

Lighting Consultation

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Introduction

The public were asked about their views with respect to changes to lighting proposed by the council. The main questions were:

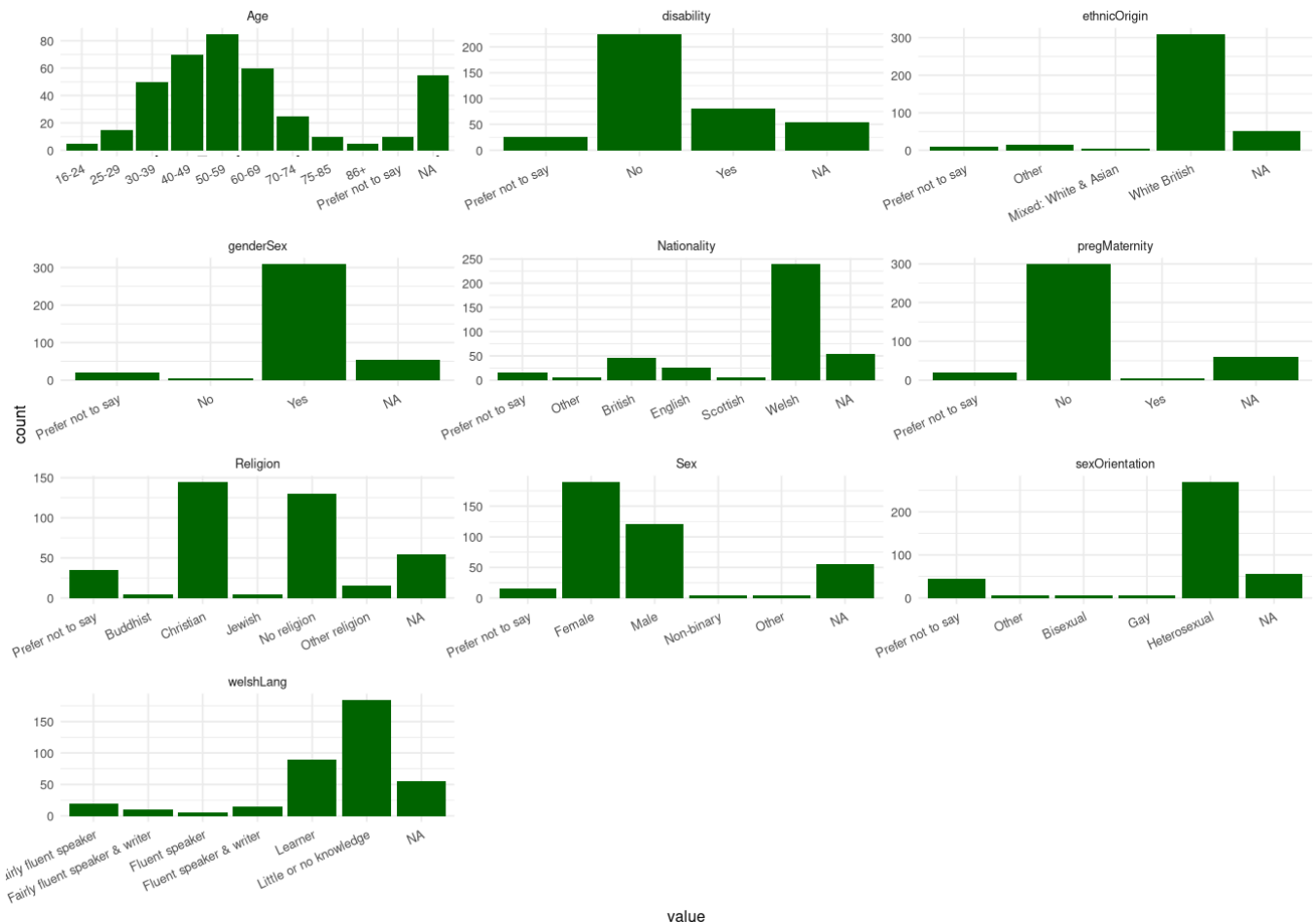
How do you feel about the option of dimming 10,600 LED lanterns in the county borough? How do you feel about the option for lights in residential streets to be switched off in the small hours (i.e. up to around 14,000 lanterns during the hours of 1am – 5am)?

Results:

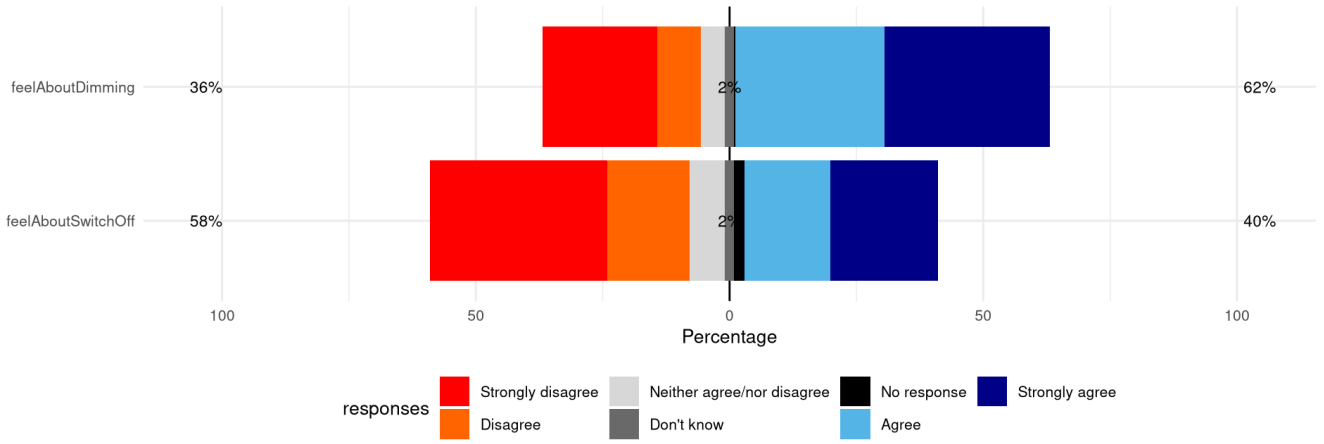
There were 384 responses to the survey. Demographics are shown in the following graphs:

Answers with low categories (<5) were grouped together into "Other" for Religion, Age, ethnic origin and Sexual Orientation) to "mask" potentially identifying results. Nationality and Sex had responses grouped into NA as there was still too small an amount of Other to disclose.

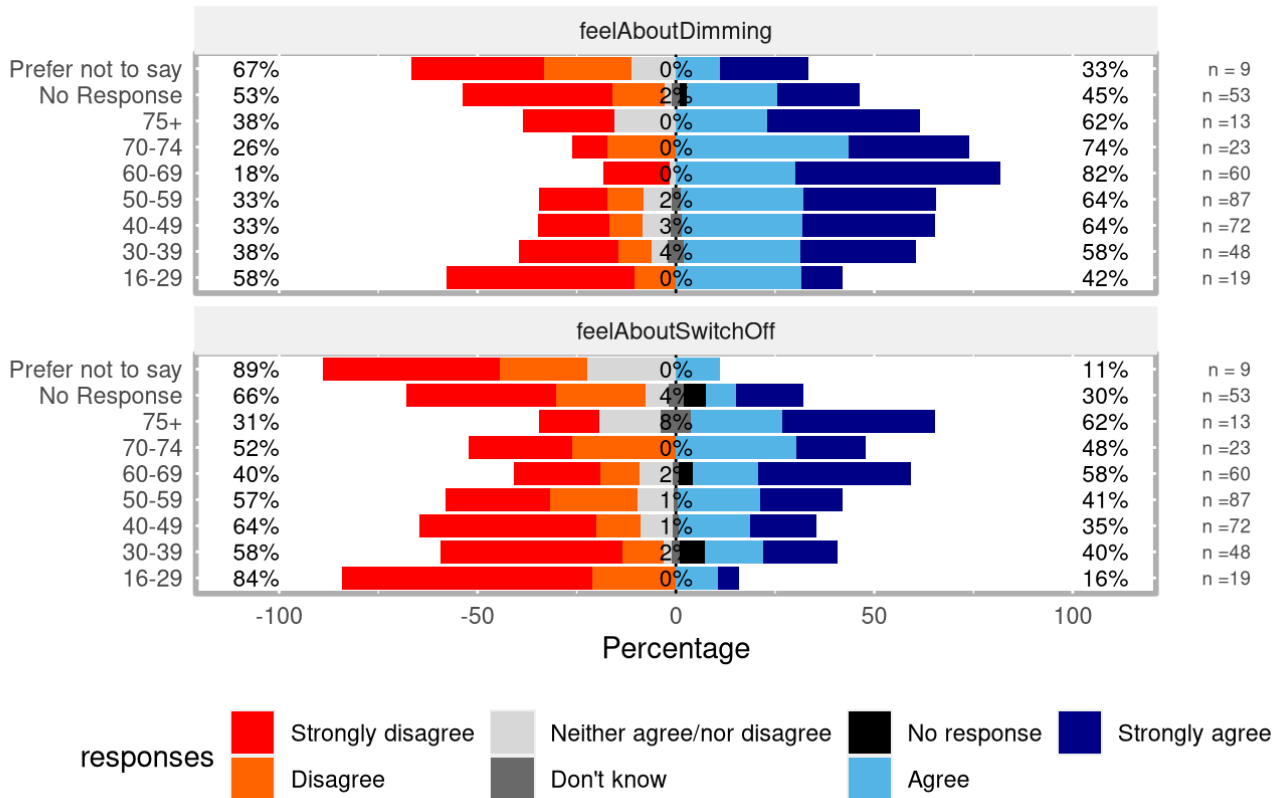
All bars are **rounded up** to the nearest 5 to "mask" potentially sensitive data.



Distribution of responses to the survey questions on whether they str. agree/agree/disagree/str.disagree with dimming/switch off (384 responses for both questions)

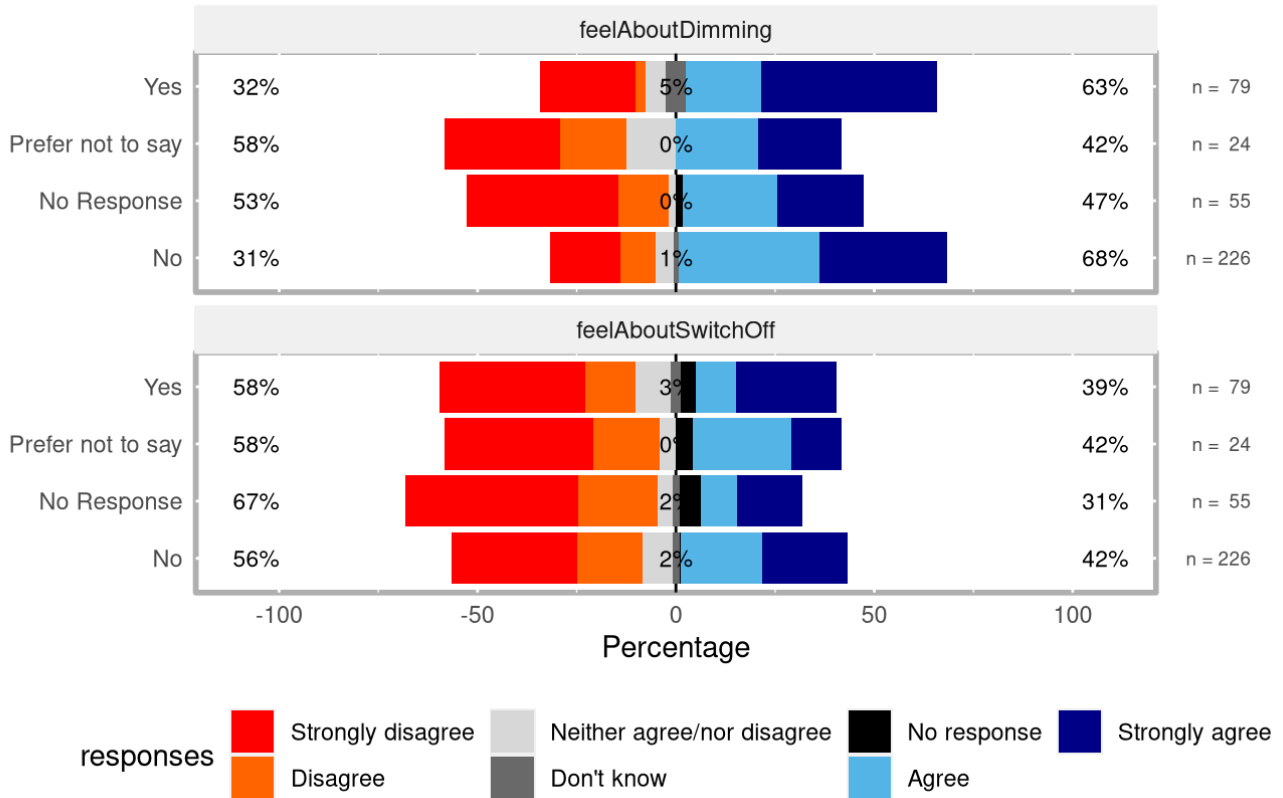


Distribution of responses to the survey questions on how they feel about dimming/switching off lights broken down by age (y axis)



Responses broken down by disability (y axis)

Distribution of responses to the survey how they feel about dimming/switching off lights broken down by disability



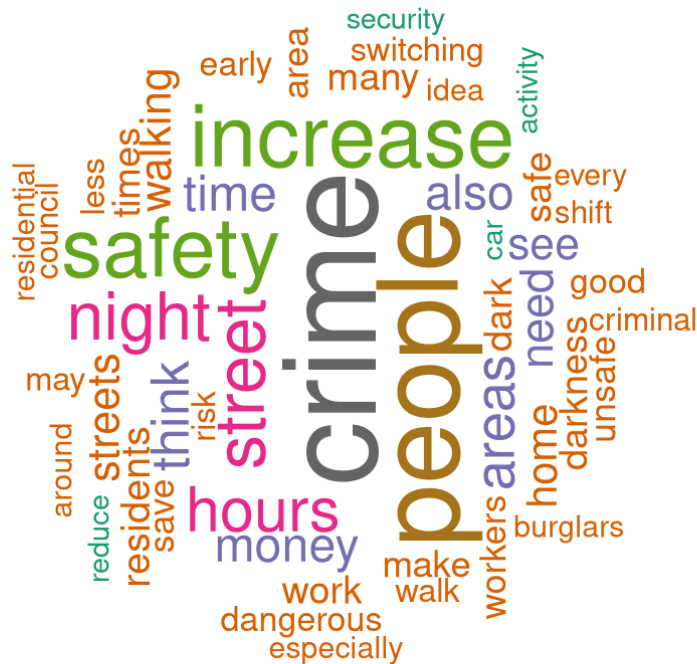
Word Clouds

The below word clouds showed the most common words that came up for each split of responses given below. The bigger the word, the more common it is. 'noisy' words such as 'and', 'I', 'also' were removed.

Respondents were asked to give free text responses to Question 3 ***“How do you feel about the option of dimming 10,600 LED lanterns in the county borough?”***. However, they clearly took the opportunity to supplement their answer to question 3 rather than explain it. For example, Crime is partly the most common word as it was provided as a concern or caveat for those who strongly agree or agree, in addition to an explanation for those who disagree/strongly disagree.



Respondents were asked to give free text responses to Question 4 ***“How do you feel about the option for lights in residential streets to be switched off in the small hours (i.e. up to around 14,000 lanterns during the hours of 1am – 5am)?”***. Again, they clearly took the opportunity to supplement their answer to question 4 rather than explain it. For example, Crime is partly the most common word as it was provided as a concern or caveat for those who strongly agree or agree, in addition to an explanation for those who disagree/strongly disagree.



Times

Respondents were asked for question 4.b ***“If you disagree or strongly disagree with question 4 (agree/disagree with switch off), are there any alternative times for lights in residential streets to be switched off that would be acceptable to you?. Yes, No or Don’t know?”*** and for question 4.c., ***“If yes, please list these locations and why you would be concerned about them”***

Respondents seemed to disregard whether they answered “yes” to 4b or not and took this, inferably, as an opportunity to give a preference for time: The responses to time were free text and so had to be grouped into meaningful categories as below. As you can see, most people didn’t respond to this question (NA = “Not Available” or no response given or available). Also, relatively few respondents actually chose to explain why they had this preferred time as asked.

Manual_change_to_acceptable_times	percentage (%)
4pm to 8pm	1
5am to 8am	1
Between 8 am and 4 pm	1
Midnight to 5am	8
Other	2
Seasonal	2
NA	86

It was found that the vast majority of **given** responses were Midnight to 5am, 31 with 60% of the **given** responses. From a quick manual read, The most common reason cited for this reason was centered around concerns around crime in darkness hours or this being the time the general public don't need lights.

locations

Respondents were asked for question 5. "If these proposals were to go ahead, would you have concerns about any specific locations. Yes, No or Don't know?" and for question 6, "If yes, please list these locations and why you would be concerned about them in the box below:"

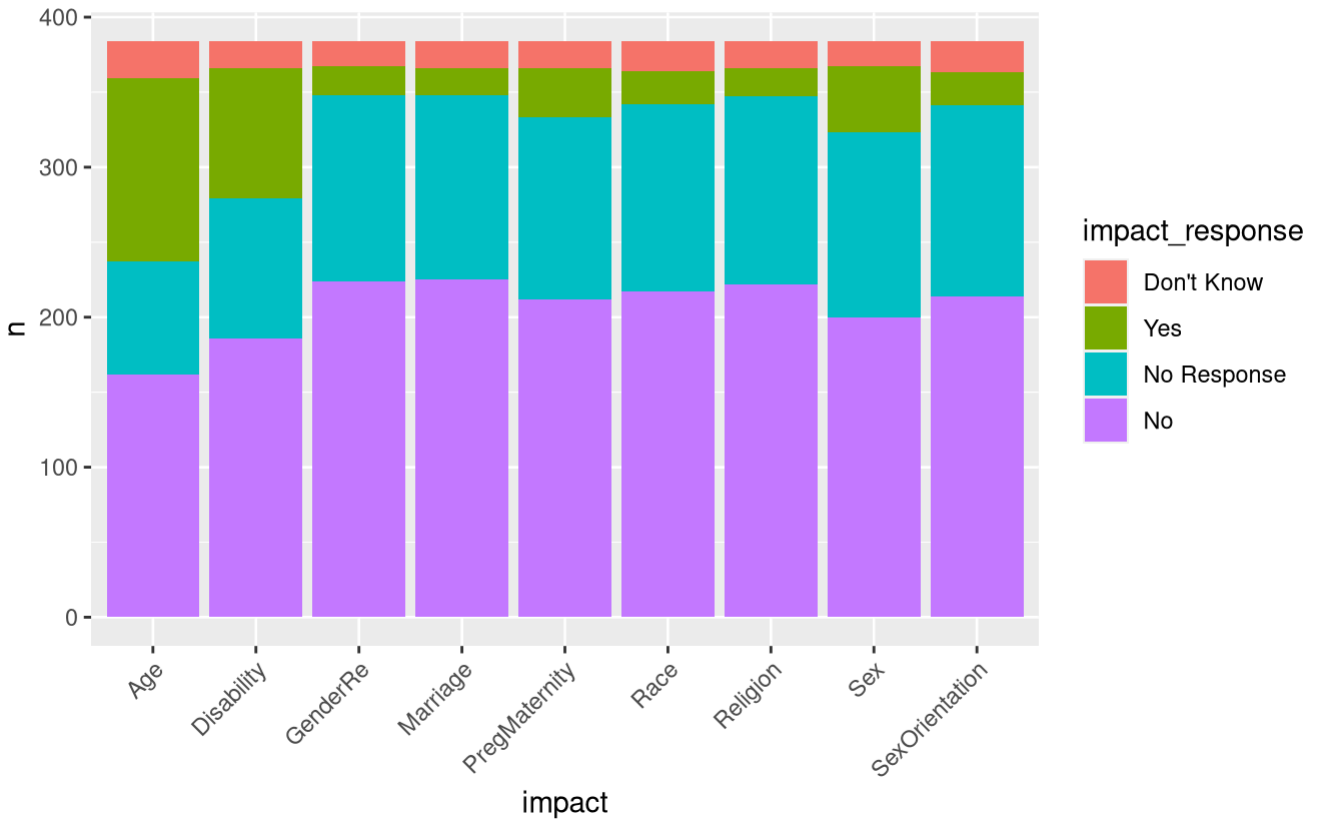
The responses to these seemed to answer the question sensibly in that people only replied to question 6 if they responded "Yes" to question 5, as asked. The text responses were mapped so locations could be grouped into meaningful categories (EG, Anywhere/Everywhere/Everyplace = Everywhere and Neath Town/Neath/Cimla = Neath). These categories were: (NA = "Not Available" or no response given or available)

mapped_locations	percentage (%)
Afan Valley	1
Briton Ferry	1
Crime prone	3
Everywhere	14
Neath	4
Other	12
Port Talbot	5
Roads/Streets	3
Rural	2
Ystalyfera	1
places busy late at night	1
NA	53

It was found that the vast majority of **given** responses were Everywhere with a total 54 responses (30%).

Would the light cutting proposals have an impact on the following characteristics?

(Y axis = count, x axis = characteristic)



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(Y axis = count, x axis = characteristic)

