

	Appendix 3
Date :	12 th October 2020
Directorate	Swansea Bay University Health Board: Primary Care and Community Services
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<p><u>TITLE OF REPORT</u></p> <p>Interim Plan for the Health Boards Deprivation of Liberty Service (DoLS).</p>	
<p><u>SITUATION /PURPOSE OF REPORT</u></p> <p>To highlight the current and potential effect of the current escalation in COVID 19 on the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Service for patients in hospital settings and Learning Disability Units within Swansea Bay University Health Board.</p>	
<p><u>BACKGROUND INFORMATION</u></p> <p>Swansea Bay University Health Board has a Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Team that support the Health Board to comply with statutory duties and compliance in relation to the Mental Capacity Act 2005, as amended through the Mental Health Act 2007 Schedule A1 and 1A.</p> <p>The team consists of two full time Best Interest Assessors and one full time administrative support. The team reactivated full services on July the 1st 2020 following the initial phase of the pandemic. In view of the recent surge in COVID cases it is recommended that the team revert to the initial precautions in line with Department of Health Guidance published on the 29th of May 2020, which remains in place.</p>	
<p><u>ASSESSMENT</u></p> <p>The recent escalation in COVID 19 continues to have an impact on the service provided, the following issues have been highlighted :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is currently a reduction in section 12 Doctors available to undertake assessments. • The team are receiving a reduced number of applications from the acute sites. • All external BIA support is very limited, particularly for those staff working in acute settings. • There are currently 69 cases on the database. • Restricted visits to acute sites. 	

RECOMMENDATION

In view of the above the following recommendations must be considered:-

- BIA's will only be undertaking face-to-face assessment on the acute sites in urgent cases such as CoP, or for cases where ward staff require support due to behavioural concerns.
- A telephone triage and support service will be available Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.
- BIA's will work with staff in the acute settings to ensure robust care plans are in place.
- For patients with existing DoLS the review will be undertaken remotely where possible and the previous Section 12 Doctors report will be used.
- Admin support will still be available.
- BIA's will support acute staff with any complex cases and to ensure patients are not delayed in hospital for concerns related to best interest decisions.
- Resume normal service as soon as possible.