

The Laurels Nursing Home (Hastings) Limited

The Laurels Nursing Home

Inspection report

71 Old London Road
Hastings
East Sussex
TN35 5NB

Tel: 01424714258
Website: www.thelaurelsnursinghome.com

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25 February 2021

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Ratings

Overall rating for this service	Inspected but not rated
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Is the service safe?	Inspected but not rated
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Summary of findings

Overall summary

The Laurels Nursing home cares for up to 52 older people, who have nursing needs, including poor mobility, strokes, Parkinson's disease, diabetes, and people who were receiving end of life care. There were 44 people living in the home during our inspection.

We found the following examples of good practice

The home was currently following government guidance and was closed to all visitors apart from those who loved ones were on a palliative care pathway and receiving end of life care. Visitors at this time were asked to wear personal protective equipment (PPE), have a lateral flow test on arrival and have their temperature taken. This included health professionals. There was a visiting policy to support visitors once the home re-opens to visitors. There was also a visiting room with an outside entrance where families will be able to meet their loved ones' safely.

The home has just re-opened for admissions. All new arrivals to the home will only be accepted with a negative polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test and will isolate for 14 days. There was now a dedicated isolation unit, with a separate staff team that will be used for all new arrivals for 14 days, before moving into the room of their choice within the premises.

There were systems in place to ensure that people who had tested positive for Covid-19 and self-isolating were cared for in their bedrooms to minimise the risk of spreading the virus. Staff were provided with adequate supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE) and staff were seen to be wearing this appropriately. Staff had received specific Covid-19 training, and this included guidance for staff about how to put on and take off PPE safely. Updates and refresher training took place to ensure all staff followed the latest good practice guidance. They were seen to be following correct infection prevention and control practices (IPC). Hand sanitiser was readily available throughout the home.

The home was clean and well maintained. There was regular cleaning throughout the day, and this included high-touch areas. The housekeeping staff were knowledgeable regarding current Covid-19 cleaning guidelines and robust cleaning schedules were in place. The manager was the infection lead for the home and undertook spot checks on staff practice.

Regular testing for people and staff was taking place. There had been changes to testing following their outbreak of Covid-19 as people and staff who tested positive were not tested for 90 days as per government guidance. Routinely all staff have a weekly PCR and twice weekly lateral flow test (LFT). In addition, they had their temperatures taken daily. People had a monthly PCR test with daily temperatures and oxygen level checks.

At present the majority of people chose to spend time in their rooms. Staff supported people to remain engaged with one to one activities and to remain in contact with their families through phone and video calls. People who chose to visit the dining areas or communal areas were supported by staff to maintain

social distancing. For example, chairs and tables had been re-arranged to allow more space between people. Extra staff rooms had been created and were restricted to two staff members at any one time.

The registered providers had been very supportive to their service throughout the pandemic and had ensured staff had access to counselling and well-being sessions for staff were being introduced.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

Inspected but not rated

The Laurels Nursing Home

Detailed findings

Background to this inspection

We carried out this inspection under Section 60 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 as part of our regulatory functions. This inspection was planned to check whether the provider is meeting the legal requirements and regulations associated with the Health and Social Care Act 2008.

As part of CQC's response to care homes with outbreaks of coronavirus, we are conducting reviews to ensure that the Infection Prevention and Control practice was safe, and the service was compliant with IPC measures. This was a targeted inspection looking at the IPC practices the provider has in place.

This inspection took place on 25 February 2021 and was announced.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

S5□ How well are people protected by the prevention and control of infection?

- We were assured that the provider was preventing visitors from catching and spreading infections.
- We were assured that the provider was meeting shielding and social distancing rules.
- We were assured that the provider was admitting people safely to the service.
- We were assured that the provider was using PPE effectively and safely.
- We were assured that the provider was accessing testing for people using the service and staff.
- We were assured that the provider was promoting safety through the layout and hygiene practices of the premises.
- We were assured that the provider was making sure infection outbreaks can be effectively prevented or managed.
- We were assured that the provider's infection prevention and control policy was up to date.