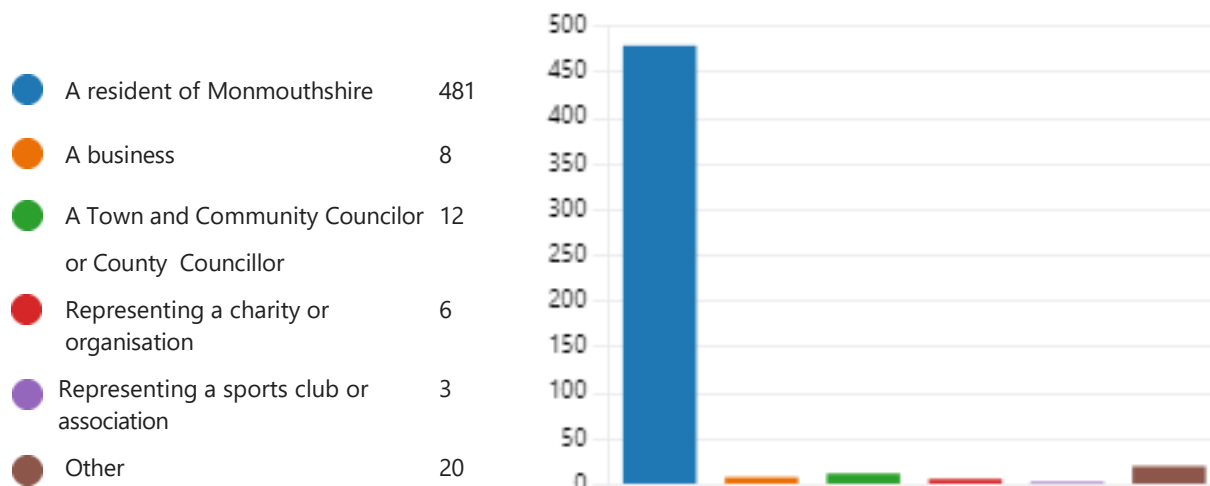


APPENDIX 1

Public Spaces Protection Order Consultation

516 consultation responses

1. I am competing this consultation as:



2. If responding as a business, Town & Community Council Councillor, county Councillor, charity or organisation, sports club or association please provide your details here:

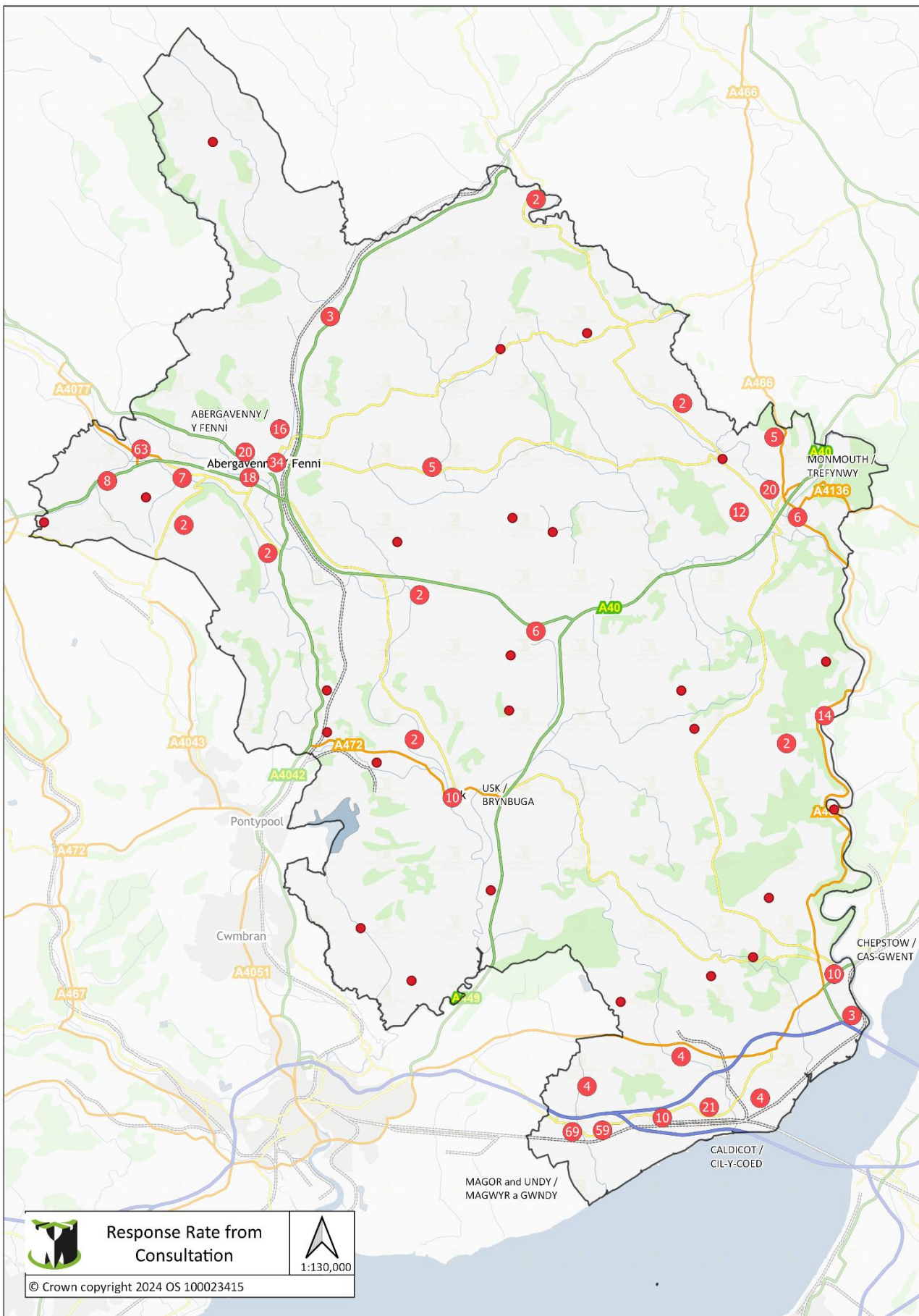
There were 32 responses, which included 12 Town and Community Councils.

3. Are you a dog owner?



4. What is your postcode?

There were 516 responses, with the map below illustrating distribution in the county.



PROVISION ONE: DOG FOULING

Proposal: Require person in charge of a dog to clean up if the dog defecates on any public land in the county.

Reason: The current dog controls in the county only cover certain public areas. Besides the un-pleasant smell and the mess created by dog fouling when it gets on shoes, clothing, bicycle or wheelchair wheels etc., the dangers to health from dog faeces are well documented. Toxocariasis is a disease found in the dog faeces which can be passed to humans through contact and is caused by the eggs of the toxocara roundworm. Children are particularly at risk and infection can lead to illness and even loss of sight.

5. Do you agree with the Provision One proposal? (Please tick one)

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------|-----|
| <input type="radio"/> | Yes | 479 |
| <input type="radio"/> | No | 32 |
| <input type="radio"/> | Don't know | 5 |



6. Please give reasons for your answer in the box below.

There were 385 responses of which 357 comments in support, 18 comments against and 10 neutral comments.

Overwhelmingly the comments in support were based on the unpleasant nature of dog mess and it being the responsibility of the dog owner to pick up.

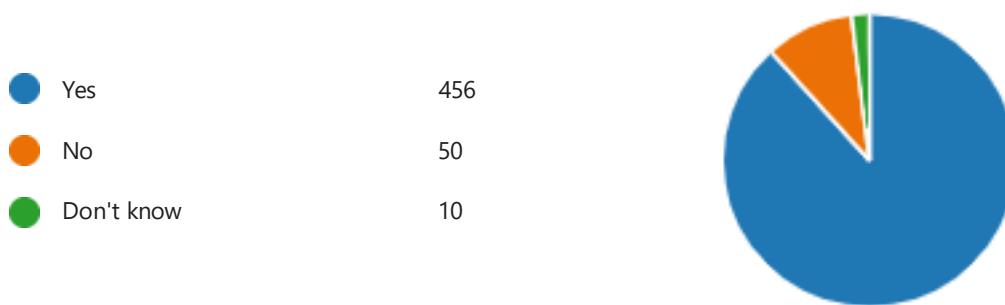
The comments against included reasons that its not necessary in the countryside, woodland etc.

PROVISION TWO: DOG POO BAGS

Proposal: Require person in charge of a dog to have an appropriate means (E.g., a dog poo bag) to pick up any faeces deposited by that dog and to show they have bag(s) if requested to do so by an authorised officer.

Reason: There is no such control currently in place. It is reasonable to expect a person in charge of a dog to have a dog bag or other means to pick up the dog faeces. Not having a dog bag is clearly indicative that any dog faeces will not be collected and will remain on the land and be a hazard to others.

7. Do you agree with the Provision Two proposal? (Please tick one)



8. Please give reasons for your answer in the box below.

There were 363 responses.

Common themes in support include responsible dog ownership and carrying bags is a basic thing to do if a dog owner intends to pick up.

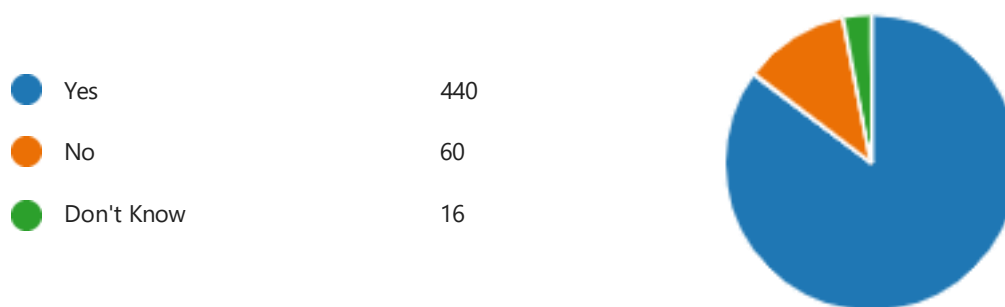
The common theme of comments not in support included – concern that dog owner may have picked up using last bag prior to being asked by officer (18 comments); the provision is too draconian / over the top (18 comments) and concerns around practicality of enforcement (7 comments).

PROVISION THREE: DOG ON LEAD BY DIRECTION

Proposal: Require person in charge of a dog when in any public space to put the dog on a lead, of no more than two metres length, when directed to do so by an authorised officer, where the dog is considered to be out of control, or causing alarm or distress or to prevent a nuisance.

Reason: Dog owners need to have areas to exercise their dogs off a lead. This is particularly important for dog welfare. However, if not properly supervised and kept under control dogs can cause nuisance or injury to members of the public and to other animals. Having the power to require someone to place their dog on a lead when it is causing a nuisance provides a flexible, visible tool to tackle problems when they occur.

9. Do you agree with the Provision Three proposal? (Please tick one)



10. Please give reasons for your answer in the box below.

There were 359 responses.

Common theme in support is that it is common sense to put your dog on a lead if its out of control; if walking a dog the owner should have a lead available to put in on; needed to keep children safe.

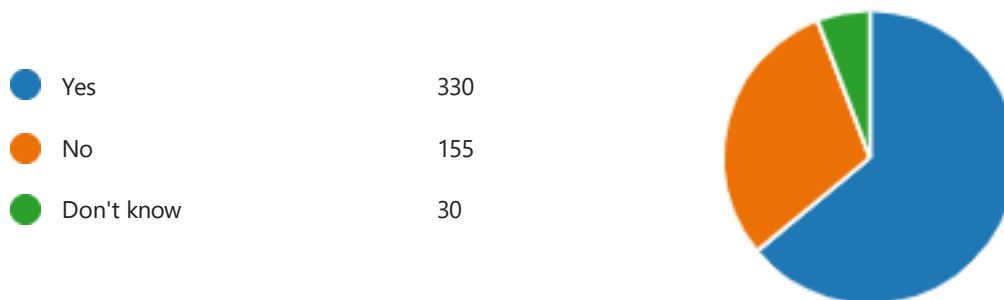
Concerns not in support included interpretation of the definition of nuisance, alarm, or distress by enforcement officers.

PROVISION FOUR: DOG EXCLUSION AREAS

Proposal: The introduction of a number of dog exclusion areas, identified through consultation as high public health risk areas and requiring further protection from dog fouling. These are typically children's play areas, marked sports pitches and school / leisure centre grounds. These are shown in Annex 1 of the Draft Order

Reason: It is likely even where dog faeces are collected that some residue will remain on the grass, soil etc. There are some locations which are more sensitive because of their use and need additional measures to protect the enjoyment and to minimise any public health risk.

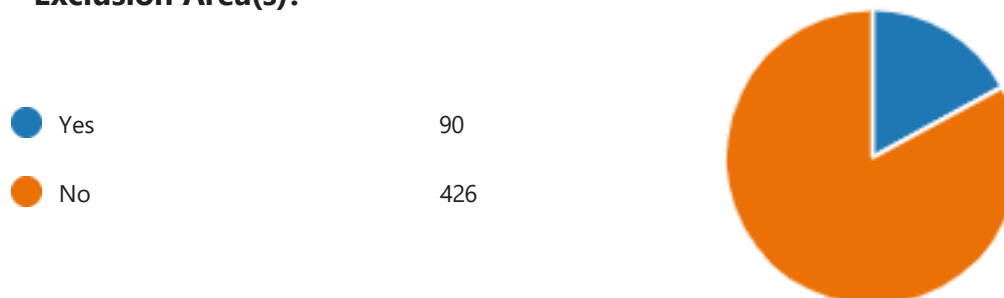
11. Do you agree with the Provision Four proposal? (Please tick one)



12. Please give reasons for your answer in the box below. If you are going to comment on a specific area it would be helpful if you could clarify the area using PSPO reference number or the site name as provided in Annex 1 of the Draft Order.

There were 389 responses, overwhelmingly in favour of the principle of exclusion areas to provide safe children's play area, sports pitches etc. A number of comments though highlighted certain areas which respondents did not consider appropriate exclusion areas for their specific local reason. The main locations commented on: Magor Church in Wales School Sports Field (Map 137) with 30 comments against; Gilwern Playing Fields (Maps 108 + 109) with 11 comments against.

13. Do you wish to suggest any further area(s) for consideration as Dog Exclusion Area(s)?



14. If you answered yes to the previous question, please provide as much detail as possible in the box below, such as the site name, location and reason(s).

There were 114 responses which included reasons to include the following as Exclusion areas: Bailey Park Gardens, Abergavenny (2), Castle Meadows, Abergavenny (2).

PROVISION FIVE: DOG ON LEAD AREAS

Proposal: The introduction of a number of areas where a dog needs to be kept on a lead of no more than two metres in length.

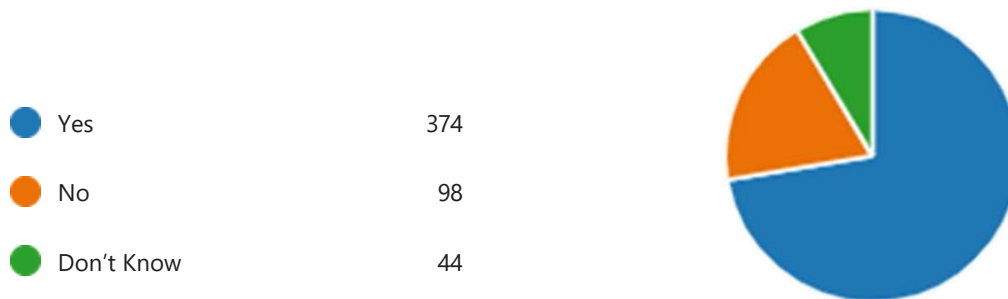
Reason: The Council recognises the need for dogs to be exercised off the lead in open spaces but is mindful through public engagement that there are certain public spaces where this is not appropriate, and a dog needs to be kept under close control.

Cemeteries are sensitive areas - owners taking their dogs into these locations and allowing them to wander freely can lead to dogs defecating and urinating on graves, which is unacceptable and results in an unpleasant environment where peace and respect should be paramount.

Skate parks are designed for a specific recreational use and a dog off the lead has the potential to cause accidents.

Other areas shown in Annex 1 of the Draft Order have been considered on a case-by-case basis and in consultation with the landowner / leaseholder.

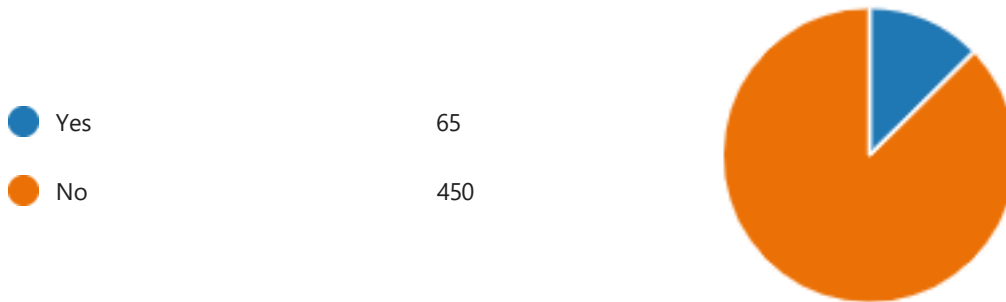
15. Do you agree with the Provision Five proposal? (Please tick one)



16. Please give reasons for your answer in the box below. If you are going to comment on a specific area it would be helpful if you could clarify the area using PSPO reference number or the site name as provided in Annex 1 of the Draft Order.

There were 280 Responses, the majority of which supported the provision.

17. Do you wish to suggest any further area(s) for consideration as a Dog on Lead Area(s)?



18. If you do, please provide as much detail as possible in the box below, such as the site name, location and reason(s).

There were 71 responses of which 20+ proposed including pavements, footpaths, town centres, public spaces.

19. Do you feel that any of these proposals will affect you as an individual (for example in relation to: disability, age, pregnancy, maternity)?



20. Please provide details below

There were 207 responses, a significant portion of which took the opportunity to comment further on their general support / lack of support for the controls.

Approximately 25 comments raised concern that have disability/ health conditions and approximately 15 restricted mobility as elderly so restricting locations where they can take their dog locally will impact on them.

21. Please use the box below to make any additional comments you may have relating to the proposed Order including any suggested variations/amendments.

There were 185 responses, of which approximately: 30 generally supported the provisions; 25 did not support the provisions and 20 raised concerns regarding how the PSPO would be enforced.

