

Seagulls' attacks on children and pets spark call for action

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AGGRESSIVE seagulls are making life a misery in Swansea, with children and pets being attacked by the birds.

The creatures have sparked fear among residents in Mayvals and led to a wave of complaints.

Following the attacks by the problem birds, Dr Dai Lloyd, AM for South Wales West, has called on the Welsh Government to roll out a policy right across Wales to deal with the problem of seagulls.

Dr Lloyd, who questioned Welsh Assembly Treasury and Finance Minister Rebecca Evans AM over the issue, said: "I have received representations from residents in the Mayvals area expressing concern about the problem of aggressive seagulls in the area.

"Residents are concerned that people feeding the gulls means they are encouraged to the area. Residents of Mayvals have recently been fearing for the safety of their children and pets, who have been targeted and even attacked by the birds."

Dr Lloyd called on the Welsh Government to ensure legislation is effectively applied. We currently have a situation where, in Denbighshire, the council are fining people who are caught feeding gulls and therefore encouraging them to come into closer contact with people," he said.

"I have urged the Welsh Government to take action on this and ensure that councils are consistently applying the legislation in this area.

"In the meantime, Swansea Council must take action and listen to residents of Mayvals who have to put up with these persistent attacks."

But Swansea Council underlined they had a campaign to feed the bins and not the seagulls and other birds.

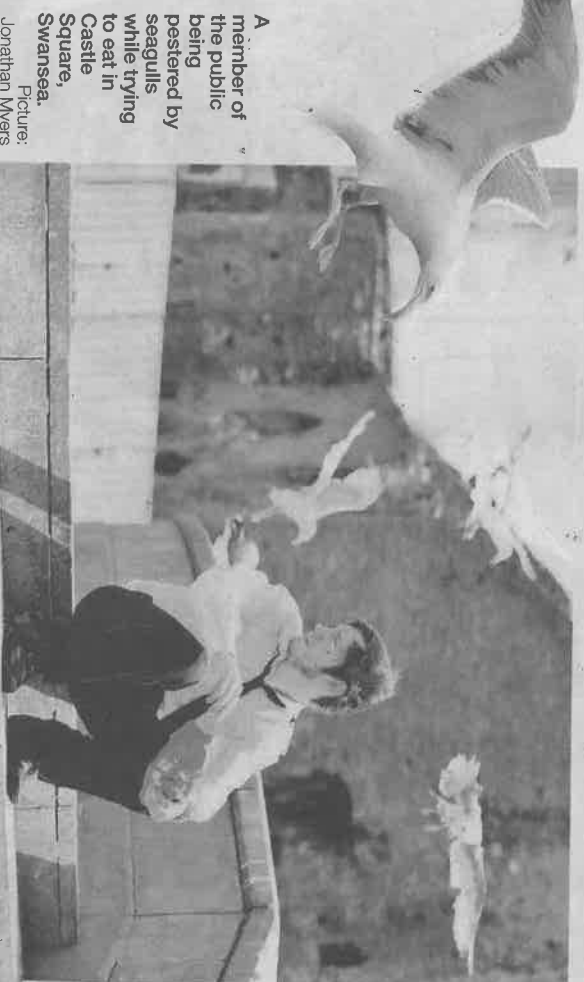
The council was asked to make a further comment, but had not responded at the time of going to press.

AM Ms Evans said the Welsh Government was looking at ways of tackling the issue.

She added: "On the issue of pest control, I'm

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- Dr Dai Lloyd, Plaid Cymru AM for South Wales West



Picture: Jonathan Myers

familiar with the situation in Mayvals.

"I have also had the same representations as you've had.

"The Environment Minister has been here to hear the discussion, and I know she'll look carefully at the different ways in which local authorities are dealing with the issue.

"You've given the example of Denbighshire.

"I know that Conwy is also taking a more strict approach.

"The Minister will look at the different approaches at the different approaches that local authorities are taking to address this issue."

Witness plea after motorcyclist hurt

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after a motorcyclist was seriously hurt in Margam.

The incident happened on Tuesday at around 4.30pm on the A48 close to Margam Park and the roundabout for 138 of the M4.

It involved a black Audi A3 car and a silver Kawasaki motorcycle.

The Welsh Ambulance Service said two rapid response vehicles, an ambulance and an air ambulance were deployed.

Paramedics assessed the male rider at the scene before opting to send him

to Morriston Hospital, Swansea, by road.

The crash happened shortly after a lorry overturned just half a mile up the road. The two incidents were not linked, but the aftermath caused major delays in the area.

A spokeswoman from South Wales Police said: "The rider of the motorcycle has sustained serious injuries.

"We would like to hear from anyone who witnessed the collision or saw the manner in which the vehicles were being driven just prior to the collision, or has dashcam footage of the incident."

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A poster on a bin in Swansea.