

Anchor Hanover Group

Larchfield

Inspection report

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Date of inspection visit:
13 January 2022

Date of publication:
09 February 2022

Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Inspected but not rated

Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Larchfield is a care home providing residential and personal care for up to 41 residents, the majority of whom have complex mental health needs. At the time of our inspection there were 38 people using the service. Accommodation is provided over two floors. All bedrooms have ensuite toilet and handwashing facilities.

We found the following examples of good practice.

A programme of COVID testing for both people living in the home and staff was undertaken in line with current government guidance. Appropriate procedures were in place should anyone display any symptoms or test positive. All visitors, including healthcare professionals, were subject to a range of screening procedures. This included showing evidence of vaccination and a negative lateral flow test before entry into the home was allowed.

The home had comprehensive policies and procedures to manage any risks associated with the COVID pandemic, including the management of people with a COVID positive diagnosis. At the time of our visit, none of the residents were currently COVID positive.

There were sufficient supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE) available for people. Hand sanitiser was readily available throughout the home. Staff had been trained in infection prevention and control (IPC) and the use of PPE. We observed staff wearing PPE appropriately.

Daily cleaning schedules were in place. All cleaning was undertaken by designated domestic staff, which included touch point cleaning. At the time of our visit we observed that there were a couple of areas which could have impacted on infection prevention and control, such as unused board games, crayons and paper not stored away in cupboards. This issue was rectified immediately during our visit.

Staff supported the social and emotional wellbeing of residents, which included residents participating in activities outside of the care home. Appropriate procedures were followed to support COVID testing and minimise risk.

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

Larchfield

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 the COVID-19 pandemic we are looking at how services manage infection control and visiting arrangements. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection prevention and control measures the provider had in place. We also asked the provider about any staffing pressures the service was experiencing and whether this was having an impact on the service.

This inspection took place on 13 January 2022 and was announced. We gave the service 24 hours' notice of the inspection.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

Staffing

- The provider told us they had measures in place to mitigate the risks associated with COVID-19 related staff pressures

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.
- We were assured the provider was facilitating visits for people living in the home in accordance with the current guidance.

From 11 November 2021 registered persons must make sure all care home workers and other professionals visiting the service are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, unless they have an exemption or there is an emergency.

- The service was meeting the requirement to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19.