

Infinite Healthcare Services Ltd

Infinite Healthcare Services Head Office

Inspection report

Suite 1E, Widford Business Centre
33 Robjohns Road
Chelmsford
CM1 3AG

Tel: 01245943725

Website: www.infinitehealthcareservices.co.uk

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Ratings

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Overall rating for this service | Good ● |
| Is the service safe? | Good ● |
| Is the service effective? | Good ● |
| Is the service caring? | Good ● |
| Is the service responsive? | Good ● |
| Is the service well-led? | Good ● |

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Infinite Healthcare Services Head Office is a domiciliary care agency providing personal care to children and young people, people with dementia and people with mental health needs living in their own homes. At the time of our inspection there were 4 people using the service, but only 2 were receiving the regulated activity of personal care. No children were being supported at this time.

Not everyone who used the service received a regulated activity. CQC only inspects where people receive personal care. This is help with tasks related to personal hygiene and eating. Where they do, we also consider any wider social care provided.

People's experience of using this service and what we found

People's support was planned and delivered in a way that ensured their safety and welfare. Assessments of people's needs, and associated risks had been considered in the care planning process.

There were enough staff to meet people's needs. People were cared for safely by staff who had been recruited and employed after appropriate checks had been completed.

There were systems in place to ensure people were safeguarded from harm. People were protected as infection control processes were in place. The provider had learnt lessons from incidents to improve the service. People's medicines were given by staff who had received training to do so.

The registered manager enabled staff to develop their skills to provide good quality care. People were supported with meals and drinks to maintain their well-being. Staff worked well with people, their families and professionals to enable people to live as well as possible in their own homes.

People's care was personalised around their needs and preferences. Staff reviewed and adapted support as people's needs changed. End of life care was discussed as part of the assessment.

The registered manager had systems in place to monitor the service, measure outcomes for people and make improvements where needed. Staff felt well supported by the provider and involved in the development of the service.

For more details, please see the full report which is on the CQC website at www.cqc.org.uk.

Rating at last inspection

This service was registered with us on 22 July 2020 but was dormant until 19 October 2022 and this is the first inspection.

Why we inspected

This inspection was prompted by a review of the information we held about this service.

Follow up

We will continue to monitor information we receive about the service, which will help inform when we next inspect.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

The service was safe.

Details are in our safe findings below.

Good 

Is the service effective?

The service was effective.

Details are in our effective findings below.

Good 

Is the service caring?

The service was caring.

Details are in our caring findings below.

Good 

Is the service responsive?

The service was responsive.

Details are in our responsive findings below.

Good 

Is the service well-led?

The service was well-led.

Details are in our well-led findings below.

Good 

Infinite Healthcare Services Head Office

Detailed findings

Background to this inspection

The inspection

We carried out this inspection under Section 60 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (the Act) as part of our regulatory functions. We checked whether the provider was meeting the legal requirements and regulations associated with the Act. We looked at the overall quality of the service and provided a rating for the service under the Health and Social Care Act 2008.

Inspection team

The inspection team consisted of 1 inspector.

Service and service type

Infinite Healthcare Services Head Office is a domiciliary care agency. It provides personal care to people living in their own homes.

Registered Manager

This service is required to have a registered manager. A registered manager is a person who has registered with the Care Quality Commission to manage the service. This means that they and the provider are legally responsible for how the service is run and for the quality and safety of the care provided. At the time of our inspection there was a registered manager in post.

Notice of inspection

We gave the provider 48 hours' notice of the inspection. This was because it is a small service and we needed to be sure that the provider or registered manager would be in the office to support the inspection.

Inspection activity started on 27 July 2023 and ended on 9 August 2023. We visited the location's office on 31 July 2023.

What we did before the inspection

We reviewed information we held and had received about the service. The provider had not been requested to complete a provider information return (PIR). This is information providers are required to send us annually with key information about their service, what they do well, and improvements they plan to make.

During the inspection

We spoke with 1 family member of a person who used the service about their experience of the care provided. We spoke with the registered manager and 3 care staff.

We viewed a range of records. This included 2 people's care records and risk assessments. We looked at 2 staff files in relation to recruitment. A variety of records relating to the management of the service were viewed.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

Safe – this means we looked for evidence that people were protected from abuse and avoidable harm.

This is the first inspection of this newly registered service. This key question has been rated good. This meant people were safe and protected from avoidable harm.

Systems and processes to safeguard people from the risk of abuse

- People were protected from the risk of abuse. Staff had received training on how to safeguard people.
- There were policies in place for staff to follow when raising safeguarding concerns. The registered manager knew how to notify the local authority and CQC when concerns arose.
- Family members told us their relatives were safe with the care provided. One family member said, "I know they are safe and that is a good feeling for me."
- The registered manager had worked with the relevant local authority to investigate safeguarding concerns and worked with them to keep people safe.

Assessing risk, safety monitoring and management

- Risk assessments and care plans were person centred and provided guidance to staff on how best to support people.
- People were supported to live as independently as possible. Risk assessments helped to mitigate the risks to people by identifying how best to provide support.
- Risks associated with people's personal care, eating and drinking, mobility, pressure care and continence needs were clear and up to date to ensure people had the care they needed to stay safe.
- Environmental risks had been explored and recorded to enable people to be safe at home and staff to provide the required care and support.
- The registered manager had a plan in place to monitor people's care, staff wellbeing and the service as a whole to ensure it was managed well for the safety of everyone using it.
- Staff arrived on time and they had not missed a call. People knew who would be visiting them and if there were any changes, they were informed. Staff told us the rotas were well organised and they were able to manage their calls in a timely way.

Staffing and recruitment

- People were supported by a regular staff team who worked on a rota basis. A family member told us they saw the same staff and had got to know them. A family member said, "After the assessment, the staff were introduced to me and [relative] and this helped a lot."
- The registered manager told us they had a good team of staff who were consistent and knowledgeable. A staff member told us, "It is a good company, and I am blessed to work for them. I really love my job."
- Appropriate checks were in place before staff started worked which included references, identification and a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check for both children and adults. DBS provide information including details about convictions and cautions held on the Police National Computer. The information helps employers make safer recruitment decisions.

Using medicines safely

- People received their medicines safely. Staff had been trained in how to administer medicines and had their competency to do so regularly checked.
- Where people were supported with medicines, this was clearly recorded in their care plan along with any risk assessments needed.

Preventing and controlling infection

- Staff had received training in infection prevention control and knew how to support people safely in their own homes.
- The registered manager had systems in place to safely manage infections or infectious disease outbreaks should these happen.
- Staff informed us they had adequate supplies of personal protection equipment (PPE) should they need these. A staff member told us, "I go to the office to get my PPE and I always use it with people as I would not want to pass on anything to them from outside." A family member said, "They [staff] always wear gloves and wash their hands."

Learning lessons when things go wrong

- The registered manager had systems in place to learn from safeguards, accidents, and incidents. The registered manager told us this system could identify any themes and trends and they could deal with them quickly.
- Lessons learned were shared with staff during team meetings and supervision to increase knowledge and awareness to improve the service for everyone.

Is the service effective?

Our findings

Effective – this means we looked for evidence that people's care, treatment and support achieved good outcomes and promoted a good quality of life, based on best available evidence.

This is the first inspection for this newly registered service. This key question has been rated good. This meant people's outcomes were consistently good, and people's feedback confirmed this.

Assessing people's needs and choices; delivering care in line with standards, guidance and the law

- People's needs were assessed before they started using the service to ensure they could be met. People were involved in all aspects of their care planning and chose how they wished to be supported.
- The service delivered care and support in line with good practice standards and the registered manager was able to utilise resources to ensure they kept aware of current guidance.
- People's protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 such as age, gender, ethnicity and religion were recorded to ensure support and care was specific to their needs. The registered manager told us they would add marital status and sexual orientation to their assessment process.

Staff support: induction, training, skills and experience

- New staff had a full induction to the service. Learning was provided through a mixture of e-learning and face to face training, staff worked shadow shifts to get to know the people they would be supporting. A staff member told us, "Training is very thorough, and I think I am a better person because of it."
- Staff had the opportunity to complete the Care Certificate. The Care Certificate is an agreed set of standards that define the knowledge, skills and behaviours expected of specific job roles in the health and social care sectors. Also, the provider encouraged people to continue with their career progression. A staff member said, "I am doing my level 4 diploma in health and social care and get help and support from [name of registered manager]."
- Staff had regular meetings and supervision, where they could discuss their work and any training they may require.
- Staff felt supported by the registered manager. A staff member said, "I am free to ask anything, and I can go to [Name of registered manager] at any time. They are very open and caring."

Supporting people to eat and drink enough to maintain a balanced diet

- Staff supported people with their meals and drinks as required.
- People's preferences and choices around their meals, food and drinks were recorded so staff were aware of their wishes and any support required.

Staff working with other agencies to provide consistent, effective, timely care; Supporting people to live healthier lives, access healthcare services and support

- Any need for professional input was recorded and referrals were made as appropriate. A family member told us, "We had an occupational therapist come in to train the staff with how to hoist my [relative]. The staff gave extra time to this so they could do it well."
- Staff were available to support people to attend any health appointments such as GPs, dentists, and

opticians if required.

Ensuring consent to care and treatment in line with law and guidance

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA) provides a legal framework for making particular decisions on behalf of people who may lack the mental capacity to do so for themselves. The MCA requires that, as far as possible, people make their own decisions and are helped to do so when needed. When they lack mental capacity to take particular decisions, any made on their behalf must be in their best interests and as least restrictive as possible.

People can only be deprived of their liberty to receive care and treatment when this is in their best interests and legally authorised under the MCA. When people receive care and treatment in their own homes an application must be made to the Court of Protection for them to authorise people to be deprived of their liberty.

We checked whether the service was working within the principles of the MCA.

- Staff had received training on MCA and understood about gaining consent from people when undertaking any tasks. Staff encouraged people to make their own decisions and helped them with offering choices in their day-to-day life.
- People's capacity to make decisions for themselves was recorded. People or their representatives signed their consent to their plan of care.

Is the service caring?

Our findings

Caring – this means we looked for evidence that the service involved people and treated them with compassion, kindness, dignity and respect.

This is the first inspection for this newly registered service. This key question has been rated good. This meant people were supported and treated with dignity and respect; and involved as partners in their care.

Ensuring people are well treated and supported; respecting equality and diversity

- Family members were positive about the level of support their relatives received from staff. A family member said, "The staff support [relative] in a way they like and call them by their preferred name."
- Staff spoke about people in a very respectful caring way. A staff member told us, "I make sure I care for [person's name] in a way they want me to. I also look out for their wellbeing and overall health."

Supporting people to express their views and be involved in making decisions about their care

- People's care plans were person centred and support was tailored to meet their needs.
- Staff knew people well and how they liked to be supported.
- People and family members were involved in discussing their care arrangements. A family member told us they felt listened to and able to raise any concerns. "Since the start of the care they put in, all is working very well and I have not worried."

Respecting and promoting people's privacy, dignity and independence

- Care was provided in a compassionate way.
- Staff ensured people's privacy and dignity was respected and all personal care was carried out, so the person felt comfortable and secure. A family member said, "I am very happy with the care provided. I think they [staff] have real empathy."
- Staff supported people to maintain their independence and to live comfortably in their own homes with support and care around them.

Is the service responsive?

Our findings

Responsive – this means we looked for evidence that the service met people's needs.

This is the first inspection for this newly registered service. This key question has been rated good. This meant people's needs were met through good organisation and delivery.

Planning personalised care to ensure people have choice and control and to meet their needs and preferences

- Before people started using the service a full assessment of their care needs was completed to see if they could be met appropriately.
- Care plans were person centred and provided staff with all the information they needed to support people. This included understanding people's physical, sensory, and mental health needs and ways of communicating those needs including their preferred language.
- The daily notes about visits to people were written in a clear respectful way.
- Peoples preferences and wishes were recorded which included the gender of staff they wanted and what they liked to be called.
- People were involved in their care and relatives told us the service was responsive and adaptable should they need it to be. A family member said, "[Name of registered manager] has been very flexible and worked around what we needed."

Meeting people's communication needs

Since 2016 all organisations that provide publicly funded adult social care are legally required to follow the Accessible Information Standard (AIS). The AIS tells organisations what they have to do to help ensure people with a disability or sensory loss, and in some circumstances, their carers, get information in a way they can understand it. It also says that people should get the support they need in relation to communication.

- The registered manager was aware of the AIS requirements. Information could be made available in different formats if requested so people were able to access important documents in a way they could understand.

Improving care quality in response to complaints or concerns

- The provider had a policy in place to address and deal with complaints.
- Family members told us they knew who to go to if they had any concerns. The registered manager told us they had not received any complaints, but explained how they would deal with them if and when they did.

End of life care and support

- There was nobody being supported with end of life care at the time of the inspection.
- We saw in people's care plans that people's wishes had been discussed and recorded.
- Staff were trained in providing end of life care should anyone need it.

Is the service well-led?

Our findings

Well-led – this means we looked for evidence that service leadership, management and governance assured high-quality, person-centred care; supported learning and innovation; and promoted an open, fair culture.

This is the first inspection for this newly registered service. This key question has been rated good. This meant the service was consistently managed and well-led. Leaders and the culture they created promoted high-quality, person-centred care.

Promoting a positive culture that is person-centred, open, inclusive and empowering, which achieves good outcomes for people

- Family members told us they were happy with the support they received and the management of the service. A family member said, "It is very well run and [name of registered manager] is very approachable."
- The providers values were promoted by the registered manager who was a good role model. They and the staff displayed loyalty, compassion and dignity when talking about the service and the people they cared for.
- The provider had systems in place to support the wellbeing of staff. All staff were positive about the management of the service. A staff member told us "[Name of registered manager] is supportive, open and creates time to talk, you don't feel a bother."

Managers and staff being clear about their roles, and understanding quality performance, risks and regulatory requirements; How the provider understands and acts on the duty of candour, which is their legal responsibility to be open and honest with people when something goes wrong

- A clear staffing structure was in place and staff followed their defined roles and responsibilities.
- Staff received regular individual supervision to discuss their professional development. Staff meetings were arranged at different times to enable as many staff to attend as possible. We saw a range of topics were discussed and actions taken.
- The provider had policy and procedures in place for staff to follow to meet regulatory requirements.
- The registered manager understood their responsibility under duty of candour to be open and honest and investigate when things went wrong.
- Quality assurance systems worked well. Audits of quality and safety, spot checks, care plan reviews, medicines and staff management were all completed to ensure people received high quality care.

Engaging and involving people using the service, the public and staff, fully considering their equality characteristics

- The registered manager engaged with people to ensure they had a say about their care and support. A person said in their care plan review, "I am delighted with the service provided and keeping me comfortable."
- People, relatives and staff were involved in developing the service. The provider sent out surveys to people, relatives, and staff to gain an insight on the care being provided and levels of satisfaction. Any suggestions made during reviews of people's care and team meeting discussions with staff were listened to and acted upon.

Continuous learning and improving care; Working in partnership with others

- The registered manager had systems in place to audit care being provided and to maintain oversight of the service.
- Staff were supported with training and development to help their career progression and develop the skills they needed to support people.
- The service worked in partnership with other professionals to ensure people received joined up care. We saw evidence of effective communication between the service and professionals which enabled better outcomes for people.