

Our Area 2035

Results of the Public Engagement Exercise

(February – June 2022)

Bala and Penllyn 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 Bala and Penllyn 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:

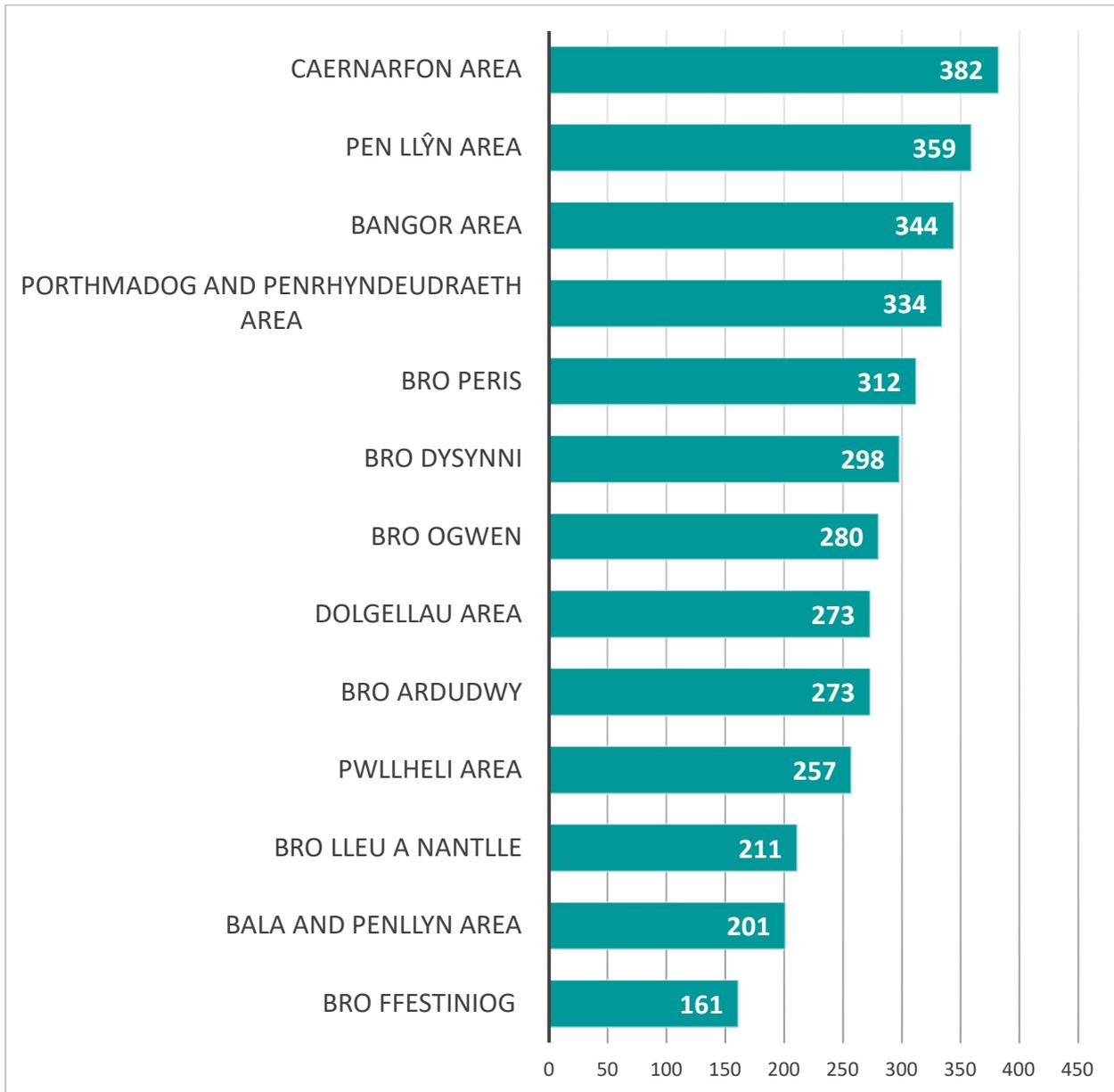
- GISDA Blaenau Ffestiniog – A discussion session with members of the Young People Board and a session with members of the GISDA LGBT+ Club.
- GISDA Caernarfon – A discussion session with members of the GISDA LGBT+ Club.
- GISDA Pwllheli - A discussion session with members of the GISDA LGBT+ Club.
-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

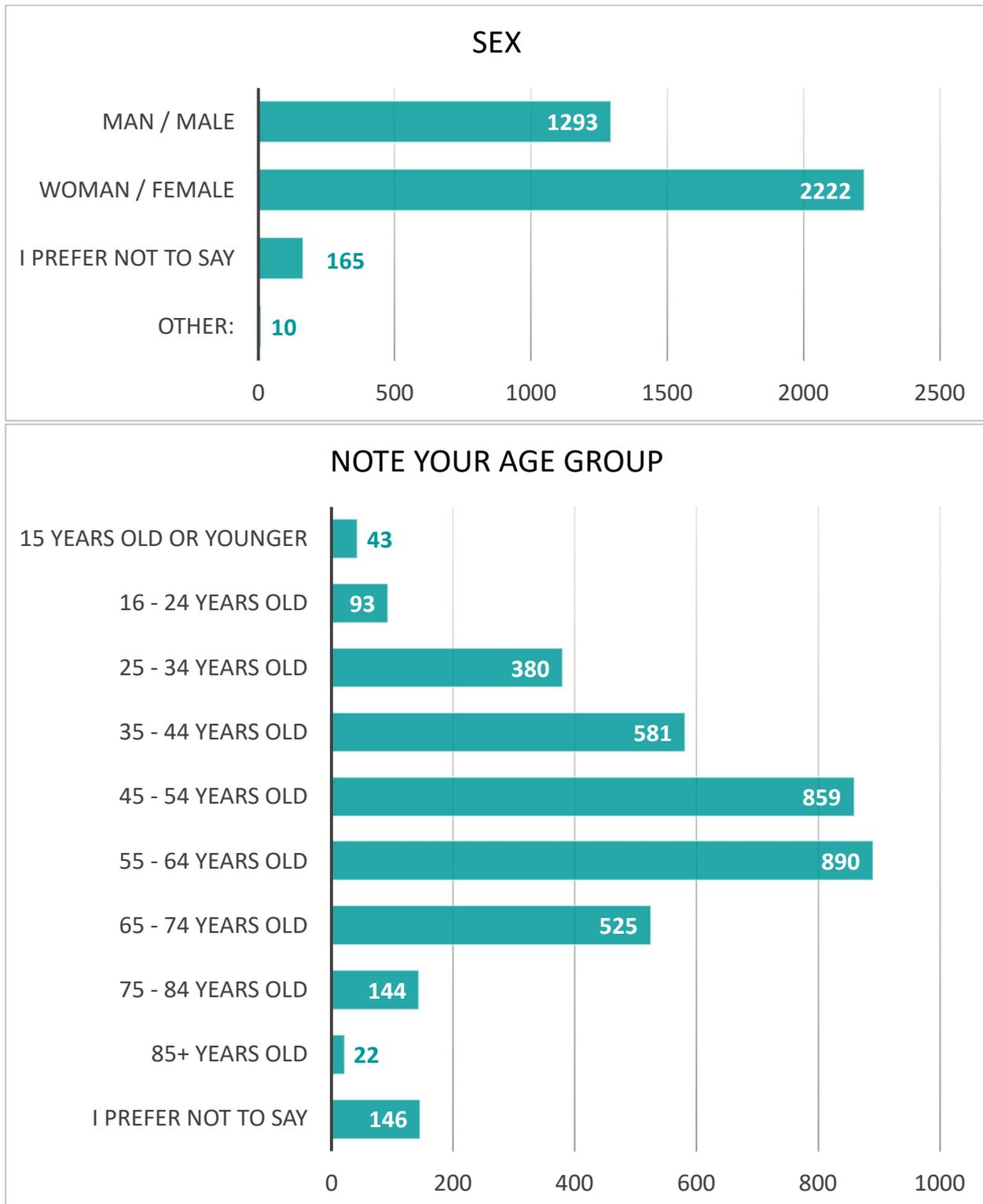
- **3,675** of these completed the online survey.
- **10** completed the paper survey that was available in libraries, 'Siop Gwynedd' or by phone request.
- **6** completed the 'Easy read' version of the survey.
- **85** people attended face to face sessions for **young people, young people in the LGBT+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

2.1 Number of respondents per area*

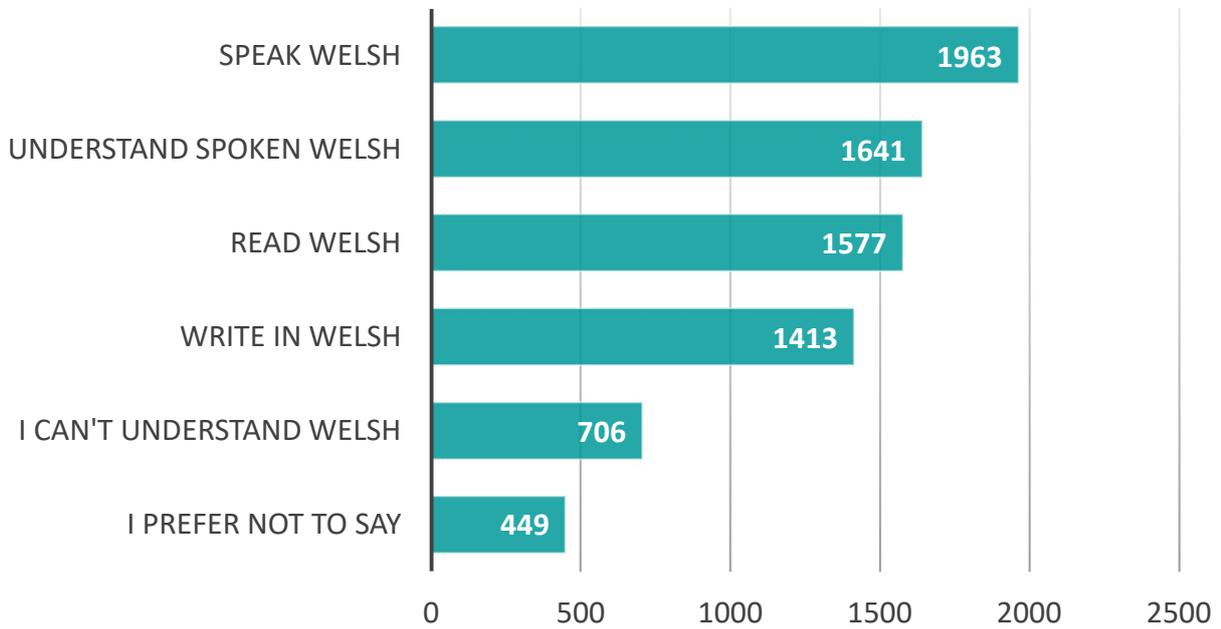


*For the online and paper survey.

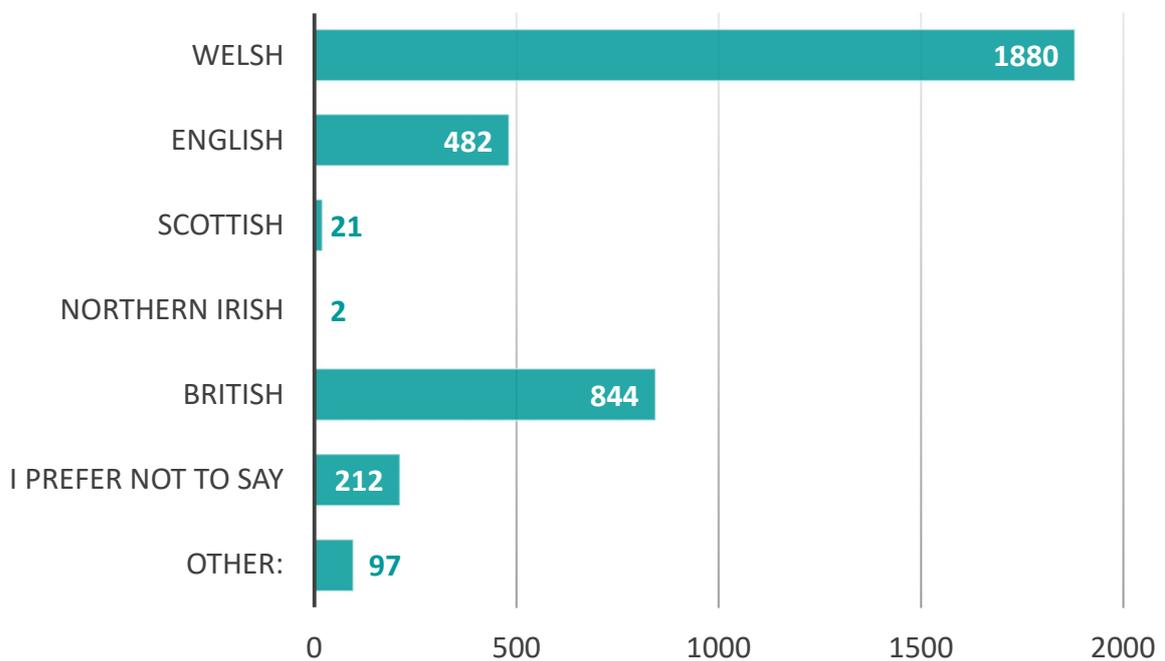
2.2 Overview of the Respondents to the Public Survey for Gwynedd



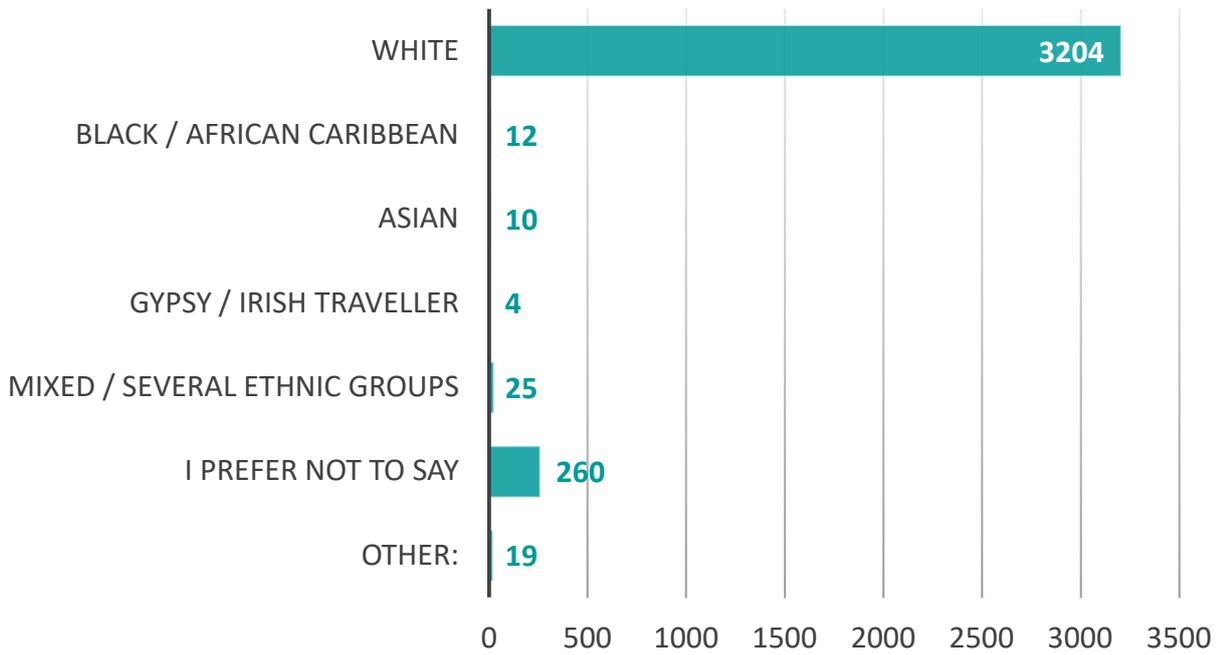
CAN YOU UNDERSTAND, SPEAK, READ AND/OR WRITE IN WELSH?



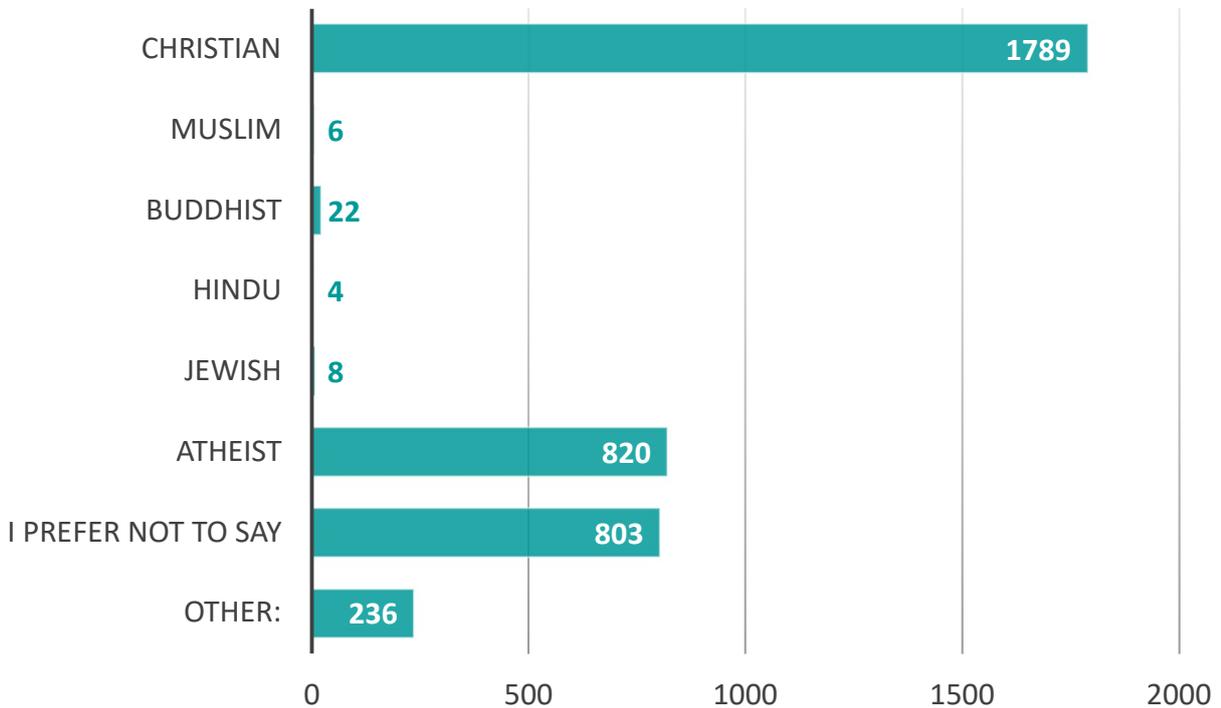
NATIONALITY OR NATIONAL IDENTITY?



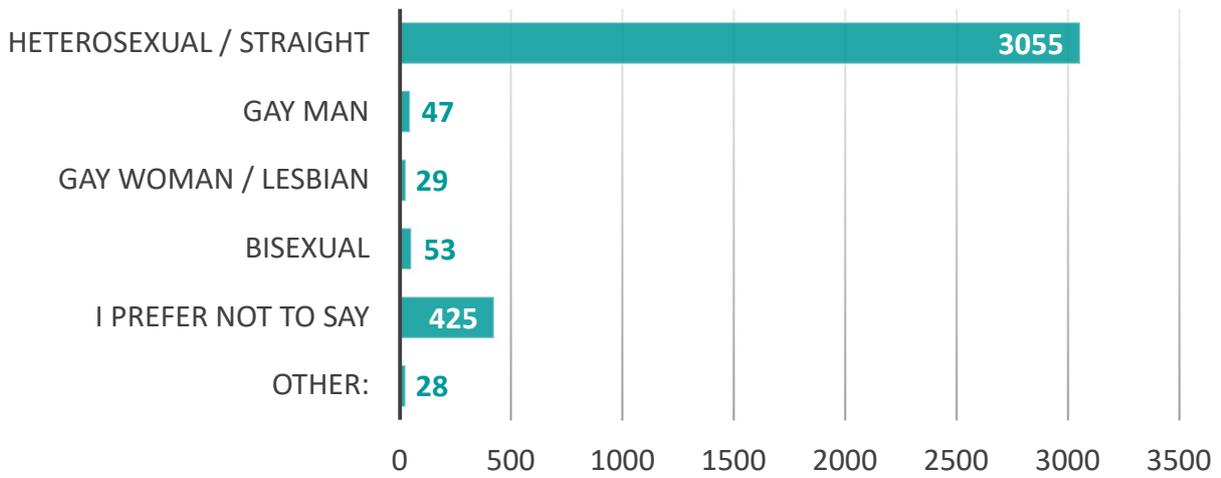
WHAT IS YOUR RACE?



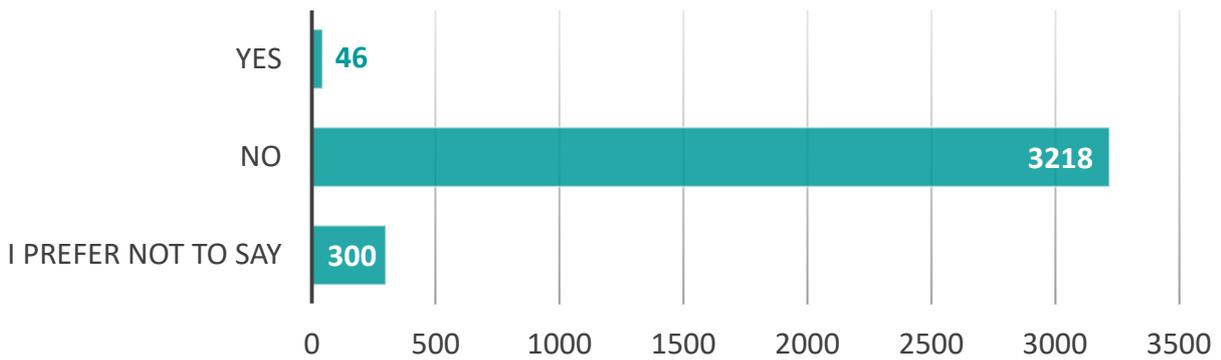
WHAT IS YOUR RELIGION?



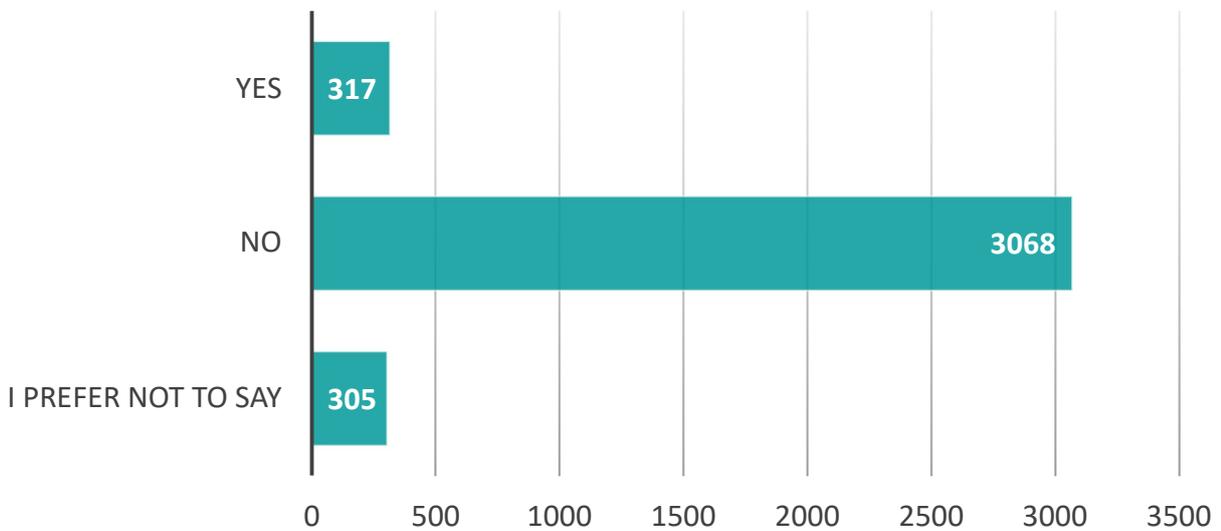
WHICH OF THESE BEST DESCRIBES YOU?



HAS YOUR GENDER IDENTIFICATION CHANGED FROM WHEN YOU WERE BORN?



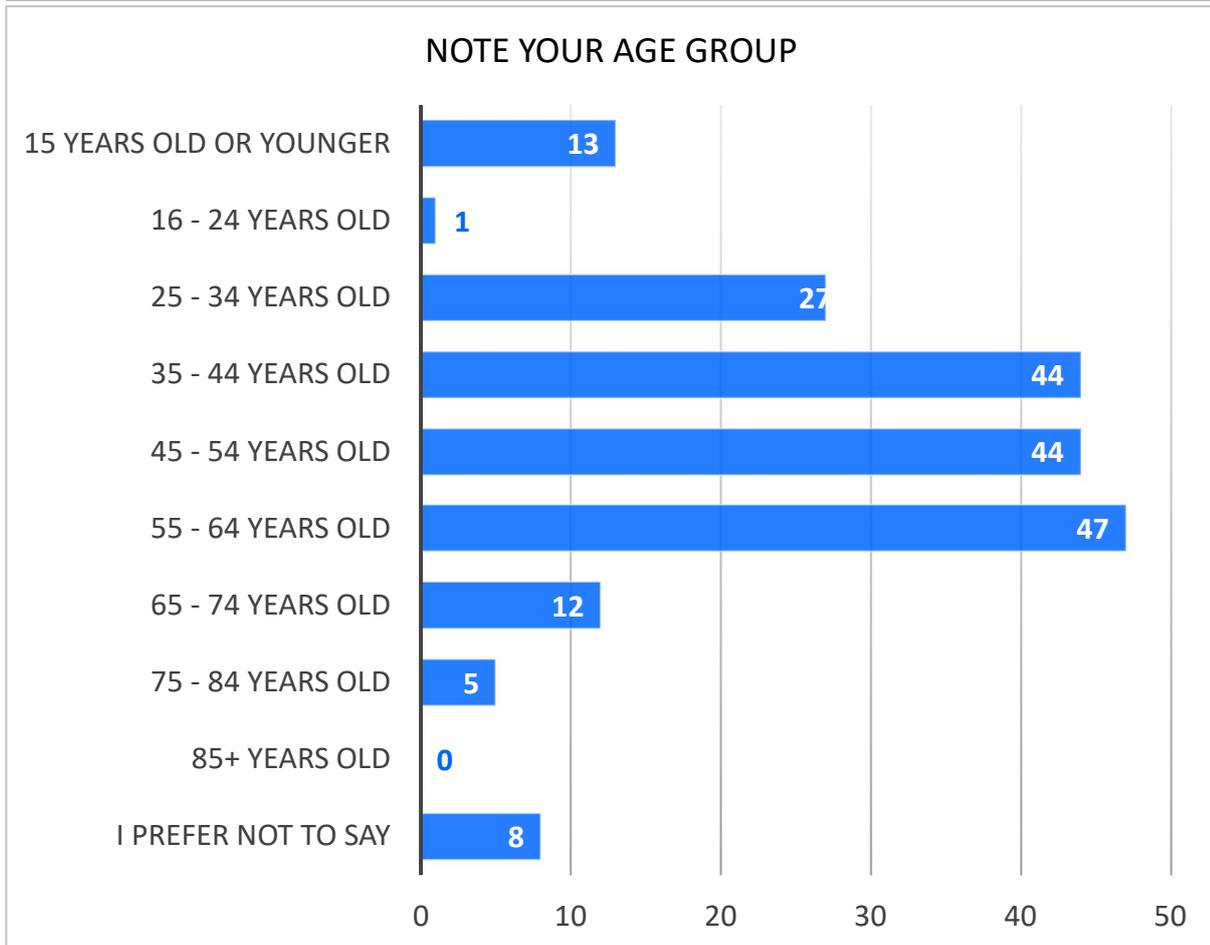
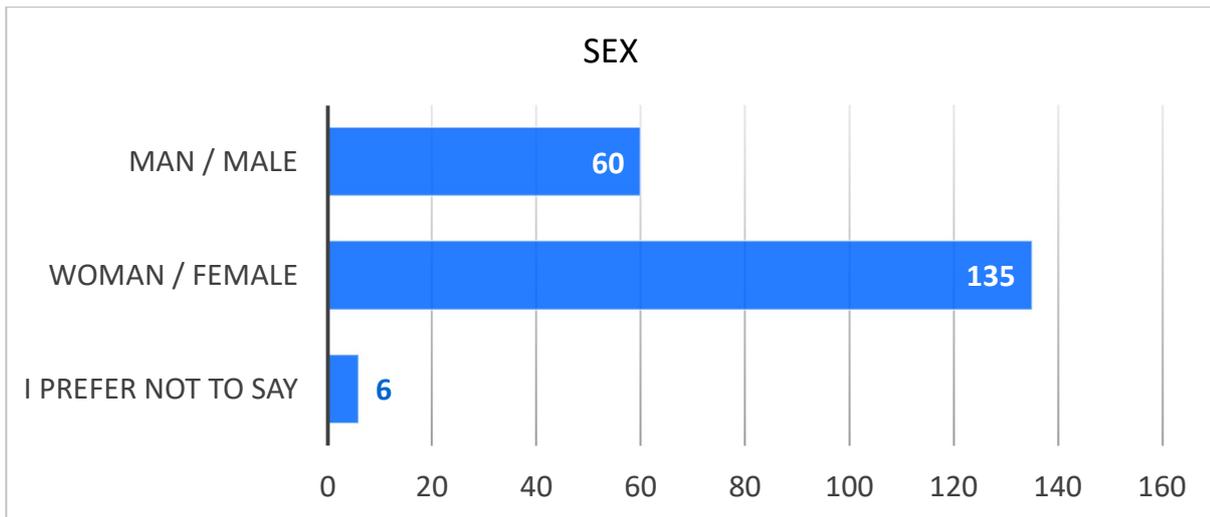
DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A DISABLED PERSON?



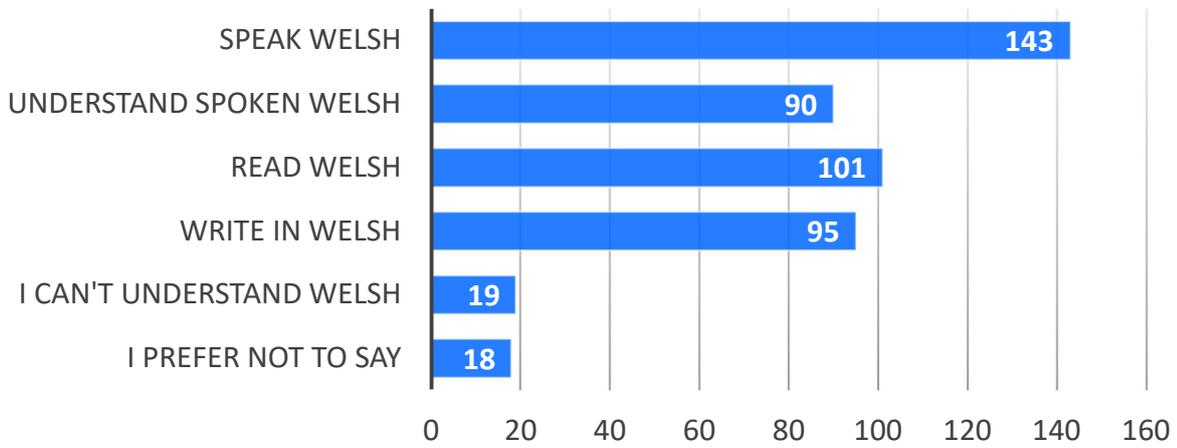
3 Bala and Penllyn Area Results

3.1 Overview of the Respondents to the Public Survey for the Bala and Penllyn Area

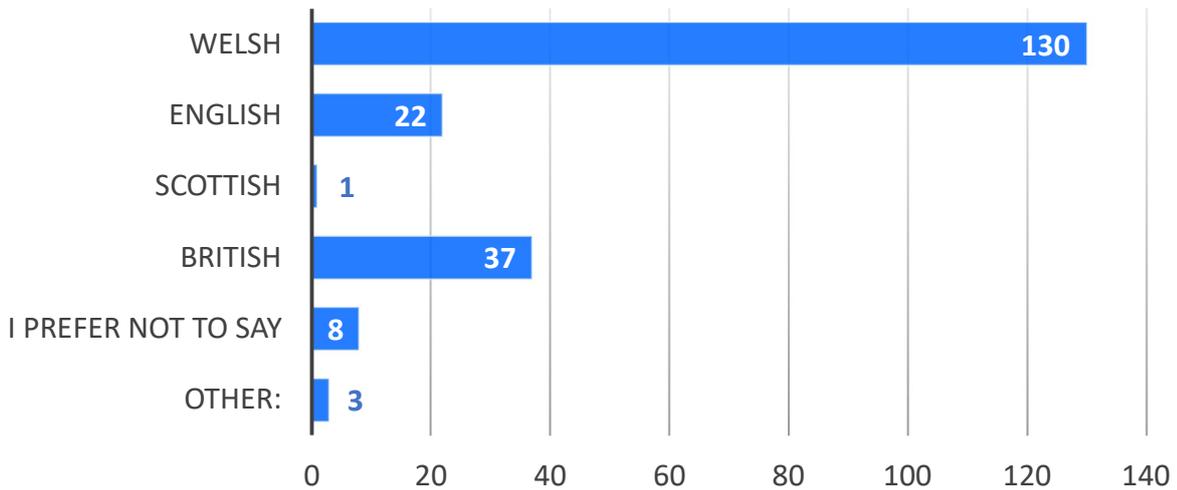
3.2 The Our Area 2035 survey for the Bala and Penllyn Area received **201** responses.



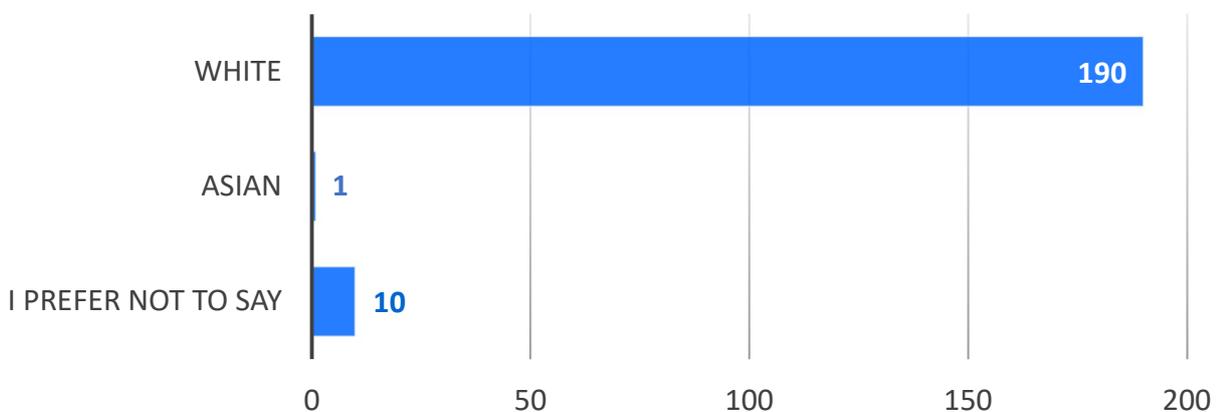
CAN YOU UNDERSTAND, SPEAK, READ AND/OR WRITE IN WELSH?

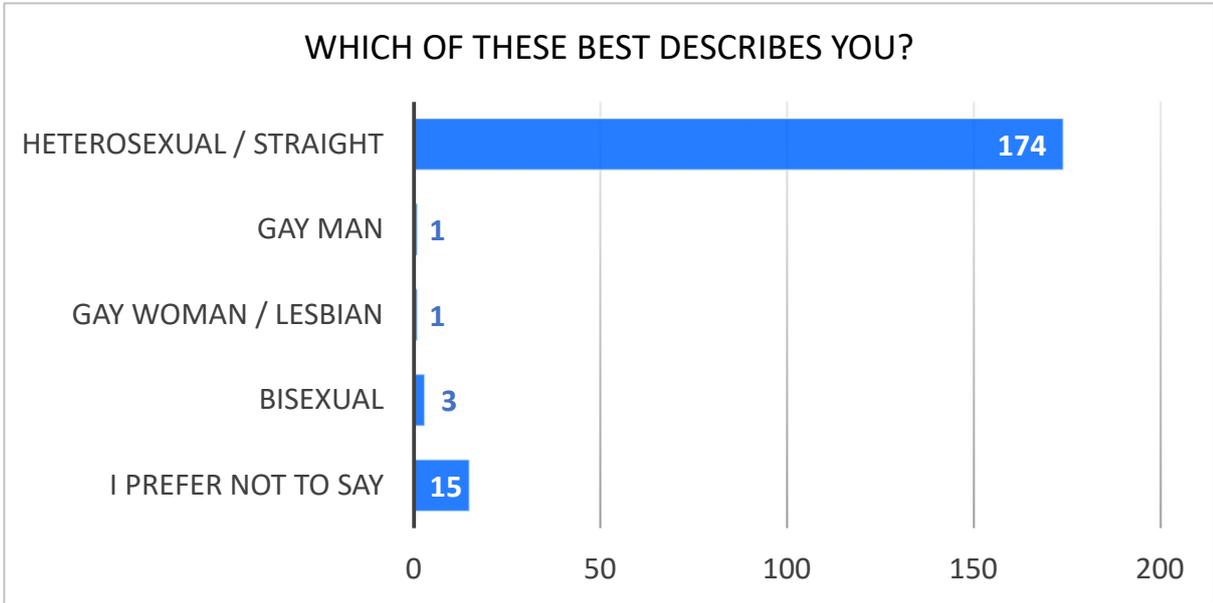
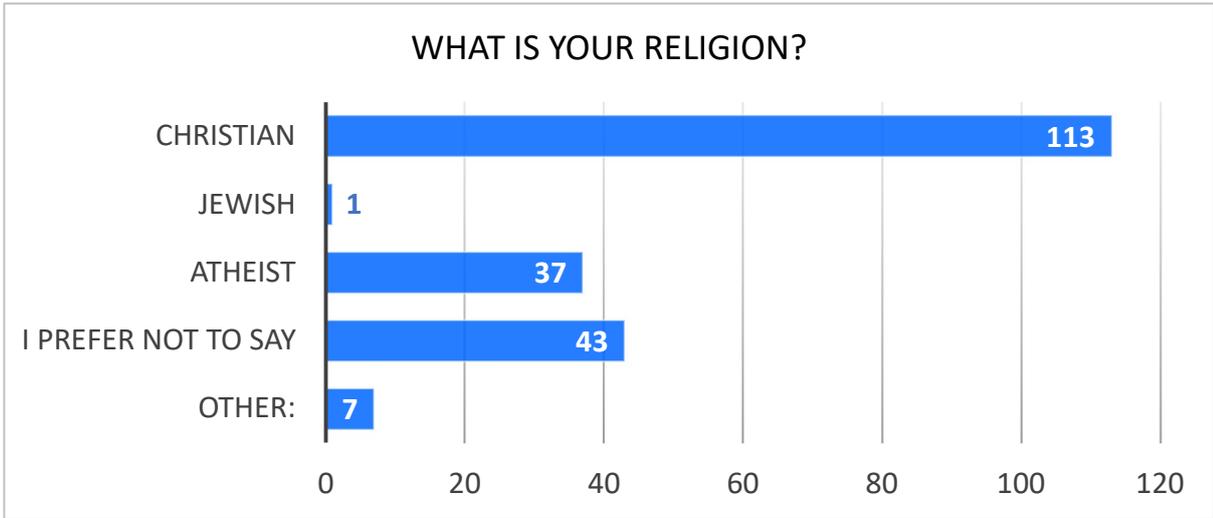


NATIONALITY OR NATIONAL IDENTITY?

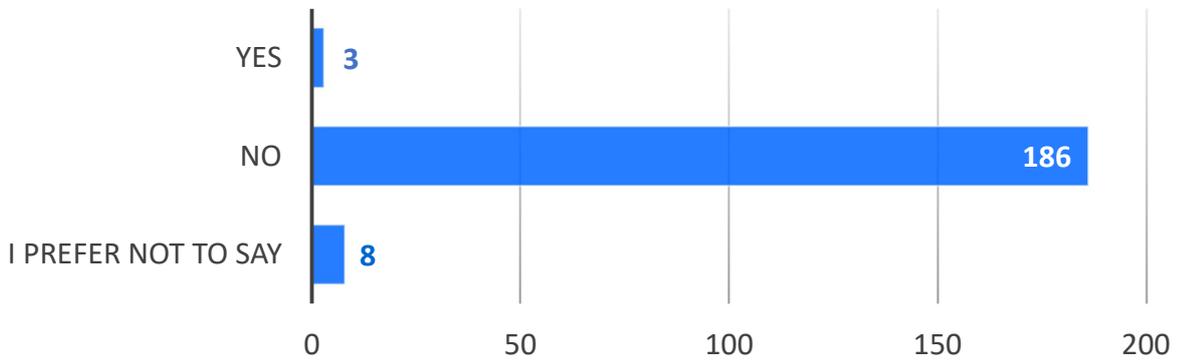


WHAT IS YOUR RACE?

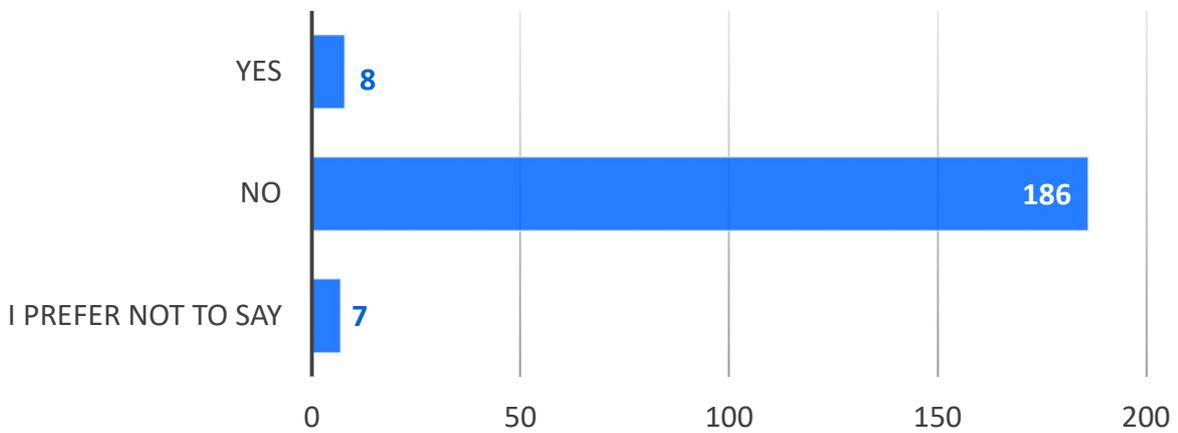




HAS YOUR GENDER IDENTIFICATION CHANGED FROM WHEN YOU WERE BORN?



DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A DISABLED PERSON?



4 Number of respondents per town or village in the Bala and Penllyn Area.

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

Town/village	Number of respondents
• Y Bala	85
• Llanuwchllyn	36
• Llandderfel	18
• Llanfor	13
• Frongoch	10
• Llangower	10
• Other:	7
• Glan-yr-Afon	5
• Parc	5
• Sarnau	4
• Llanycil	2
• Rhyd Uchaf	2
• Rhosygwaliau	2
• Llidiardau	1

5 What is good about the Bala and Penllyn Area?

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

What <u>is good</u> about the Bala and Penllyn Area?	Number of times the theme was prioritised
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The natural environment and proximity to mountains, Llyn Tegid and the countryside 	140
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A good place to raise a family 	121
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Welsh language and culture 	119
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The community spirit and community friendliness 	97
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good local health and care service and provision 	88
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The area's ability to attract tourism for economic benefit 	82
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education provision and good schools 	68
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The area's local produce and businesses 	40
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amenities such as shops, cafes and the theatre 	30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social activities and community facilities 	23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good broadband / web connection 	22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hardworking organisations, charities, enterprises and voluntary groups in the area 	18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good provision for older people 	16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment opportunities in the area 	9

5.2 In response to the question '**Note anything else that is good about the Bala and Penllyn Area that isn't mentioned above**', 29 additional comments were received from the residents of Bala and Penllyn Area. A number of the additional responses offered further comments about the above themes e.g. The community spirit and community friendliness (n=5); The Welsh language and culture (n=4).

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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports facilities and outdoor activities e.g. Lake Tegid. 	5

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 Bala and Penllyn Area?

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

What is <u>not so good</u> about the Bala and Penllyn Area?	Number of times the theme was prioritised
• Lack of suitable and affordable housing for local people to buy or rent	119
• Lack of high salary and full-time jobs	100
• The high number of second homes and holiday homes in the area	95
• Geographical distance from facilities and services	73
• The public transport network in the area is inadequate	70
• Drugs and alcohol misuse	70
• Barriers within the planning and building developments field	61
• There is concern about parking in a number of locations	46
• Poor broadband and web connection	45
• No local passion or leadership for change	42
• Concerns about the impact of tourism on the local environment	40
• The Welsh language and culture losing ground	32
• Concern about the area's health, well-being and care provision	19

6.2 In response to the question ‘**Note anything else that is not so good about the Bala and Penllyn Area that isn’t mentioned above**’, 50 additional comments were received from the residents of the Bala and Penllyn Area. A number of these additional responses offered further comments about the themes above e.g Road and parking issues (n=9); issues around anti-social behaviour including drug and alcohol misuse (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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough shops including a lack of an ‘affordable supermarket.’ 	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on the work of the Town Council. 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of facilities/activities for young people. 	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The public path network is insufficient. 	3

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 Bala and Penllyn 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 of the Bala and Penllyn area. As part of the public engagement consultation, the residents of the Bala and Penllyn 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 Bala and Penllyn 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	96
• Plans to maintain and develop public footpaths and cycle paths and develop green spaces	94
• Develop plans to meet the needs of young people in the area	91
• Schemes to support local businesses and enterprises and promote local produce would also attract more businesses that will create high value jobs for the area	71
• Plans to develop a local public transport network that is accessible, integrated and suitable to the needs of the area	70
• A greener area – more renewable energy schemes, reducing plastic use, setting up car charging points, tree planting schemes etc	70
• An effective Sustainable Tourism Scheme to better control tourism and maximise the economic potential for local people	64
• Plans and support for activities that promote the Welsh language and culture and support for Welsh learners	49
• Schemes to protect the agriculture industry in the area	47
• Upgrade the broadband infrastructure	45
• Plans to facilitate the process of enabling communities to take control of their own local assets to address the needs of the area	41
• Plans to improve parking control for local residents	39
• More support for community centre committees for the benefit of local residents	30
• Improvements in local health provision	27
• Decentralise services to rural areas	26

7.2 In response to the question ‘**Note anything else you think isn’t mentioned above**’, 26 additional comments were received from Bala and Penllyn residents. A number of the additional responses offered further comments about the above themes e.g. Plans to improve parking control (n=3); create high value jobs (n=2); develop plans to meet the needs of young people in the area(n=2).

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

Theme	Number of respondents who noted this
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans to improve path network in the area. 	2

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 Bala and Penllyn 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 Bala and Penllyn catchment.
- 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.



UK Government Wales
Llywodraeth y DU Cymru

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