

**To:**  
**Councillor Susan Jones**  
**Convener Adult Services Scrutiny Panel**

*Please ask for:* Councillor Louise Gibbard  
*Direct Line:* 01792 636141  
*E-Mail:* [ollr.louise.gibbard@swansea.gov.uk](mailto:ollr.louise.gibbard@swansea.gov.uk)  
*Our Ref:* LG/ASScrutiny 181223  
*Your Ref:*  
*Date:* 19/12/23

Dear Councillor Jones,

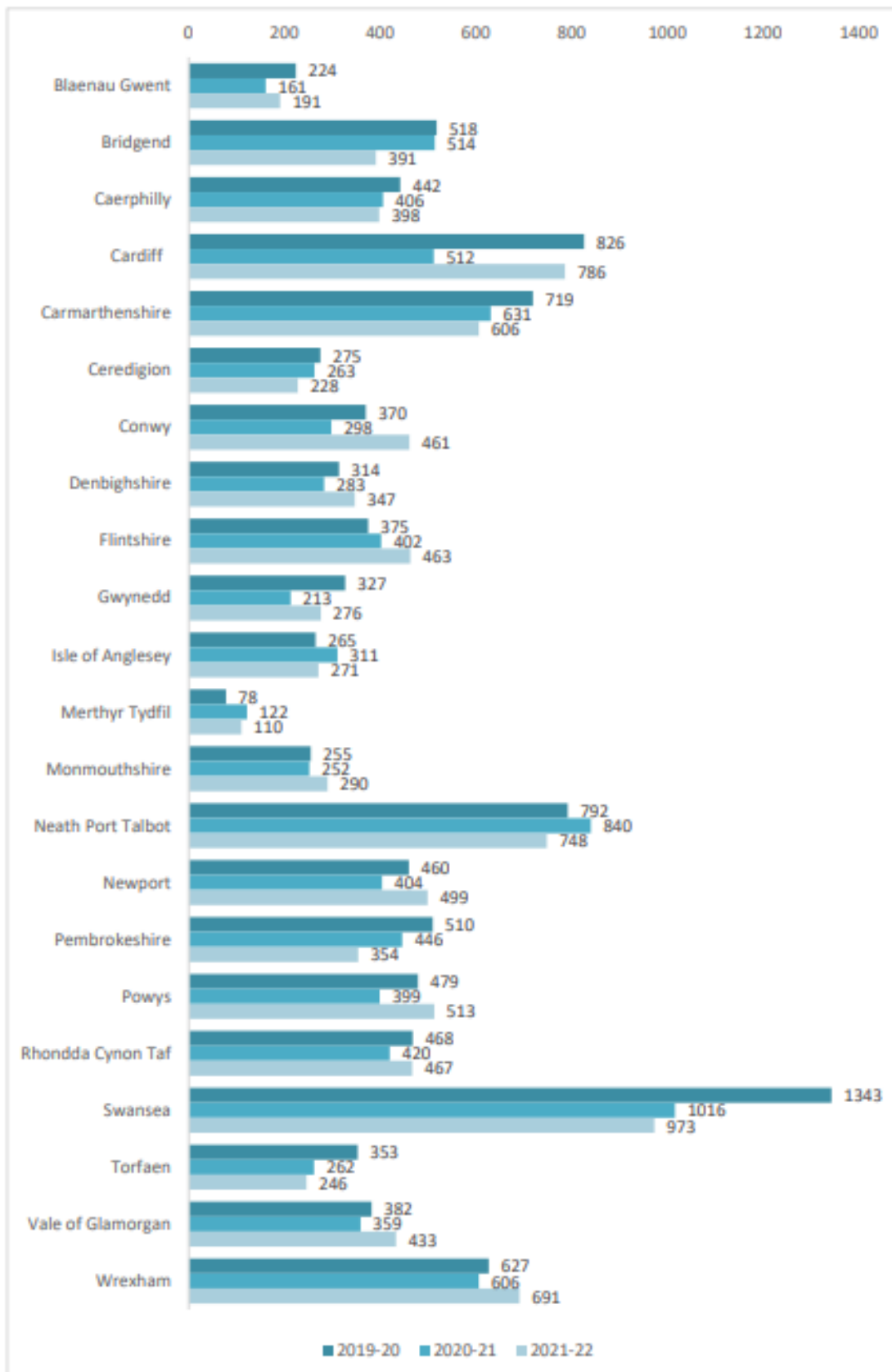
Following this Adult Services Scrutiny Performance Panel meeting on 31 October 2023 and the request for further information on how Swansea compares on a regional and national footprint in terms of numbers of referrals for DoLS (Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards), please see below.

The following is taken from the Care Inspectorate for Wales and the Health Inspectorate for Wales Annual Monitoring report for DoLS findings which were published for year 2021-22. The findings for 2022-23 will be available in Spring 2024.

In the most recent report, there are several relevant key findings:

- There was a slight increase in the number of DOLS applications received by local authorities in 2021-22.
- The majority of DOLS applications continued to be for older people, with 87% of applications being for people over the age of 65. Most applications for DOLS continued to be from care homes for older adults and hospital wards for older adults.
- A total of 9,742 DOLS applications were received by local authorities in 2021-22, resulting in a 7% increase in applications when compared to the previous year (9,120) but a 6% decrease when compared to 2019-20 (10,402).
- The proportion of authorisations referred to the Court of Protection has seen year on year increases for the period 2019-2022 for local authority applications.
- Swansea continues to report the highest number of DOLS applications, but numbers fell in 2021-22 when compared to previous years.
- The number of DoLS applications per 100,000 18+ population is 487.2, the average is 383.6. Swansea is third highest behind Wrexham (644.9) and Neath Port Talbot (643.2).

**Figure 1b.** The number of DoLS applications received by each local authority from 2019 to 2022



Source: National review of the use of Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLs) in Wales 2021-22 Key findings and recommendations of our joint review with Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW). <https://www.careinspectorate.wales/sites/default/files/2023-02/230207-dols-2021-22-en.pdf>

Yours sincerely



**Y Cynghorydd / Councillor Louise Gibbard**

Aelod y Cabinet dros y Gwasanaethau Gofal

Cabinet Member for Care Services

Aelod y Cyngor sy'n Hyrwyddo Menywod, Hawliau Dynol a Diogelu

Council Member Champion for Women, Human Rights and Safeguarding