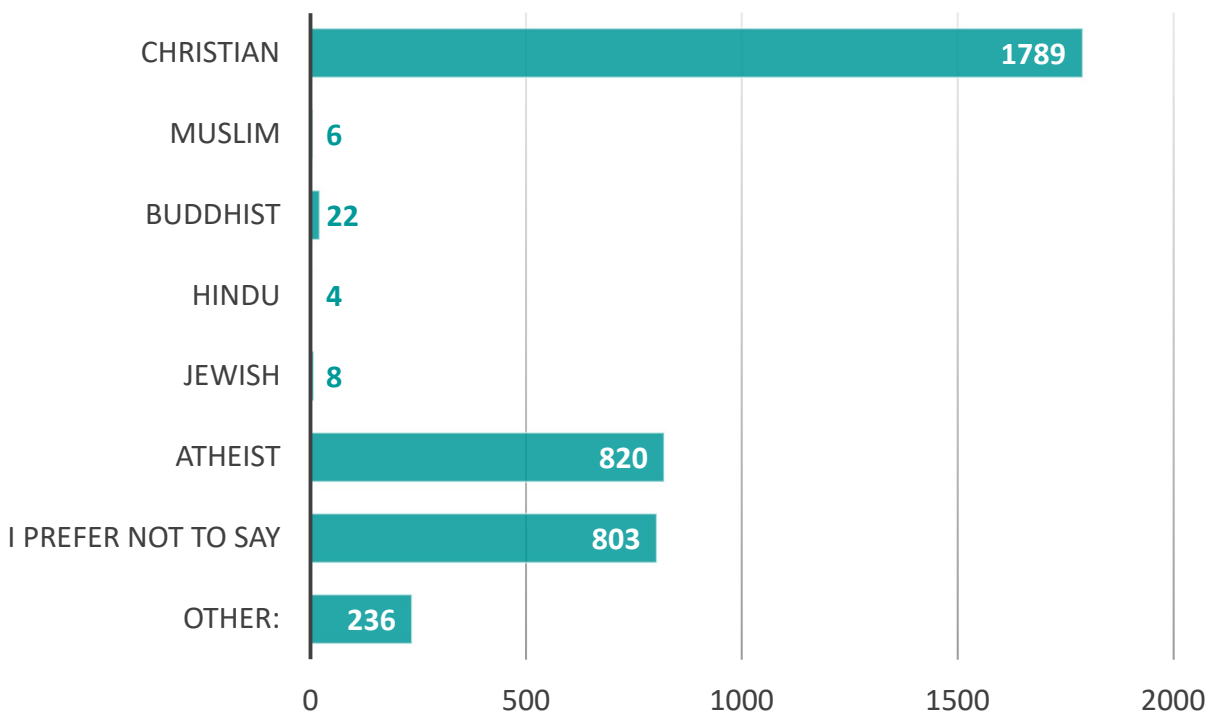
NATIONALITY OR NATIONAL IDENTITY?



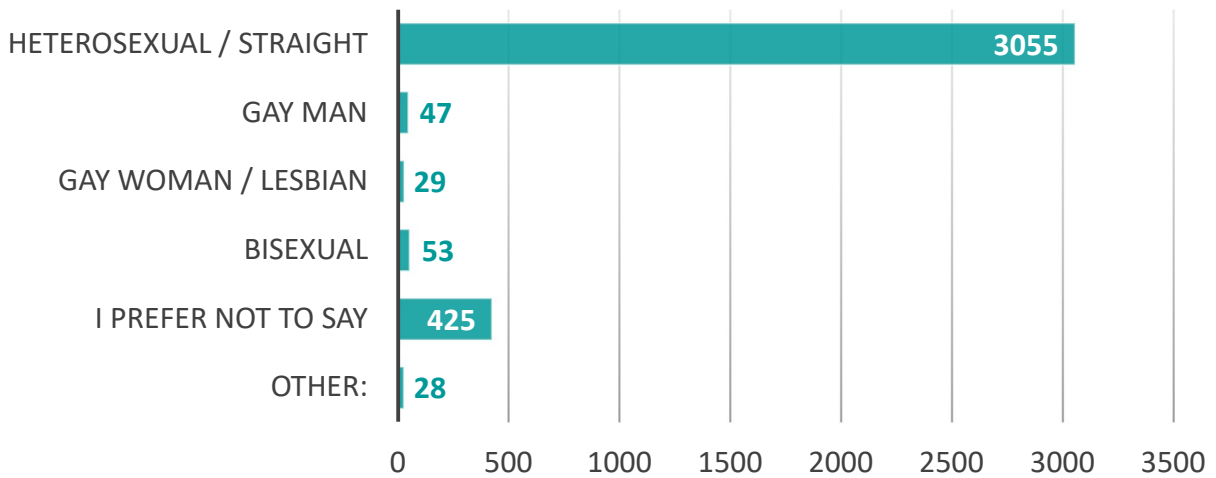
WHAT IS YOUR RACE?



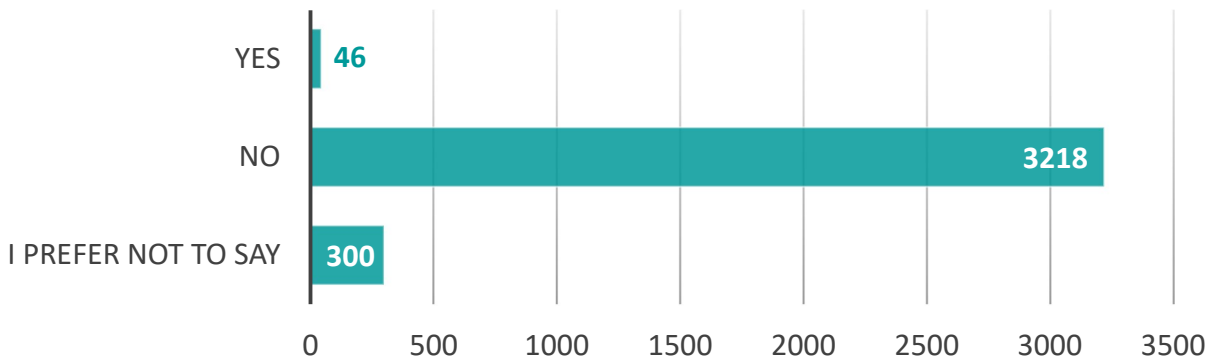
WHAT IS YOUR RELIGION?



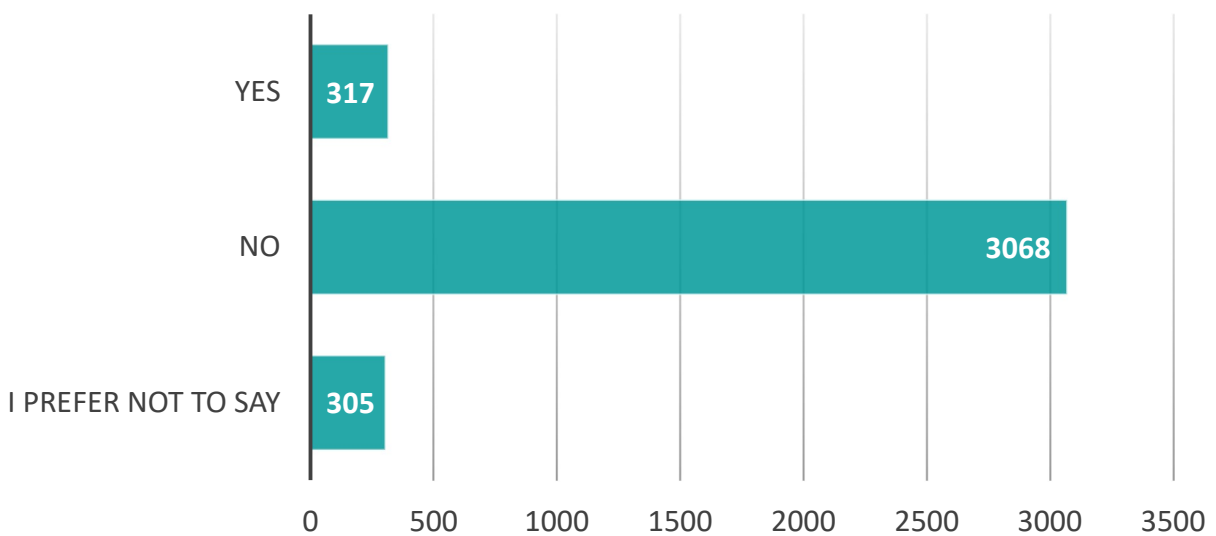
WHICH OF THESE BEST DESCRIBES YOU?



HAS YOUR GENDER IDENTIFICATION CHANGED FROM WHEN YOU WERE BORN?



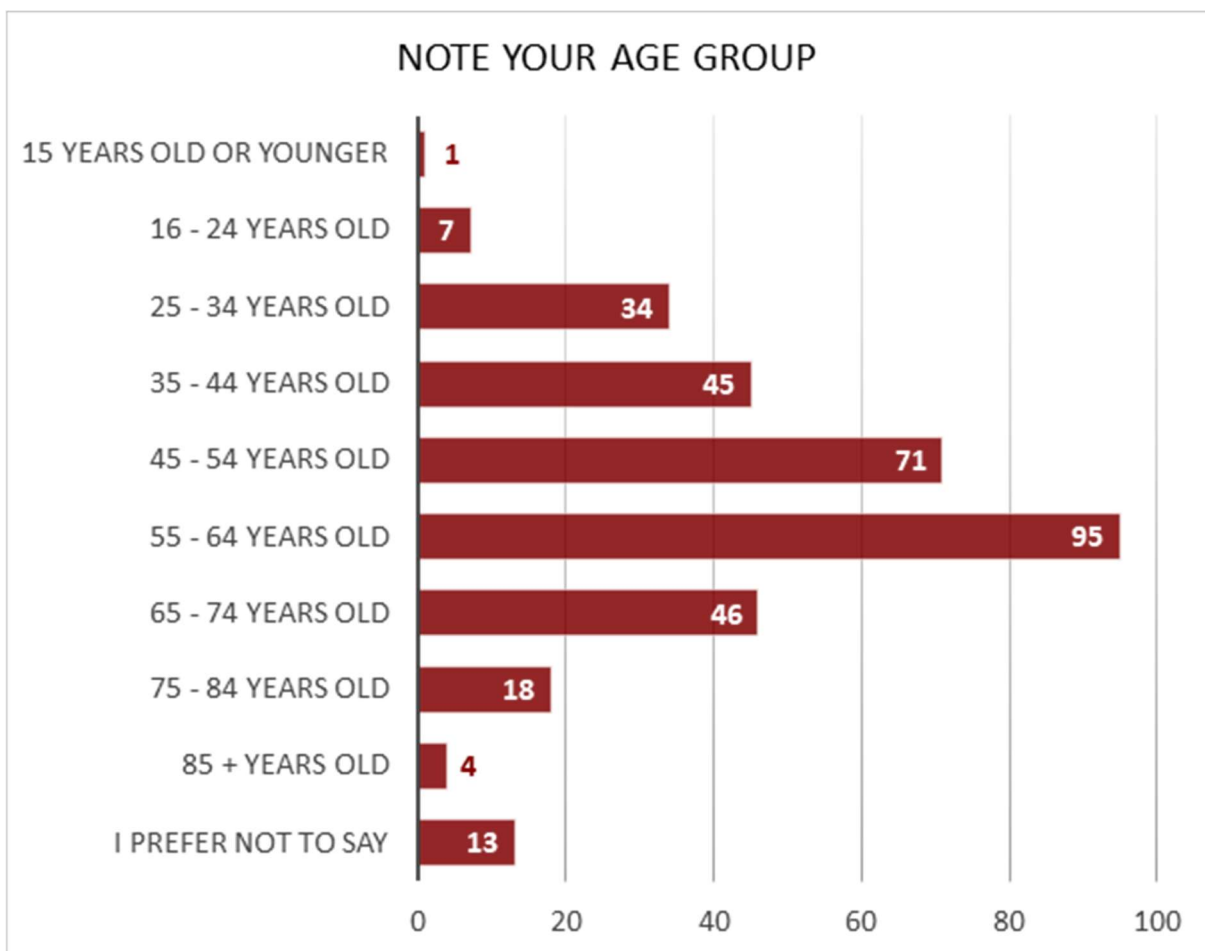
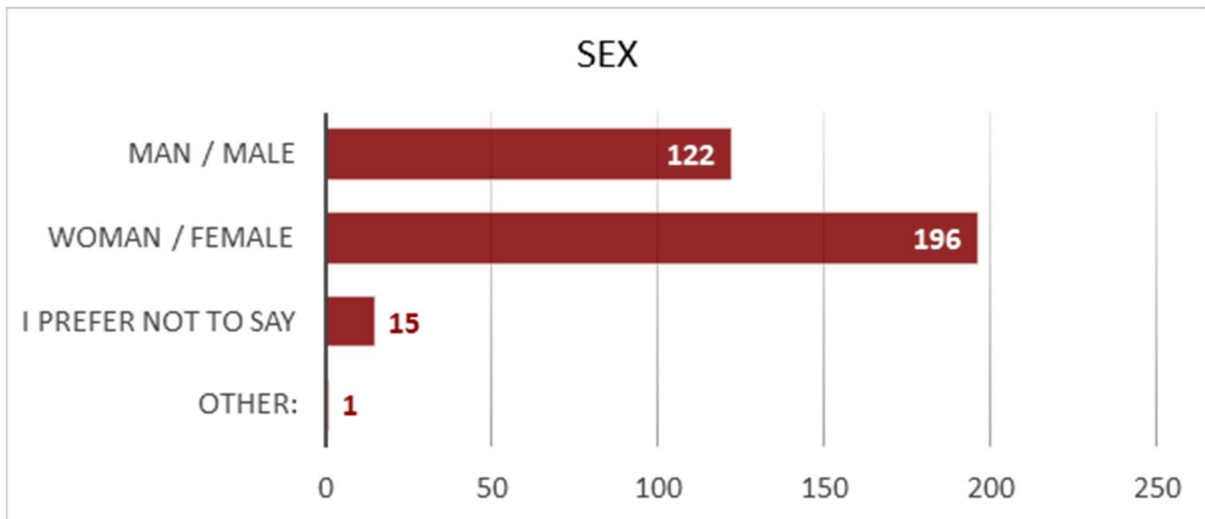
DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A DISABLED PERSON?



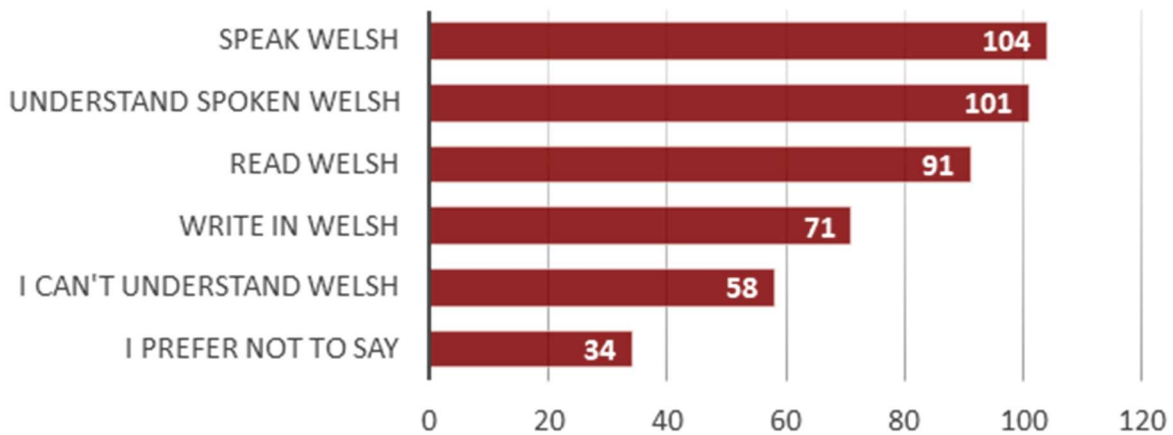
3 Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area

3.1 Overview of the Respondents to the Public Survey for the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area

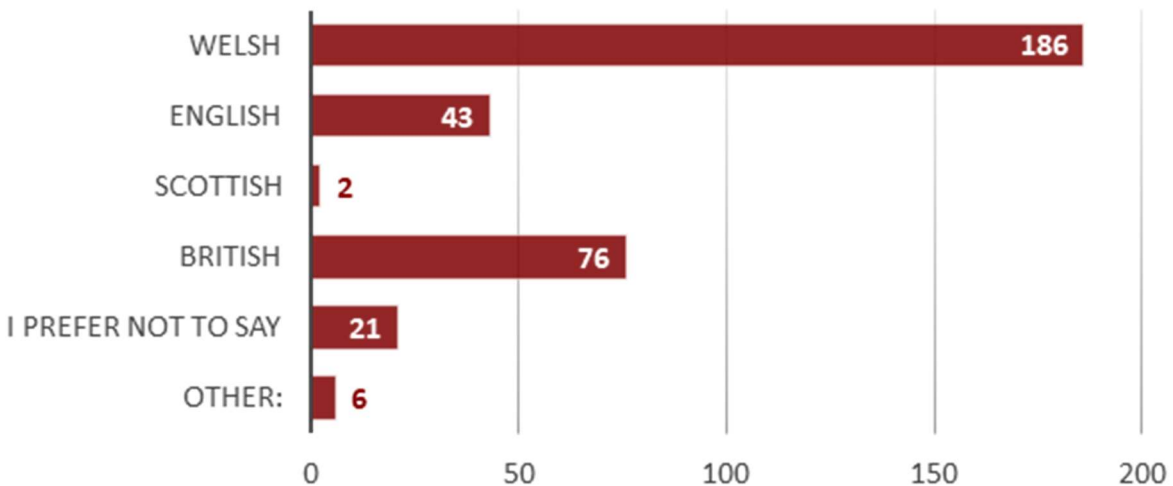
3.2 The Our Area 2035 survey for the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area received **334** responses.



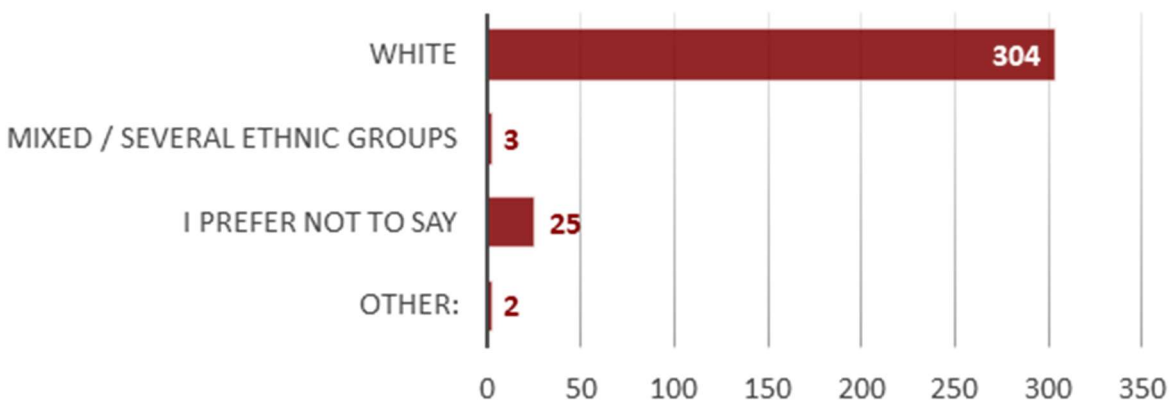
CAN YOU UNDERSTAND, SPEAK, READ AND/OR WRITE IN WELSH?

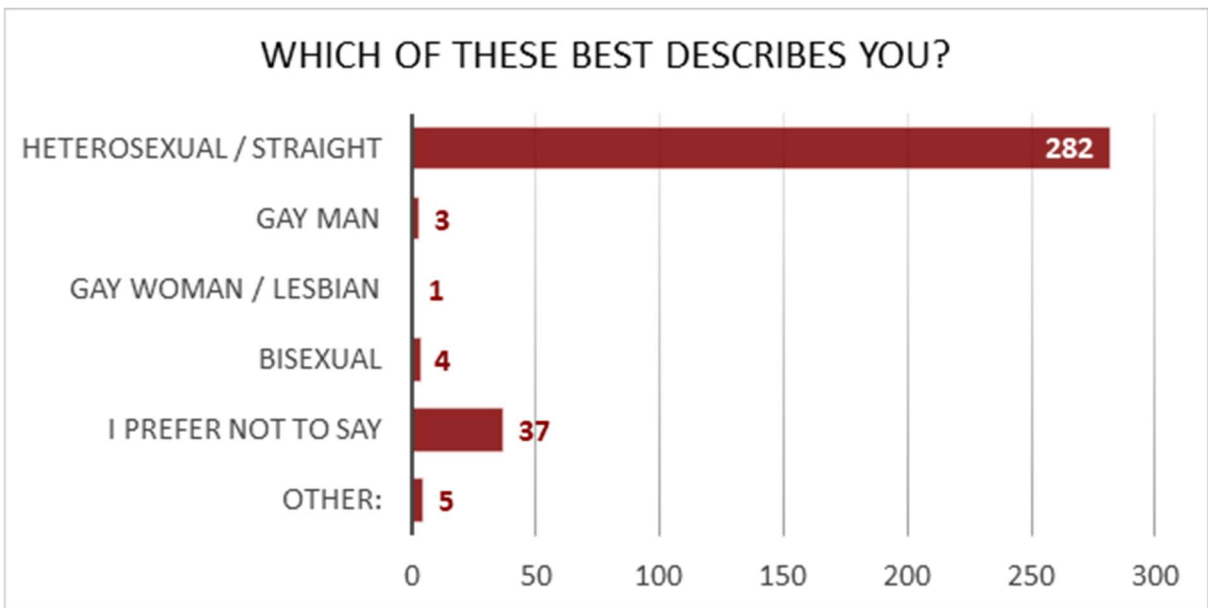
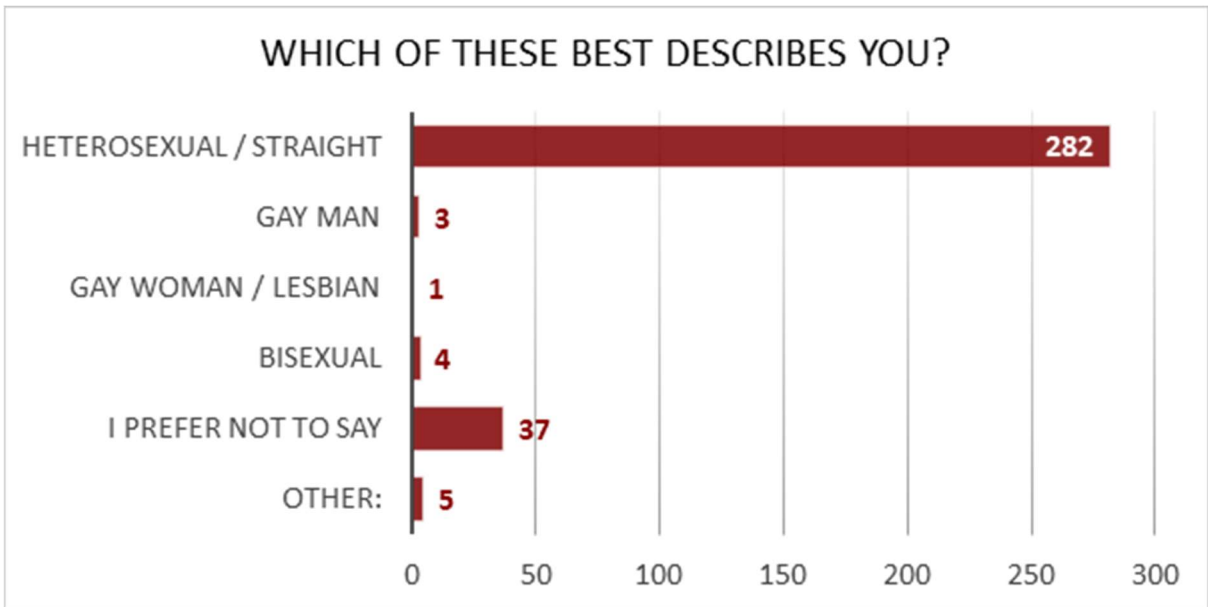
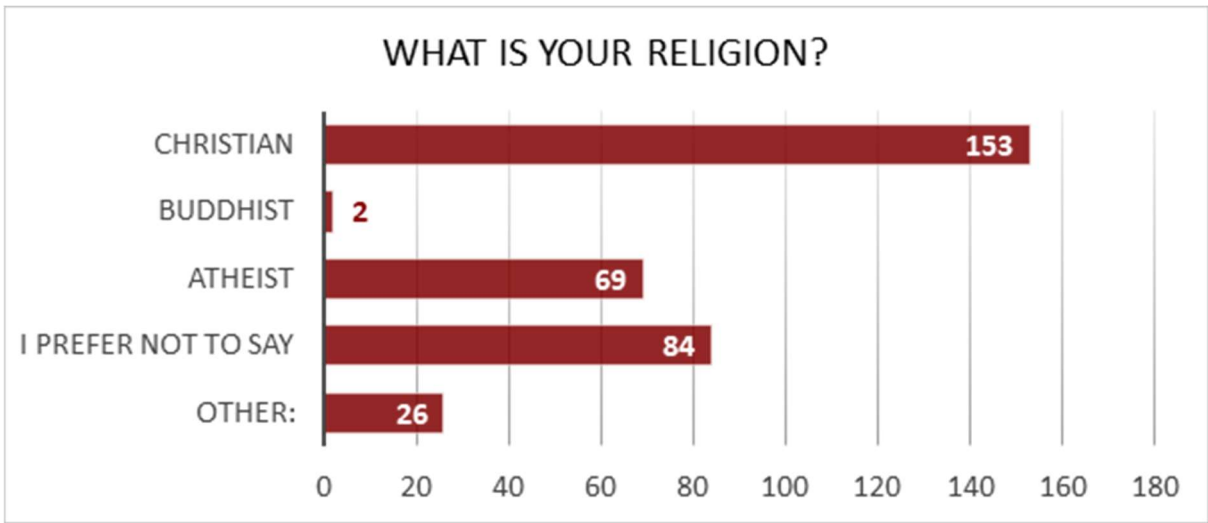


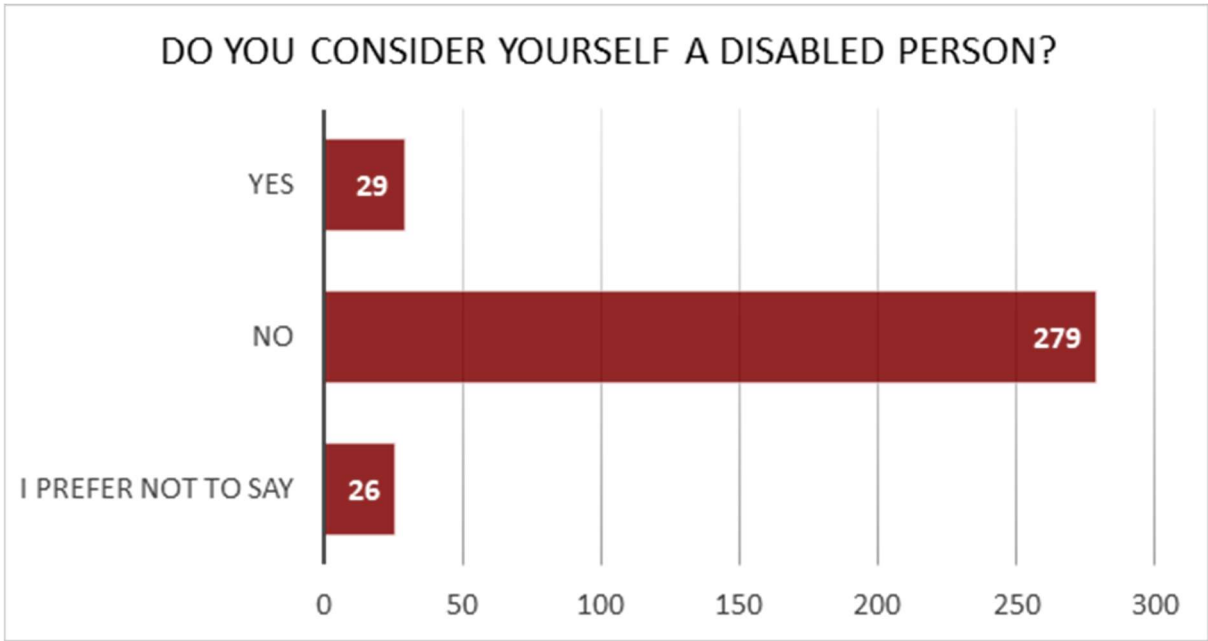
NATIONALITY OR NATIONAL IDENTITY?



WHAT IS YOUR RACE?







4 Number of respondents per town or village in the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area

4.1 The table below shows the number of respondents per town or village in the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area.

Town/village	Number of respondents
• Porthmadog	71
• Penrhyndeudraeth	65
• Cricieth	59
• Beddgelert	24
• Llanfrothen	15
• Morfa Bychan	14
• Borth-y-Gest	12
• Minffordd	11
• Tremadog	9
• Croesor	8
• Garndolbenmaen	8
• Pentrefelin	8
• Penmorfa	6
• Arall:	6
• Prenteg	4
• Dolbenmaen	3
• Nantmor	3
• Rhyd	3
• Bryncir	2
• Garreg	2

5 What is good about the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area?

5.1 The table below lists the themes prioritised by Community/ Town Councils, organisations, groups and local Members in the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area. As part of the public engagement consultation, the residents of the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area were invited to choose up to 5 themes that they agreed with the most.

What <u>is good</u> about the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area?	Number of times the theme was prioritised
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The natural environment and proximity to mountains, the seaside and the countryside 	240
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The area's heritage and history 	165
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Welsh language and culture 	164
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It's a safe area 	152
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The area's ability to attract tourism for economic benefit 	114
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local amenities such as shops, cafes and restaurants 	112
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The area's community spirit 	107
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Footpaths and cycling paths and a good quality coastal path 	105
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hafod y Gest Extra Care Housing Development for older people in the area 	66
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cambrian Railway 	63
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good education and schools 	61
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green Town Initiative – Hwb Deudraeth (Site of the former Cooke's plant in Penrhyndeudraeth) 	34
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A wide range of local businesses and the employment opportunities offered by the business parks 	29
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The fact young people are returning to live in the area 	29

In response to the question '**Note anything else that is good about the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area that isn't mentioned above**', 58 additional comments were received from the residents of the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area. A number of the additional responses offered further comments about the above themes e.g. The area's community spirit, including friendliness, entrepreneurship and pride (n=13); The natural environment and proximity to mountains, the seaside and the countryside (n=5).

Of the comments that noted something else that is good about the area, the most popular themes were:

Theme	Number of respondents who noted this
• Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland Railways	7
• Good road connections	4
• Agriculture	3

- 5.2 In addition to the above, comments received in the Easy Read Questionnaire can be seen in Appendix A.

- 5.3 All additional comments received will be considered as part of the work to develop plans for the area.

6 What is not so good about the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area?

6.1 The table below lists the themes prioritised by Community/ Town Councils, organisations, groups and local Members in the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area. As part of the public engagement consultation, the residents of the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area were invited to choose up to 5 themes that they agreed with the most.

What is <u>not so good</u> about the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area?	Number of times the theme was prioritised
• The lack of suitable and affordable housing for local people to buy or rent	200
• The high number of second homes and holiday homes in the area	174
• The lack of high salary and full-time jobs	174
• The lack of provision for young people in the area	143
• Problems relating to parking, road conditions and traffic in many parts of the area	106
• Concern about the area's health, well-being and care provision	104
• The public transport network in the area is inadequate	97
• Poverty and cost of living is a problem in the area	93
• Further action plans to tackle empty homes / properties	89
• Lack of projects to develop sustainable energy	86
• The Welsh language and culture losing ground	63
• Impact of flooding and wet land on inability to develop in Porthmadog	42
• Lack of sustainable tourism in the area	39
• The lack of safe and quality footpaths	28
• The lack of a co-operative such as Cwmni Bro to drive forward community change	25

6.2 In response to the question ‘**Note anything else that is not so good about the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area that isn’t mentioned above**’, 117 additional comments were received from the residents of the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area. A number of these additional responses offered further comments about the themes above e.g. The lack of suitable and affordable housing for local people to buy or rent (n=11); Problems relating to parking, road conditions and traffic in many parts of the area (n=11); Concern about the area’s health, well-being and care provision (n=7); The high number of second homes and holiday homes in the area (n=7); The public transport network in the area is inadequate (n=6); The lack of provision for young people in the area (n=5); The lack of safe and quality footpaths (n=5); Lack of sustainable tourism in the area (n=4).

Of the comments that noted something else that is not so good about the area, the most popular themes were:

Theme	Number of respondents who noted this
• Concerns about rubbish, dog mess and general untidiness in the area.	15
• More investment in the area and more support for community activities.	7
• Concerns about the number of empty buildings in the area.	5
• Education provision	5
• Investment and fair consideration for the tourism sector in the area.	5
• Perception of a lack of community cohesion.	5

6.3 In addition to the above, comments received in the Easy Read Questionnaire can be seen in Appendix A.

6.4 All additional comments received will be considered as part of the work to develop plans for the area.

7 What changes would you like to see happen in the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area in the next 15 years, that would make the area a better place to live?

7.1 The table below lists the themes prioritised by Community/ Town Councils, organisations, groups and local Members in the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area. As part of the public engagement consultation, the residents of the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area were invited to choose up to 5 themes that they agreed with the most.

What changes would you like to see happen in the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area in the next 15 years, that would make the area a better place to live?	Number of times the theme was prioritised
• Schemes to ensure suitable housing for the needs of local people	219
• Plans to create high value work and jobs and to attract money and investment to the area	208
• Plans to provide more facilities and skills for young people	172
• Plans to develop the area's health, well-being and care resources	164
• A greener area – more renewable energy schemes, reducing plastic use, setting up car charging points, tree planting schemes etc	149
• Plans to develop an accessible, integrated and suitable public transport network for local needs	121
• Plans and support for activities that promote the Welsh language and culture and support Welsh learners	109
• Plans to respond to the fact that the population of the area is getting older	104
• Plans to tackle traffic problems	75
• Plans to strengthen communication between the Community Councils to develop further schemes such as the cycle route between Llanfrothen and Penrhyndeudraeth	63
• Complete improvements to the Round Cob and Big Cob in Porthmadog	34

7.2 In response to the question ‘**Note anything else you think that isn’t mentioned above**’, **76** additional comments were received from the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area residents. A number of the additional responses offered further comments about the above themes e.g. Schemes to secure high value work and jobs (n=7); Barmouth harbour improvements (n=4); Plans to develop Llanbedr Airfield site (n=3); Plans to develop a public transport network that is accessible, integrated and suitable for the local needs of the area (n=3).

Of the comments that noted something else about the area, the most popular were:

Theme	Number of respondents who noted this
• Plans to develop suitable parking areas.	9
• Look at the impact of holiday homes in the area.	8
• Plans to support sustainable tourism in the area.	4
• Plans to tackle litter, dog fouling etc. in the area.	3

7.3 In addition to the above, comments received in the Easy Read Questionnaire can be seen in Appendix A.

7.4 All additional comments received will be considered as part of the work to develop plans for the area.

8 Next steps

- 8.1 During the autumn, all the feedback we have received from the residents and organisations of the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth area will be considered during workshops with local organisation as part of work to develop Local Action Plans.
- 8.2 The Action Plan will seek to incorporate the projects and activities of a wider range of organisations that contribute to the improvement and regeneration of the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth area.
- 8.3 As part of the Regeneration Framework, arrangements will be set in place to monitor and co-ordinate the implementation of the Action Plan, taking into account existing working arrangements and partnerships.
- 8.4 The timetable for the next steps are:
 - Workshops with Local organisations : October / November 2022
 - Draft Action Plans prepared : March 2023
 - Comments and additions received to the draft document : April 2023
 - Revised Action Plans prepared : April / May 2023
 - Monitoring and co-ordination arrangements in place : May 2023
- 8.5 Details of the Local Action Plans will be available on Cyngor Gwynedd's website (www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru)
- 8.6 We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who have taken the time to give their opinion and to contribute to the work of improving and strengthening our communities.

Appendix A

Comments received in the Easy Read Questionnaire for the Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area.

What do you like about your area?

- Pubs.
- Train Station.
- Spar supermarket.
- Places to walk.

What do you not like about your area?

- Traffic.

What would you like to see happen in your area to make it a great place to live?

- New paths in the area.



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