
Report to: Scrutiny Committee

Date: January 21st 2010

Subject: Registration (Births, Deaths & Ceremonies) 2009 Statistics

Report by: Head of Administration and Legal Services

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. The Registration Service produces an annual review of service activity each December for general information. The purpose of this report is to draw the Committee's' attention to the content of that review.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that the Committee notes the report contents.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1. The Registration Service is an area of front line service delivery in Clackmannanshire that has, over the years, consistently performed to a high standard, and that deserves to be acknowledged.
- 3.2. The Registration year runs from January to December. At the end of each December, the local Registrar in Alloa provides a review of Service activity for the previous twelve months. As well as providing some performance related information, the opportunity is taken to comment on some of the registration facts that may be of topical community interest.
- 3.3. Attached as an Appendix to this report is a copy of the 2009 Registration Service review. Members are asked to note the contents.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

- 4.1. None

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. Financial Details

- 5.2. The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate. Yes ☒

- 5.3. Staffing - There are no staffing implications arising from this report

6.0 Exempt Reports

- 6.1. Is this report exempt? No ☒

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

- (1) **Our Priorities 2008 - 2011** (Please tick ☒)

The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive	<input type="checkbox"/>
People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are safer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vulnerable people and families are supported	X
Substance misuse and its effects are reduced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing	<input type="checkbox"/>
The environment is protected and enhanced for all	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence	X

- (2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

8.0 Equalities Impact

- 8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes ☐ No X

9.0 Legality

- 9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes X

10.0 Appendices

10.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report.

Appendix 1 - Registration Service Annual Statistical Review – 2009.

11.0 Background Papers

11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes ☒ (please list the documents below) No ☐

The Registrar General's report on the Registration Service in Clackmannanshire

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ADMINISTRATION AND LEGAL SERVICES

Registration Service

Annual Statistical Review – 2009.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Responsibility for the proper recording of all details relating to the registration of key life events in Clackmannanshire lies with the Registration Team based at Marshall House, Alloa. As part of Administration & Legal Services, staff work in partnership with the Registrar General for Scotland to ensure a consistent and professional service is delivered. At the end of 2009, it is helpful to present statistical details on registration activity and performance in a way that promotes a more general understanding and interest in this key statutory service.
- 1.2 The core services provided by the Registration staff include registration of births, deaths and marriages and performing civil marriage, civil partnership and citizenship ceremonies. When capacity allows, staff also provide assisted genealogy research services. This is an increasingly popular activity as people are encouraged (possibly by television programmes) to trace their family roots.
- 1.3 Although part of Clackmannanshire Council, the Registration staff work in conjunction with, and under the guidance of, the Registrar General for Scotland's office in Edinburgh. The Registrar General compiles an annual "Summary Performance Report". The latest report shows that Clackmannanshire has again achieved excellent results, having the second highest accuracy rate in Scotland.
- 1.4 The Registration staff also work closely with the Home Office in connection with the legal preliminaries for those who are subject to immigration controls, and who plan to be married or register a civil partnership in Scotland. Also, the provision of Citizenship ceremonies, the final step in the path for those becoming British citizens can only be delivered by a Registrar.

2.0 Changes and Challenges

- 2.1 The implementation of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act has led to significant changes for the Service. Amongst other things, the provisions of this Act enable same-sex couples to be recorded as parents in the statutory registers of births and still-births following assisted reproduction treatment. Consequently, over time, there will

also be an impact on the registration of deaths, marriages and civil partnerships.

- 2.2 Locally, the Registrars have introduced a new way of helping to support those registering deaths. Following a death registration, Registrars now offer to notify other Council and Government services on behalf of the bereaved family. This can assist with the cancellation of services no longer required, or the introduction of new support services necessary because of the changed circumstances. The primary aim of this new service is to reduce the number of contacts the bereaved have to make with Council and Government departments, and this seems to be working well.

3.0 **2009 Statistics** (Tables 1, 2 & 3 below provide a graphical representation of the figures)

3.1 **Birth Registration**

The number of Birth registrations have stayed similar in number to last year. The number of births registered in Clackmannanshire increased by a massive 24% between 2006 and 2007. Over 2009 there was a modest decrease of 1.3% on the 2008 figure. Once again, there were more boys registered locally (51%) than girls.

This year there were 10 sets of twins registered in Clackmannanshire, of these: 2 sets were both girls; 4 sets were both boys and the remaining 4 sets 1 boy and 1 girl each. For the first time in several years we also had 1 set of triplets registered (all boys).

The most popular boys' names in Clackmannanshire this year are: Lewis (1st); Liam (2nd) and Aaron and Callum equal 3rd.

Sophie is the most popular girl's name in Clackmannanshire this year. Chloe is 2nd and Emily; Katie; Leah and Millie tie for 3rd place.

The proportion of births registered to married parents in Clackmannanshire is 36% (42% in 2008).

- Total Clackmannanshire **Births** registered

	2008	2009
Total Registrations	550	543
Boys	289 (53%)	275 (51%)
Girls	261 (47%)	268 (49%)

- Most popular boys' names in Clackmannanshire

	2008	2009
Most Popular	Jack	Lewis
2nd Most Popular	= Lewis; Logan	Liam
3rd Most Popular		= Aaron; Callum

- Most popular girls' names in Clackmannanshire

	2008	2009
Most Popular	= Emily; Leah; Olivia; Sophie	Sophie
2nd Most Popular		Chloe
3rd Most Popular		= Emily; Katie; Leah; Millie

3.2 Marriages

The number of marriages in Clackmannanshire has increased from 176 in 2008 to 185 in 2009, with Civil Marriages (performed by a Registrar or Assistant Registrar) accounting for 55% of the total.

In 66 (36%) of the 185 marriages neither the bride nor groom was resident in Clackmannanshire. In some cases couples chose Clackmannanshire for their ceremony because of local family connections. Increasingly, however, couples with no local family connections are choosing this area because of the variety of attractive venues available and the personalised services the Registrars can deliver. The Registrars do their best to secure this type of local commitment, and by doing so sustainable opportunities are presented to local businesses.

Brides and grooms married in Clackmannanshire this year came from a wide range of birthplaces, including:

<i>Scotland</i>	<i>England</i>	<i>Wales</i>
<i>Northern Ireland</i>	<i>Australia</i>	<i>Belgium</i>
<i>Canada</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>Israel</i>
<i>Mexico</i>	<i>Philippines</i>	<i>Poland</i>
<i>Russia</i>	<i>South Africa</i>	<i>Spain</i>
<i>Tunisia</i>	<i>USA</i>	

In 65 marriages (35% of all marriages in Clackmannanshire), at least one of the couple had been married before. This is a decrease from the 40% experienced last year.

For those getting married for the first time, the average age has remained unchanged at 29 for brides and 31 for grooms.

For those being married for a second or subsequent time the average age has reduced to 40 for brides (from 47 last year) and 44 for grooms (from 49 last year).

- Marriage Details for Clackmannanshire

	2008	2009
Total marriages	176	185
Civil Marriages	105 (60%)	102 (55%)
Religious Marriages	61 (35%)	69 (37%)
Humanist Marriages	10 (5%)	14 (8%)

3.3 Civil Partnerships

There were no civil partnerships registered in Clackmannanshire in 2009. There were 5 civil partnerships registered in Clackmannanshire in 2008.

3.4 Deaths

The number of deaths registered in Clackmannanshire has decreased from 520 in 2008 to 505 this year. On average, women still live longer (79 years as compared to 70 years for men). In Clackmannanshire there have, thankfully, been no registrations of deaths due to Swine Flu.

Sadly, there were three deaths this year as a result of road traffic accidents.

- Deaths registered in Clackmannanshire

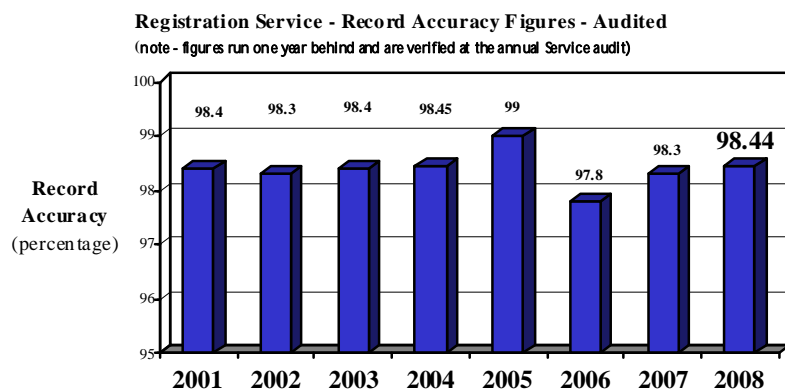
	2008	2009
Total deaths registered	520	505
Males	249 (48%)	263 (52%)
Females	271 (52%)	242 (48%)

3.5 Citizenship Ceremonies

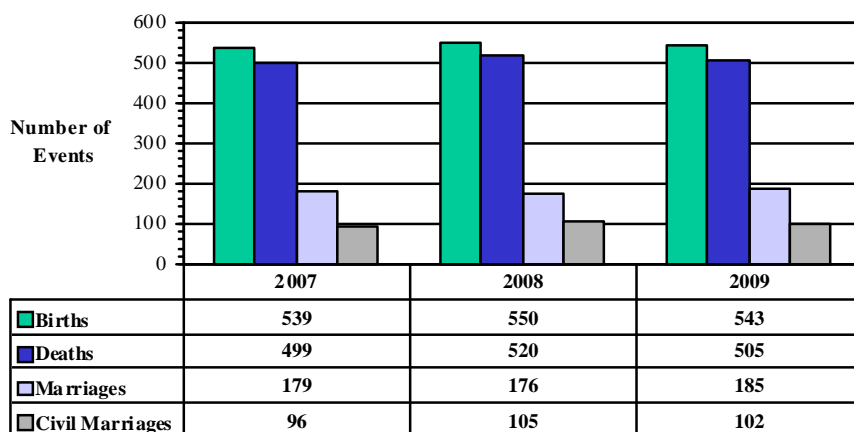
Participation in a Citizenship Ceremony conducted by a Registrar is the final step in the process of becoming a British Citizen. Seventeen new British Citizens have been welcomed into Clackmannanshire in 2009. The countries of origin of the new British Citizens include:

<i>China</i>	<i>Cuba</i>	<i>India</i>
<i>New Zealand</i>	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>Philippines</i>
<i>Zimbabwe</i>		

- Table 1 - Register Accuracy



- Table 2 - Registered events



- Table 3 Citizenship and Civil Partnerships

