

Monmouthshire Scrutiny

Performance and Overview Scrutiny Committee ~ Feedback to Cabinet of Meeting held on 18th June 2024

Report Item 6: Public Protection Performance 2023/24

Key points raised by the Committee Members:

The following points were raised by the Committee for consideration by the Cabinet Member:

- When equipment is seized in noise abatement cases, we need to ensure measures are in place to ensure the safety of officers.
- The PSPO dog exclusion zones came into force on 1st June, but signs aren't in place yet. Please can we ensure signs are erected prior to enforcement.
- There is a huge breadth of issues for the team to deal with, but there are only 8 officers, so the committee questioned whether services are sufficiently resourced.
- The Committee queried whether there a correlation between the new requirement to book slots at waste depots and flytipping and questioned whether the new method for reporting flytipping had affected the number of cases reported (reports have fallen).
- Members commented that where improvement is needed, it would be helpful to explore comparable information with similar counties.
- Members questioned what actions are being taken against businesses that sell non-compliant or illegal vapour or tobacco products, particularly to children and it was noted that the Public Services Scrutiny Committee intends to explore this topic as part of their forward work programme, acknowledging the link between organised crime and illegal vaping.

Officers present responded to all of the questions raised and the Committee was satisfied with the responses given.

Chair's Summary:

The Chair welcomed the report and thanked the officers for their excellent work and the improvements made, particularly concerning the recovery since Covid. Members also

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thanked the team for their excellent work as part of Safety Advisory group events and dog control PSPOs.

ACTION:

For comparable evidence to be included in future reports, to further inform members and the public.

Report Item 7: Registration Services Annual Report 23/24

Key points raised by the Committee Members:

- Members requested that future reports offer more specific detail on statutory targets relative to other/comparable areas.
- In terms of new scrutiny procedures in relation to deaths and the need for additional documentation, questions were asked as to whether there would be resource implications.
- Acknowledging that births are no longer registered in Monmouthshire due to the closure of the maternity unit at Nevill Hall, the consequence for data gathering was highlighted as a potential issue for consideration.

The Committee was satisfied with the performance of the service and the answers given to questions asked.

Chair's Summary:

The Chair thanked officers for their excellent performance, evidenced through the data presented in the report. Noting David Jones' retirement in September, the Chair and members thanked him for his years of experience and hard work, and particularly for his work during the unprecedented challenges of the pandemic.

ACTION:

For comparable evidence to be included in future reports, for the benefit of Members but also the public.