

Our Area 2035

Results of the Public Engagement Exercise

(February – June 2022)

Bangor 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 **12** Community/Town Councils, organisations, groups and local Members in the Bangor 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:

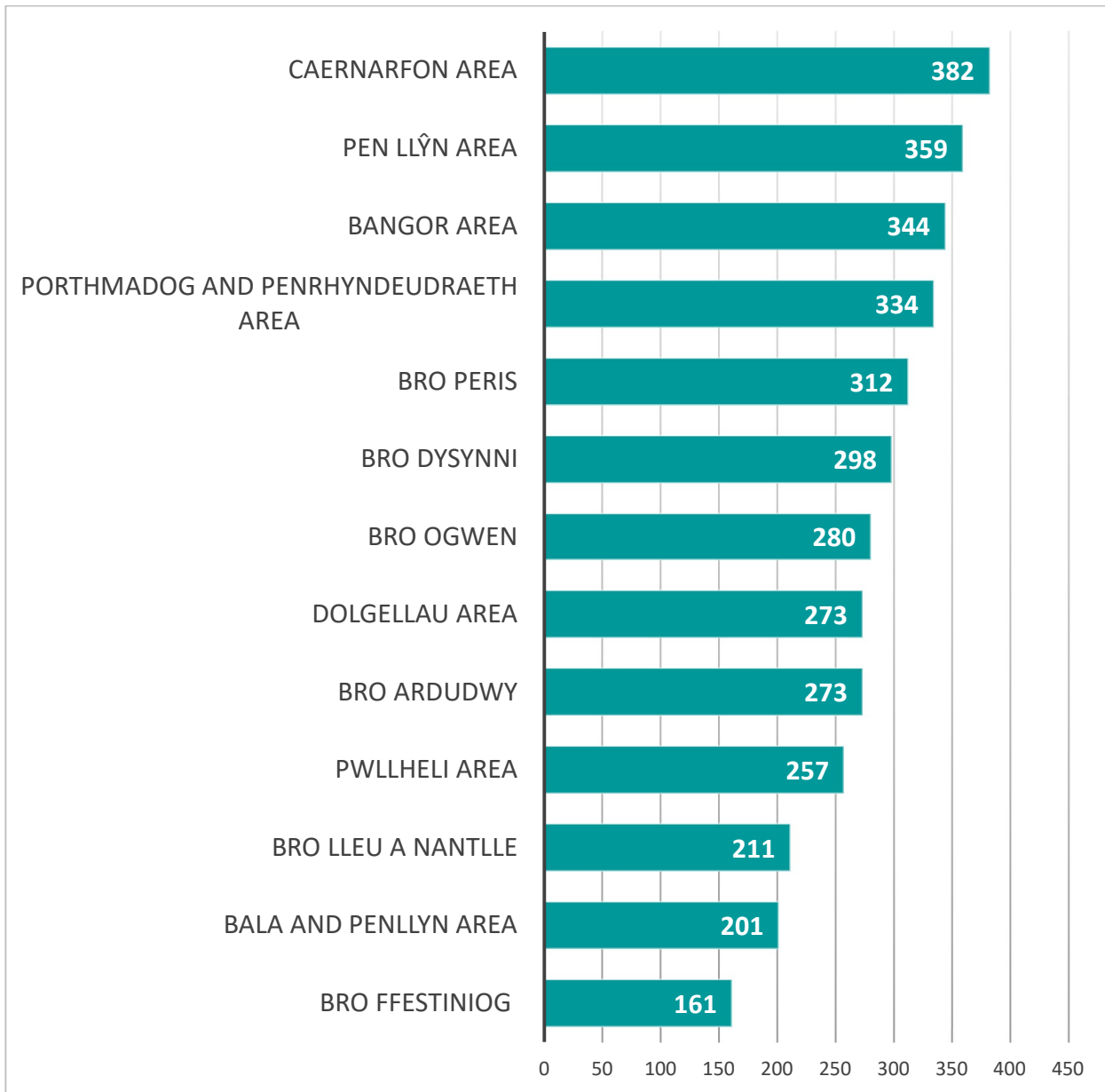
- GISDA Blaenau Ffestiniog – A discussion session with members of the Young People Board and a session with members of the GISDA LGBT+ Club.
- GISDA Caernarfon – A discussion session with members of the GISDA LGBT+ Club.
- GISDA Pwllheli - A discussion session with members of the GISDA LGBT+ Club.
- 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:

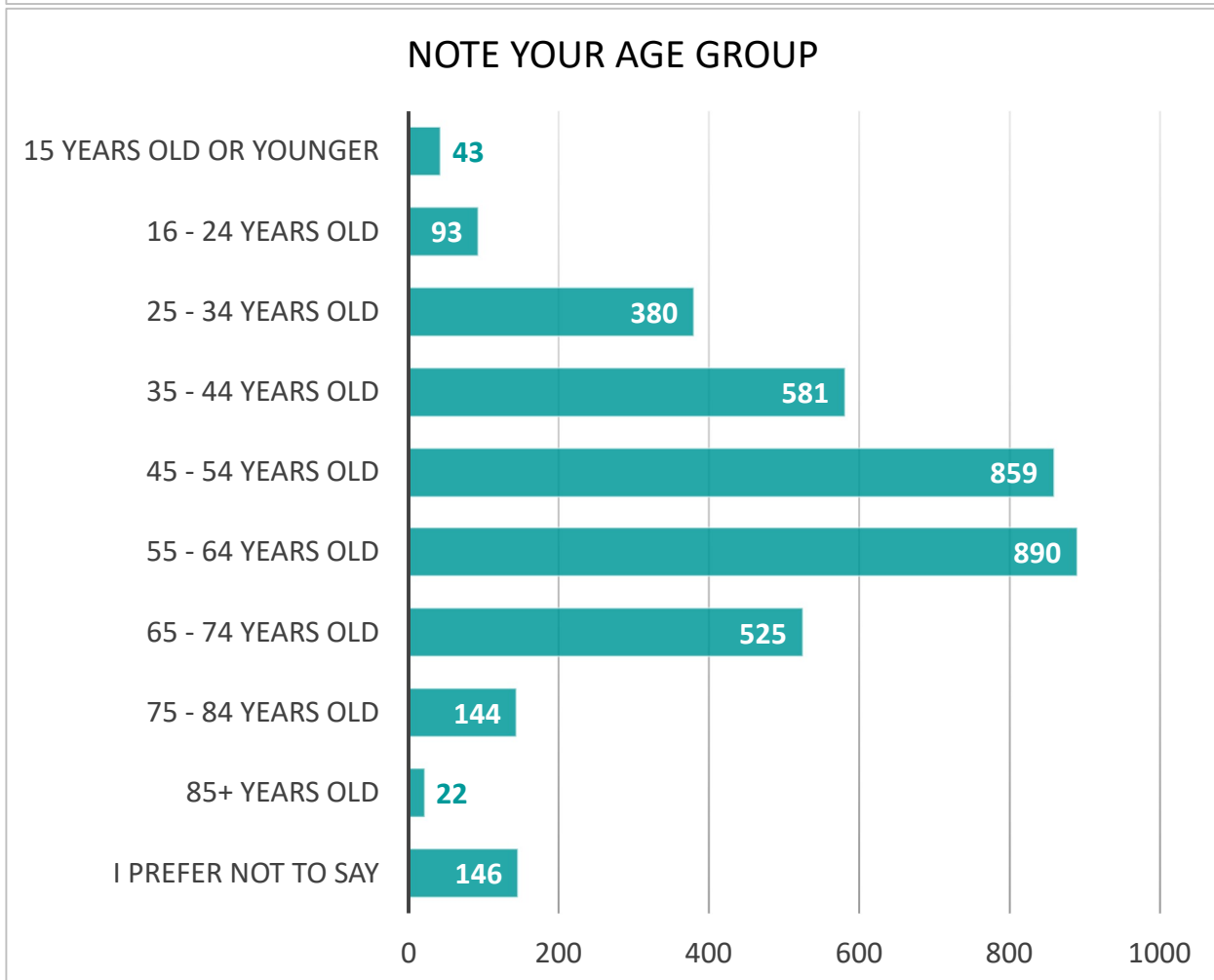
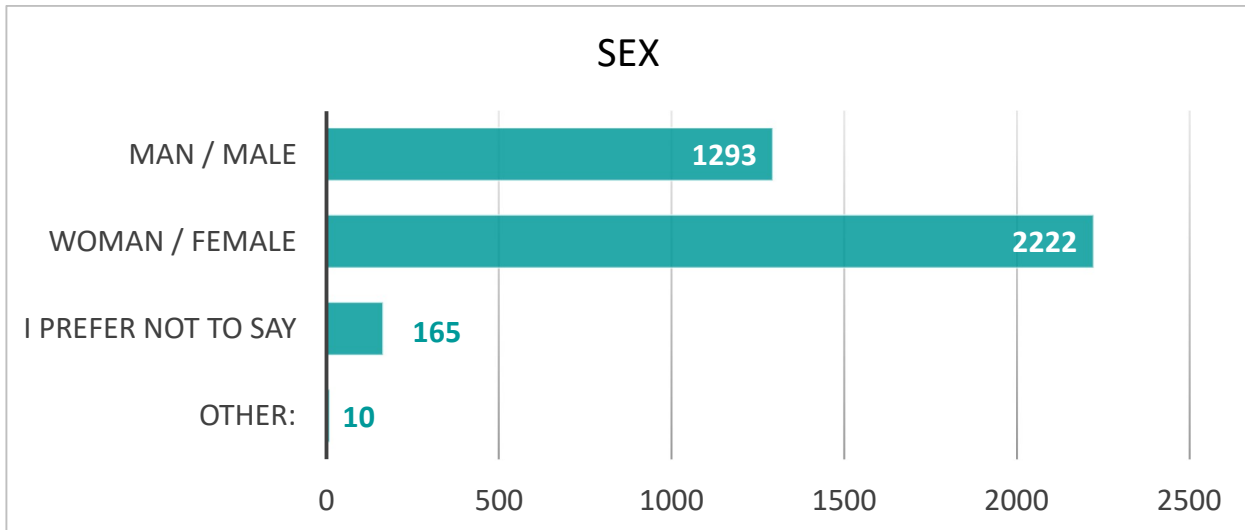
- **3,675** of these completed the online survey.
- **10** completed the paper survey that was available in libraries, 'Siop Gwynedd' or by phone request.
- **6** completed the 'Easy read' version of the survey.
- **85** people attended face to face sessions for **young people, young people in the LGBT+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

2.1 Number of respondents per area*

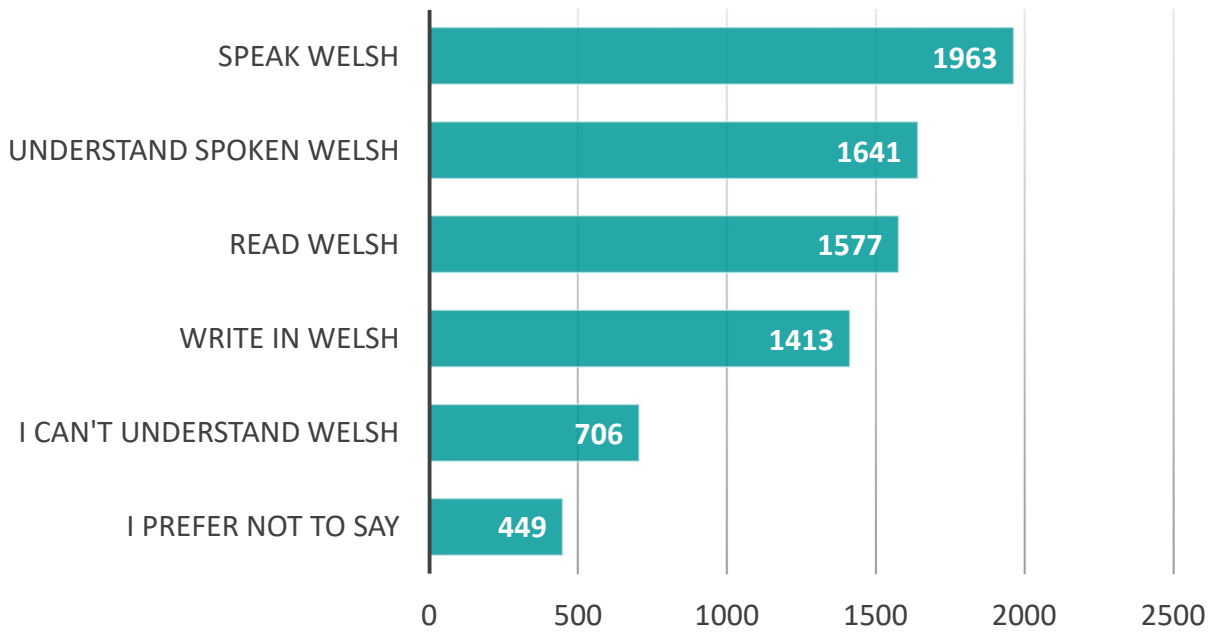


*For the online and paper survey.

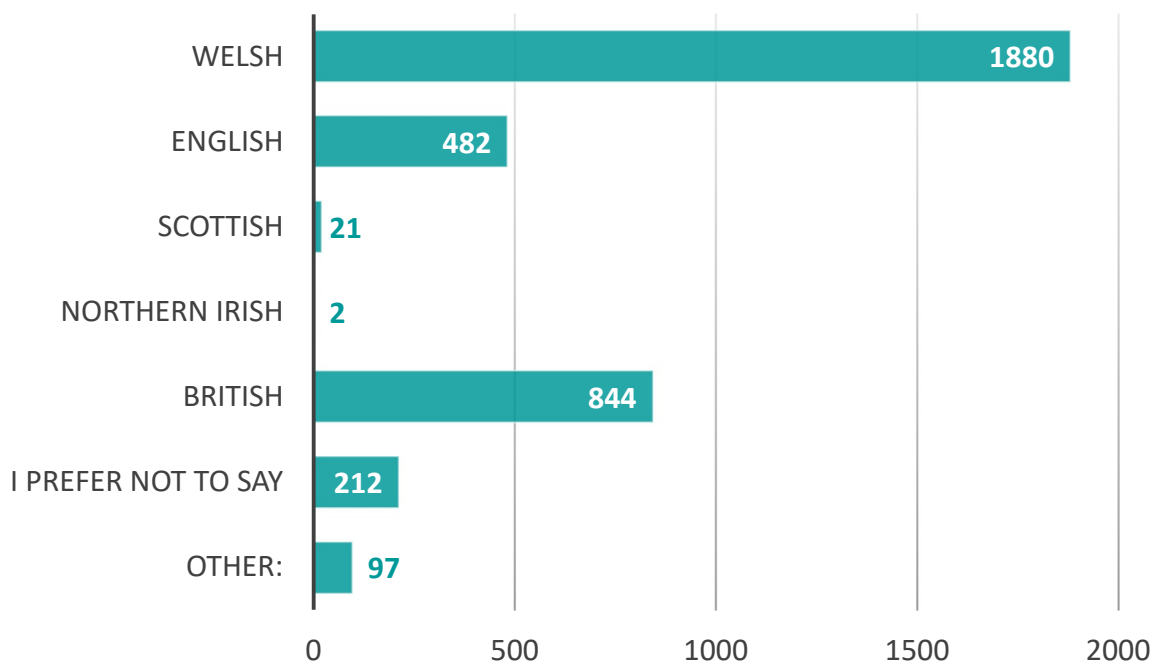
2.2 Overview of the Respondents to the Public Survey for Gwynedd



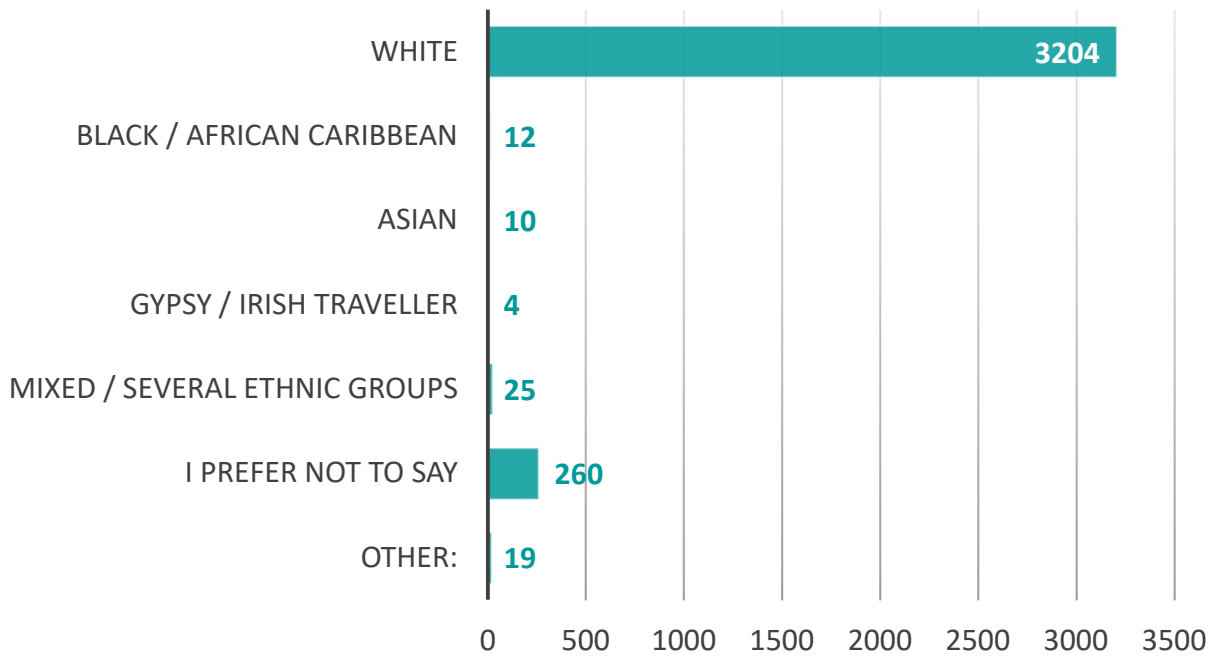
CAN YOU UNDERSTAND, SPEAK, READ AND/OR WRITE IN WELSH?



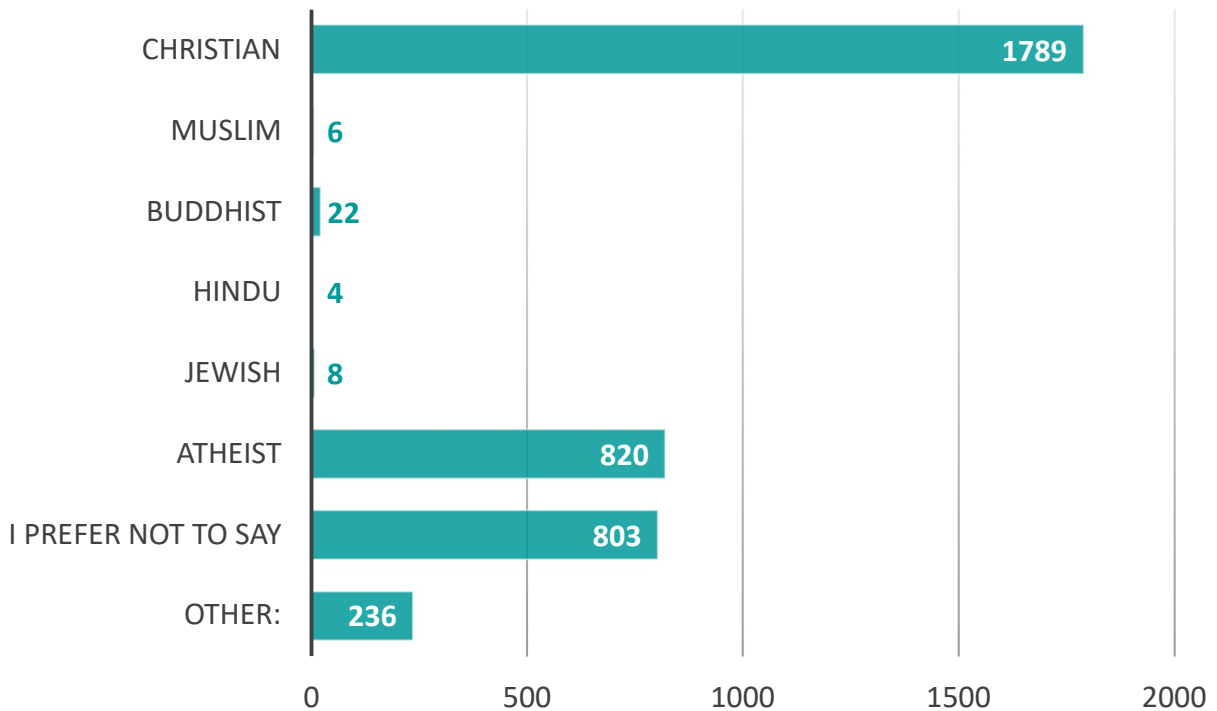
NATIONALITY OR NATIONAL IDENTITY?



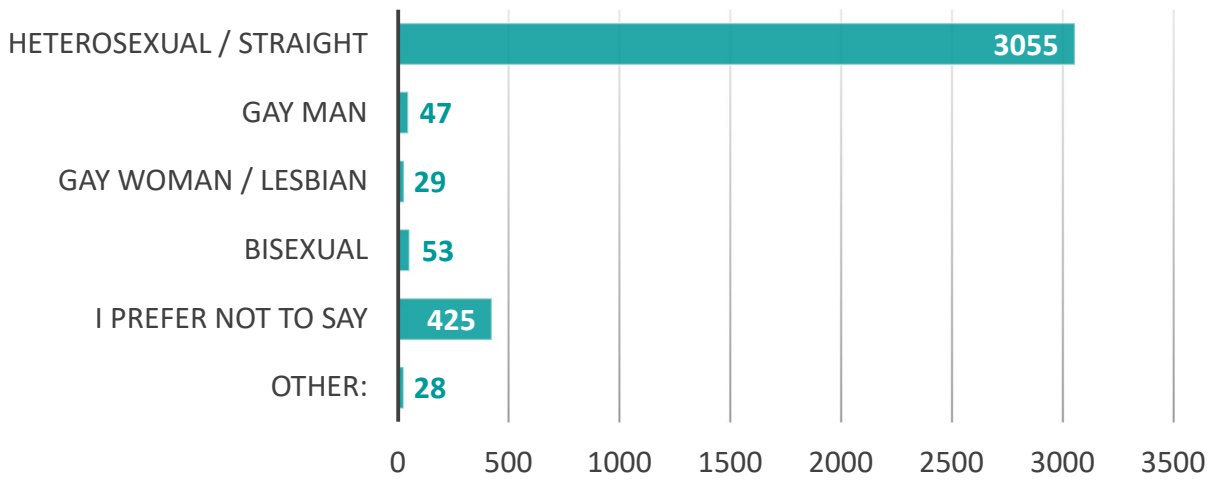
WHAT IS YOUR RACE?



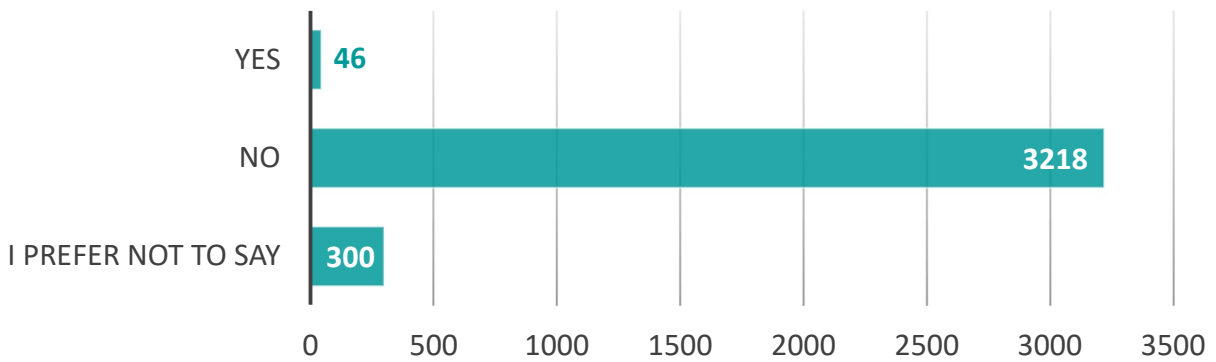
WHAT IS YOUR RELIGION?



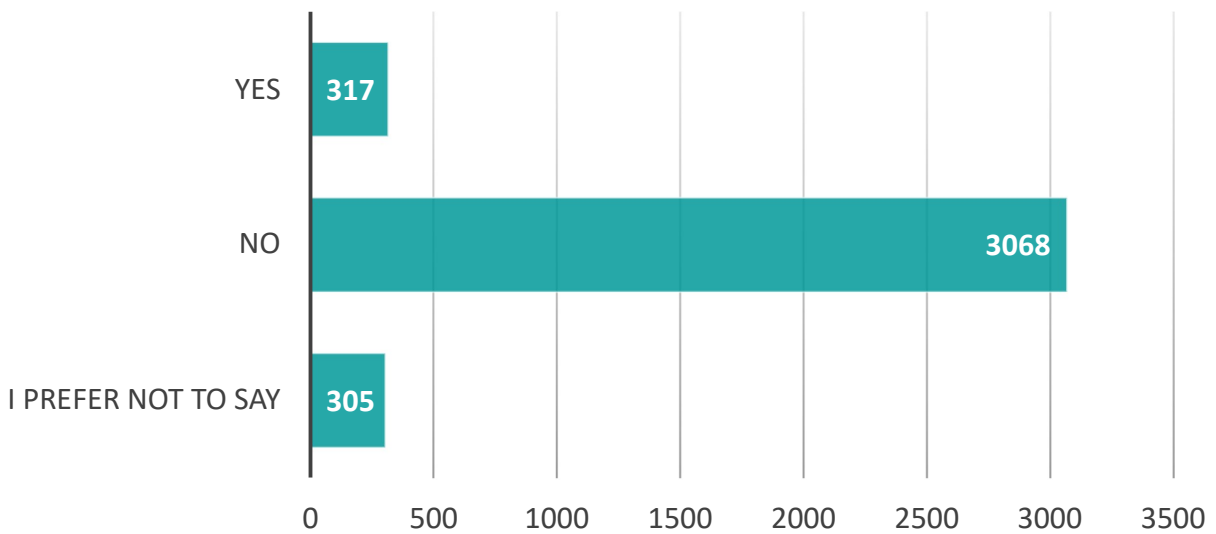
WHICH OF THESE BEST DESCRIBES YOU?



HAS YOUR GENDER IDENTIFICATION CHANGED FROM WHEN YOU WERE BORN?



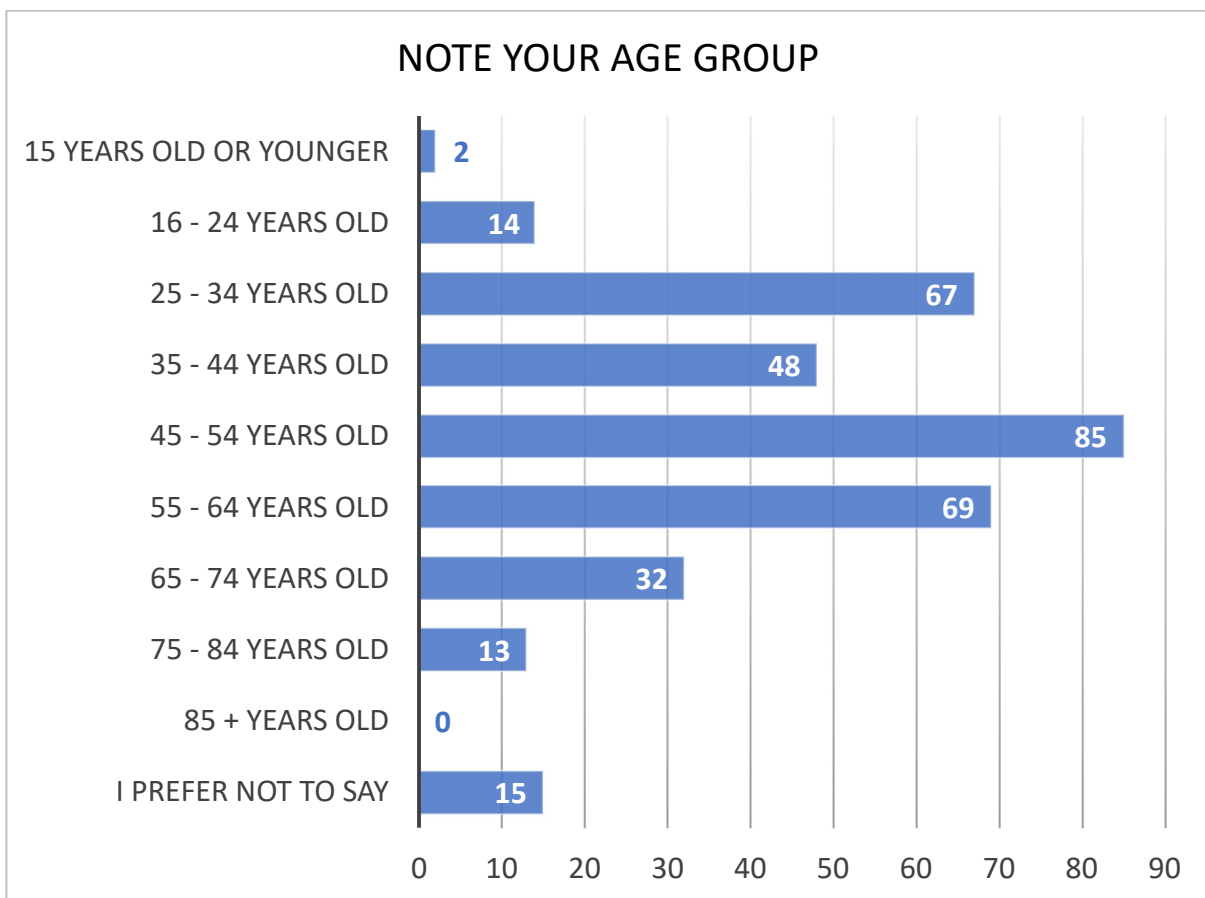
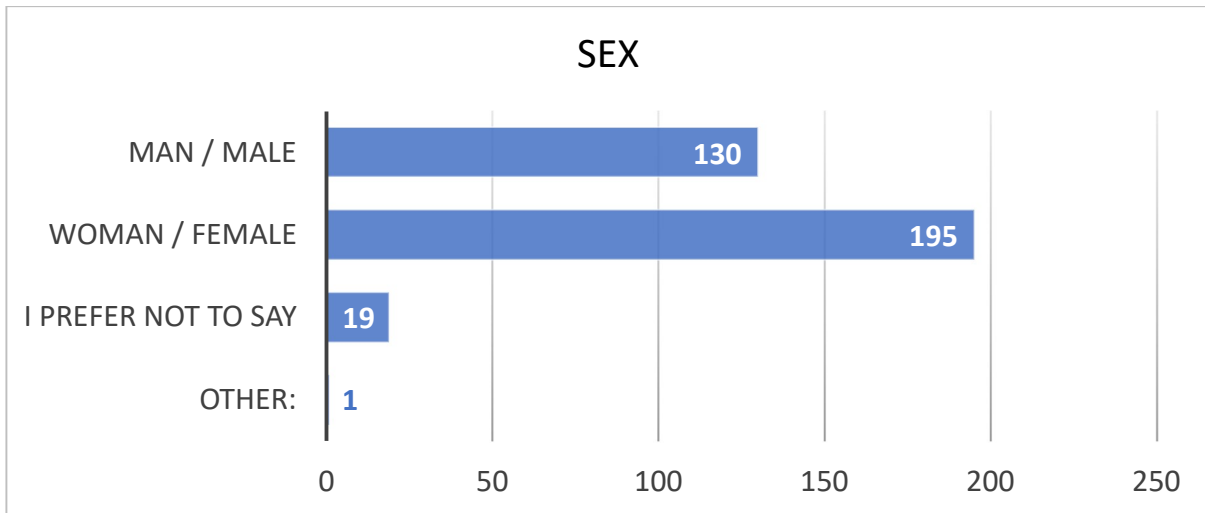
DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A DISABLED PERSON?



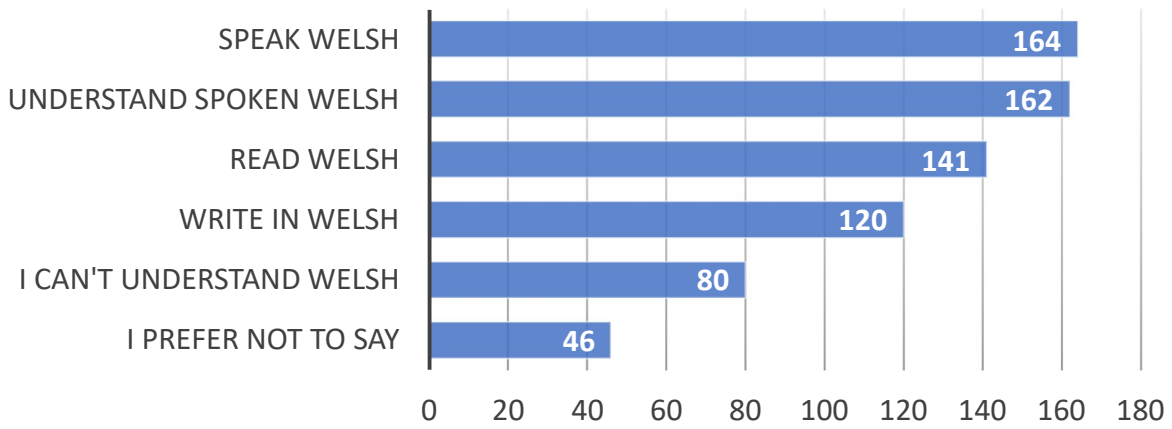
3 Bangor Area Results

3.1 Overview of the Respondents to the Public Survey for Bangor Area

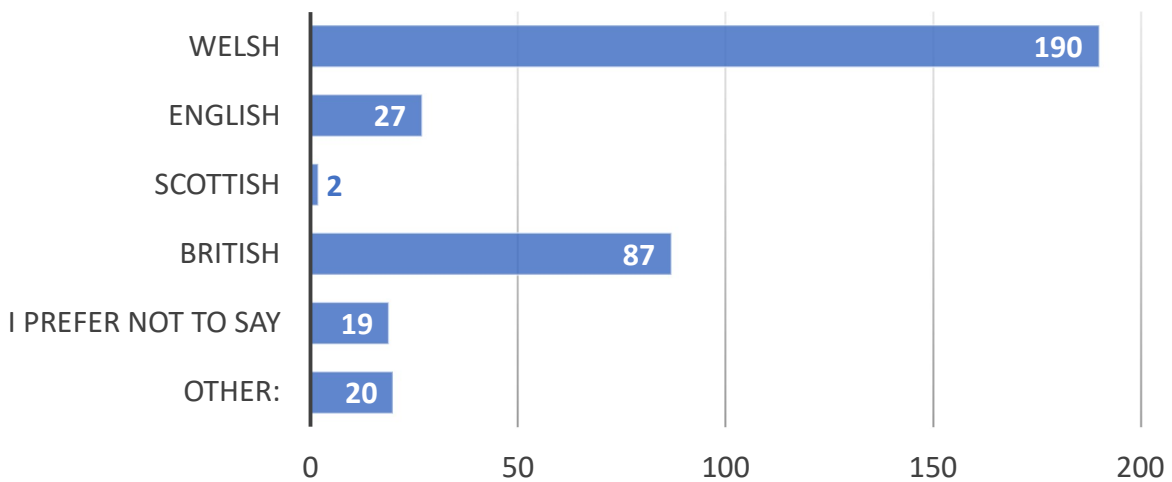
3.2 The Our Area 2035 survey for Bangor Area received **344** responses.

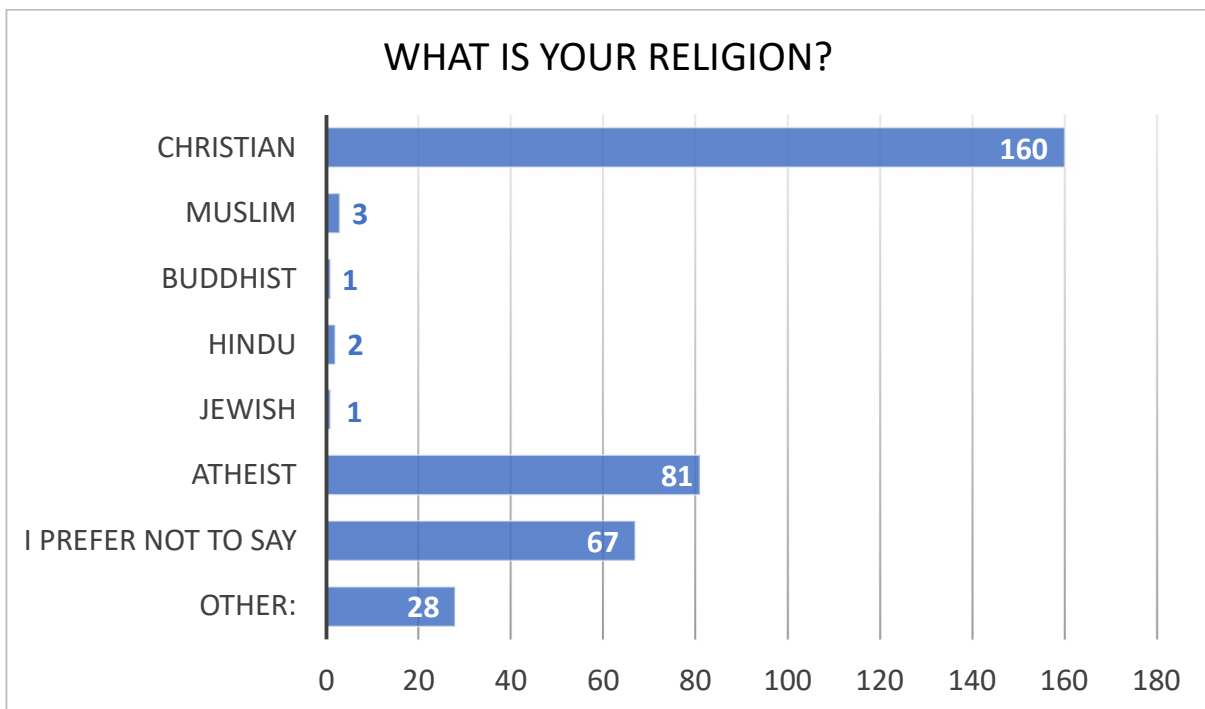
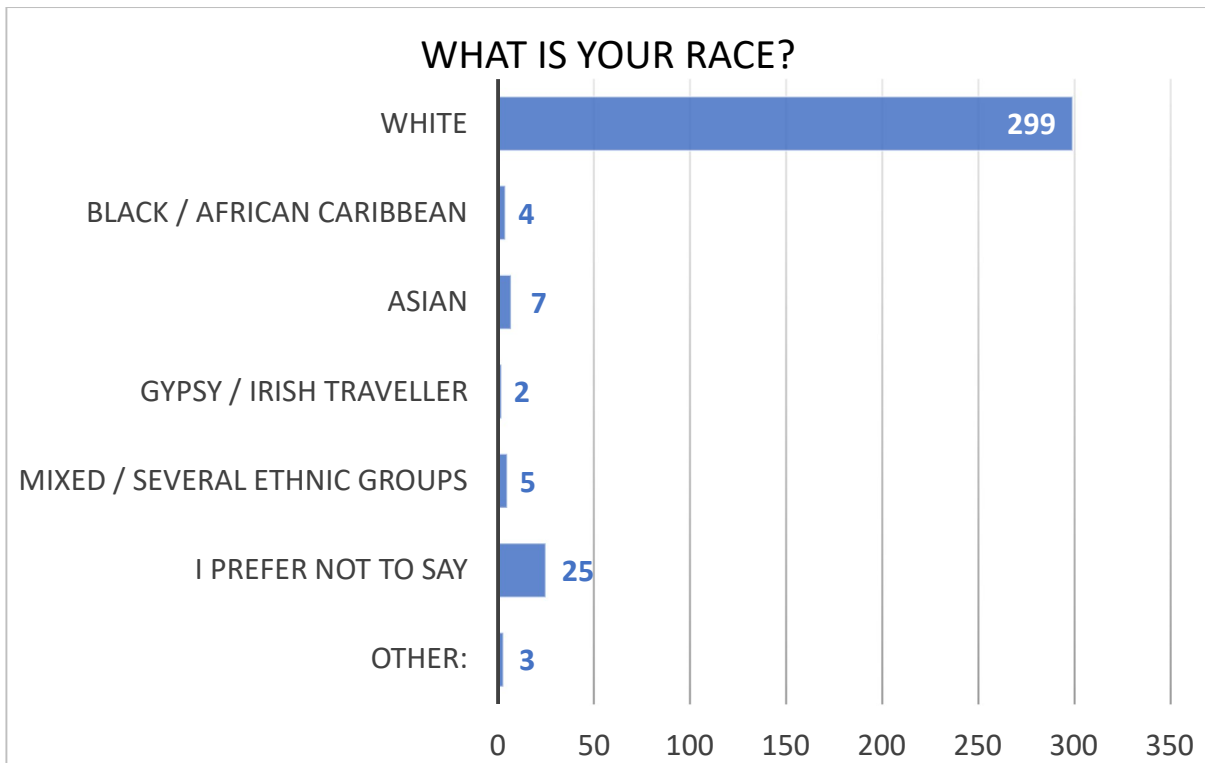


CAN YOU UNDERSTAND, SPEAK, READ AND/OR WRITE IN WELSH?

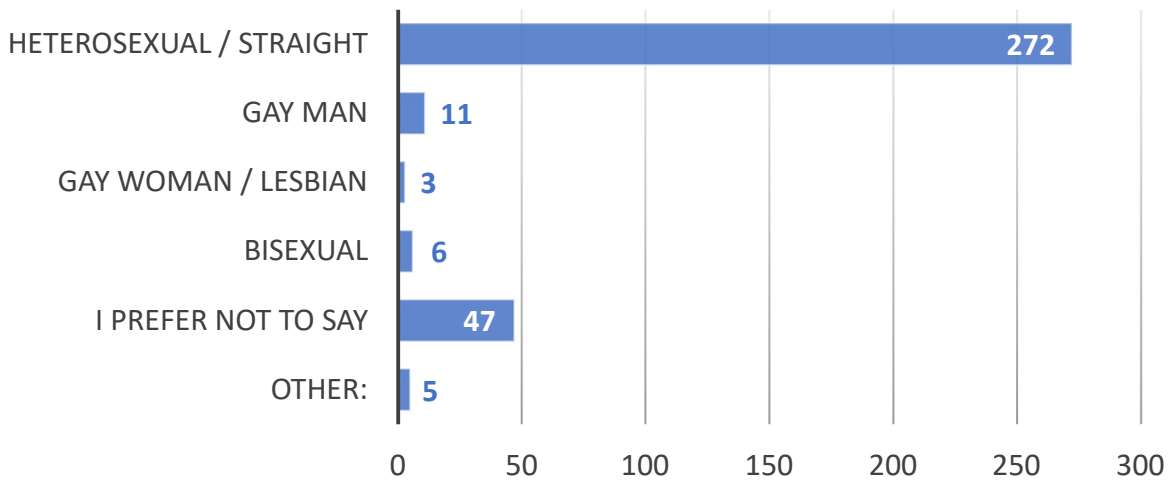


NATIONALITY OR NATIONAL IDENTITY?

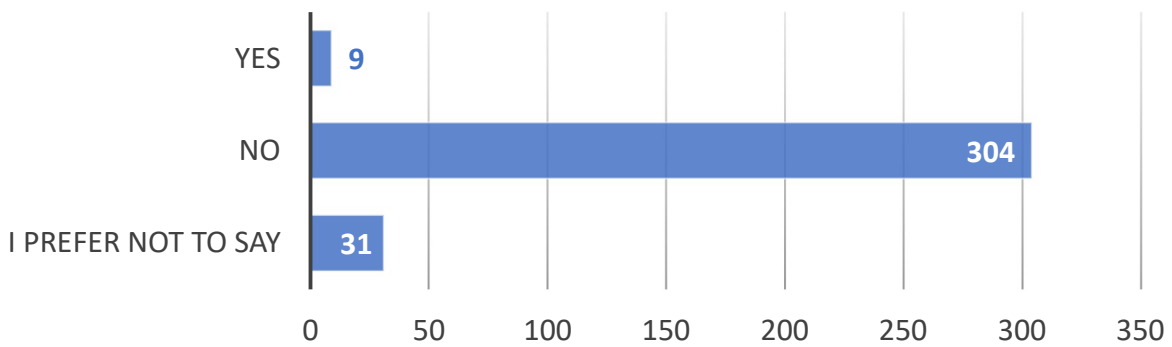




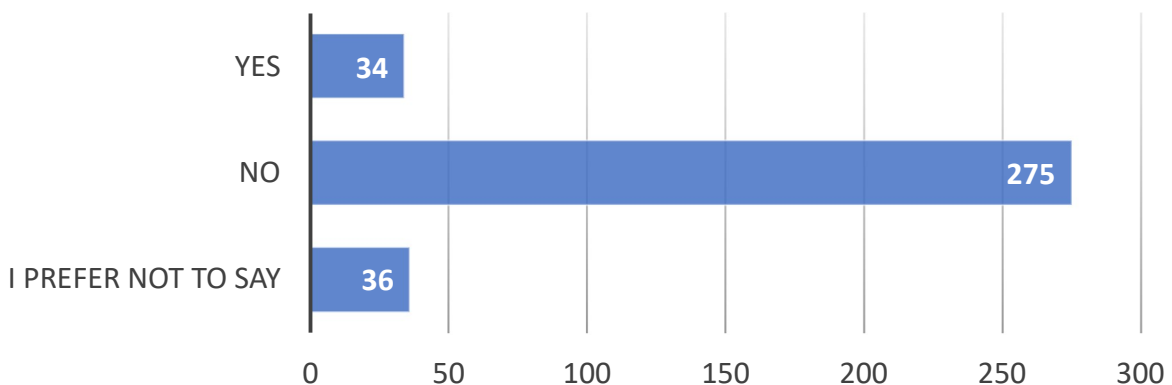
WHICH OF THESE BEST DESCRIBES YOU?



HAS YOUR GENDER IDENTIFICATION CHANGED FROM WHEN YOU WERE BORN?



DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A DISABLED PERSON?



4 Number of respondents per city, town or village in the Bangor Area

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

Town/village	Number of respondents
• Bangor	211
• Y Felinheli	47
• Penrhosgarnedd	43
• Other:	21
• Pentir	12
• Glasinfryn	5
• Treborth	3

5 What is good about the Bangor Area?

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

What <u>is good</u> about the Bangor Area?	Number of times the theme was prioritised
• The fact that there is a University in the area	184
• Heritage and history of the area and the fact that Bangor is a cultural and diverse city	134
• It's a safe area	125
• The Welsh language and culture	106
• The community spirit and community friendliness	104
• Good public transport	105
• Standard of footpaths and cycling paths	82
• Health resources in the area	81
• Hard working organisations, charities, enterprises and voluntary groups in the area	63
• Amenities such as shops, cafes, restaurants	62
• The area's rich creative and artistic tradition	45
• There is a wide range of activities and opportunities for young people locally	14
• The city of Bangor's lively nighttime economy	11

- 5.2 In response to the question '**Note anything else that is good about the Bangor Area that isn't mentioned above**', **95** additional comments were received from the residents of the Bangor Area. A number of the additional responses offered further comments about the above themes.

Of the comments that noted something else, these were the most popular themes:

Theme	Number of respondents who noted this
• A convenient place to live e.g. close to the sea, mountains, other locations, the A55 and the railway.	24
• The natural environment including green spaces in the city of Bangor and the surrounding area e.g. Eithiniog Nature Reserve	22
• Bangor Pier	10
• Good schools	8

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 Bangor Area?

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

What is <u>not so good</u> about the Bangor Area?	Number of times the theme was prioritised
• Decline of the High Street and not enough being done to regenerate it	296
• The lack of suitable and affordable housing for local people to buy or rent	166
• The local economy is fragile and does not create good jobs for local people	157
• Impact of student housing on residential areas	154
• Problems relating to parking, road conditions and traffic in the area	124
• Bangor has lost its identity, lack of co-operation to run events and create community vibrancy	121
• Negative attitudes towards the area	87
• Closing youth clubs	79
• The lack of good standard and safe walking and cycling paths	76
• Local concerns about the health, welfare and care provision for older people in the area	71
• Lack of resources in Maesgeirchen	50
• Contact between the University and the local community	41
• Lack of collaboration between organisations and local community / city councils	40
• Not enough being done to maximise the potential in relation to Storiol Museum and Gallery	27

6.2 In response to the question ‘**Note anything else that is not so good about the Bangor Area that isn’t mentioned above**’, **151** additional comments were received from the residents of the Bangor Area. A number of these additional responses offered further comments about the themes above e.g. comments about the high-street (n=23), concerns about parking, road conditions and traffic (n=18), comments about the local economy in general (n=16), housing issues (n=15) and concerns about Health, Welfare and care (n=8).

Of the comments that noted something else, these were the most popular themes:

Theme	Number of respondents who noted this
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The appearance/untidiness of the area in general e.g. problems with dog mess, litter, graffiti, the condition of buildings and the lack of green spaces. 	36
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of activities/opportunities and resources for young people in the area. 	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns about anti-social behaviour and drugs in the area. 	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A feeling that public transport can be better. 	14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A perception of a lack of Police presence in the area. 	6

6.3 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 Bangor 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/ City /Town Councils, organisations, groups and local Members of the Bangor area. As part of the public engagement consultation, the residents of Bangor 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 Bangor area in the next 15 years, that would make the area a better place to live?	Number of times the theme was prioritised
• Plans to develop and regenerate the High Street	260
• Develop plans to meet the needs of young people of the area	154
• A greener area – more renewable energy schemes, reducing plastic use, setting up car charging points, tree planting schemes etc	150
• Plans to keep communities of the area clean and tidy	137
• Plans to tackle negative attitudes and build pride in the city and surrounding area	106
• Plans to maintain and develop public footpaths and cycle paths	101
• Give more attention to the areas beyond the centre of Bangor	91
• Plans to organise and promote more events such as fairs locally	75
• Strict planning rules in relation to the development of buildings	63
• Locate more Gwynedd Council Offices in Bangor	61
• Plans and support for activities that promote the Welsh language and culture and that support Welsh learners	60
• Plans to develop more effective collaboration between Gwynedd Council, Community Councils and local groups	58
• Develop a 'Park and Ride' scheme in the Ysbyty Gwynedd area	53
• Plans to develop the City Park	52
• Plans to develop more projects to celebrate the area's rich heritage and history	50
• Flood prevention scheme being developed for the Hiraël area	45
• Plans to strengthen links between the University and the community	42

7.2 In response to the question ‘**Note anything else you think isn’t mentioned above**’, **104** additional comments were received from Bangor residents. A number of the additional responses offered further comments about the above themes e.g. Develop plans to meet the needs of young people of the area (n=10); Plans to develop and regenerate the High Street (n=7); Plans to organise and promote more events such as fairs locally (n=6); Plans to maintain and develop public footpaths and cycle paths (n=6); Plans to keep communities of the area clean and tidy (n=4); A greener area – more renewable energy schemes, reducing plastic use, setting up car charging points, tree planting schemes etc (n=4).

Of the comments that noted something else, these were the most popular themes:

Theme	Number of respondents who noted this
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans to create high value jobs and attract companies/businesses to the area 	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans to provide houses for local people to buy and rent 	8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackling traffic, driving and parking problems e.g. in upper Bangor 	8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans to improve public transport 	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans to improve playing fields and green spaces to host sports 	5

7.3 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 Bangor 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 Bangor Area.
- 8.1 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



UK Government Wales
Llywodraeth y DU Cymru

www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru | 01766 771000