

Unannounced Care Inspection Report 3 July 2018



Longfield Care Home

Type of Service: Residential Care Home
Address: 2 Longfield Road, Eglinton, Derry, BT47 3PY
Tel No: 028 7181 2552
Inspector: John McAuley

www.rqia.org.uk

Assurance, Challenge and Improvement in Health and Social Care

It should be noted that this inspection report should not be regarded as a comprehensive review of all strengths and areas for improvement that exist in the service. The findings reported on are those which came to the attention of RQIA during the course of this inspection. The findings contained within this report do not exempt the service from their responsibility for maintaining compliance with legislation, standards and best practice.

1.0 What we look for



2.0 Profile of service

This is a residential care home with eleven beds that provides care for residents living with dementia. The home is in the same complex of a registered nursing home.

3.0 Service details

Registered Provider: Four Seasons Healthcare Responsible Individual: Dr Maureen Royston	Registered Manager: Louise McCloskey
Person in charge at the time of inspection: Louise McCloskey	Date manager registered: 19 April 2018
Categories of care: Residential Care (RC) DE – Dementia	Number of registered places: 11

4.0 Inspection summary

An unannounced care inspection took place on 3 July 2018 from 10.15 to 14.00 hours.

This inspection was underpinned by The Residential Care Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 and the DHSSPS Residential Care Homes Minimum Standards, August 2011.

The inspection sought to determine if the home was delivering safe, effective and compassionate care and if the service was well led.

Evidence of good practice was found in relation to adult safeguarding, falls prevention, risk management and management of care records. Good practice was also found in relation to communication between residents, residents' representatives, aligned healthcare professionals and staff, governance arrangements, maintenance of good working relationships and the environment.

No areas requiring improvement were identified during this inspection.

Feedback from residents in accordance with their capabilities was all positive about their quality of life in the home. Similar positive feedback and praise was received from a visiting relative.

The findings of this report will provide the home with the necessary information to assist them to fulfil their responsibilities, enhance practice and resident experience.

4.1 Inspection outcome

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	0	0

This inspection resulted in no areas for improvement being identified. Findings of the inspection were discussed with Louise McCloskey, registered manager, as part of the inspection process and can be found in the main body of the report.

4.2 Action/enforcement taken following the most care inspection

No further actions were required to be taken following the most recent inspection on 13 December 2017.

5.0 How we inspect

Prior to the inspection a range of information relevant to the service was reviewed. This included the following records: the previous inspection report, notifiable events, and written and verbal communication received since the previous care inspection.

During the inspection the inspector met with the eleven residents, five staff, one resident's representative and the registered manager.

A total of ten questionnaires were provided for distribution to residents and/or their representatives to enable them to share their views with RQIA. A poster was provided for staff detailing how they could complete an electronic questionnaire. Four questionnaires were returned by residents' representatives within the agreed timescale.

During the inspection a sample of records was examined which included:

- Staff duty rota
- Induction programme for new staff
- Staff supervision and annual appraisal schedules
- A staff competency and capability assessment
- Staff training schedule and training records
- Two staff files
- Three residents' care files
- Minutes of staff meetings
- Complaints and compliments records
- Audits of risk assessments, care plans, care reviews; accidents and incidents (including falls, outbreaks), complaints, environment, catering, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC), NISCC registration
- Infection control records
- Equipment maintenance records
- Accident, incident, notifiable event records
- Minutes of recent residents' representatives' meetings
- Reports of visits by the registered provider
- Legionella risk assessment
- Fire safety risk assessment
- Fire drill records
- Maintenance of fire-fighting equipment, alarm system, emergency lighting, fire doors, etc.
- Individual written agreements
- Programme of activities
- Policies and procedures

The findings of the inspection were provided to the person in charge at the conclusion of the inspection.

6.0 The inspection

6.1 Review of areas for improvement from the most recent inspection dated 19 June 2018

The most recent inspection of the home was an unannounced medicines management inspection.

The completed QIP was returned and approved by the pharmacist inspector.

This QIP will be validated by the pharmacist inspector at the next medicines management inspection.

6.2 Review of areas for improvement from the last care inspection dated 13 December 2017

There were no areas for improvements made as a result of the last care inspection.

6.3 Inspection findings

6.4 Is care safe?

Avoiding and preventing harm to patients and clients from the care, treatment and support that is intended to help them.

The registered manager advised that the staffing levels for the home were subject to regular review to ensure the assessed needs of the residents were met. Temporary or agency staff were not used in the home.

No concerns were raised regarding staffing levels during discussion with residents, staff and one visiting relative. An inspection of the duty rota confirmed that it accurately reflected the staff working within the home.

An inspection of two completed induction records and discussion with the registered manager and staff evidenced that an induction programme was in place for all staff, relevant to their specific roles and responsibilities.

Discussion with staff confirmed that mandatory training, supervision and appraisal of staff were in place. Schedules and records of training, supervision and appraisals were inspected during the inspection.

Discussion with the registered manager and staff confirmed that competency and capability assessments were undertaken for any person who is given the responsibility of being in charge of the home for any period in the absence of the manager. A staff competency and capability assessment was inspected and found to be satisfactory.

The home's recruitment and selection policy and procedure complied with current legislation and best practice. The registered manager and inspection of two staff members' recruitment records confirmed that staff were recruited in line with Regulation 21 (1) (b), Schedule 2 of The Residential Care Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005.

The registered manager advised that AccessNI enhanced disclosures were undertaken for all staff prior to the commencement of employment. Staff files reviewed confirmed that AccessNI information was recorded and managed in line with best practice.

Arrangements were in place to monitor the registration status of staff with their professional body (where applicable). Care staff spoken with advised that they were registered with the Northern Ireland Social Care Council (NISCC).

The adult safeguarding policy in place was consistent with the current regional policy and procedures. This included the name of the safeguarding champion, definitions of abuse, types of abuse and indicators, onward referral arrangements, contact information and documentation to be completed. The registered manager was planning to complete training in the role of the safeguarding champion. The role and function of the Adult Safeguarding Champion (ASC) and the necessity to complete the annual ASC position report from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 was discussed.

Staff were knowledgeable and had a good understanding of adult safeguarding principles and had also an awareness of child protection issues. They were also aware of their obligations in relation to raising concerns about poor practice and whistleblowing. An inspection of staff training records confirmed that mandatory adult safeguarding training was provided for all staff.

Discussion with the registered manager, inspection of accident and incidents notifications, care records and complaints records confirmed that if there were any suspected, alleged or actual incidents of abuse, these would be fully and promptly referred to the relevant persons and agencies for investigation in accordance with procedures and legislation.

The registered manager stated there were risk management procedures in place relating to the safety of individual residents and the home did not accommodate any individuals whose assessed needs could not be met. An inspection of care records identified that residents' care needs and risk assessments were obtained from the Trust prior to admission. The registered manager also completes a pre-admission assessment with the potential resident so as to ensure the home can meet any assessed needs. This pre-admission assessment was discussed and confirmed good evidence of the registered manager's governance with this aspect of care.

The policy and procedure on restrictive practice/behaviours which challenge was in keeping with DHSSPS Guidance on Restraint and Seclusion in Health and Personal Social Services (2005) and the Human Rights Act (1998). It also reflected current best practice guidance including Deprivation of Liberties Safeguards (DoLS).

The registered manager advised that the only restrictive practice within the home was the use of a keypad. In the care records examined the restrictions were appropriately assessed, documented, minimised and reviewed with the involvement of the multi-professional team, as required. This restrictive practice was described in the Statement of Purpose and Residents' Guide.

There was an Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) policy and procedure in place which was in line with regional guidelines. Staff training records evidenced that all staff had received training in IPC in line with their roles and responsibilities. Discussion with staff established that they were knowledgeable and had understanding of IPC policies and procedures.

Inspection of the premises confirmed that there were wash hand basins, adequate supplies of liquid soap, alcohol hand gels and disposable towels wherever care was delivered. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), e.g. disposable gloves and aprons, was available throughout the home. Observation of staff practice identified that staff adhered to IPC procedures.

Good standards of hand hygiene were observed to be promoted within the home among residents, staff and visitors. Notices promoting good hand hygiene were displayed throughout the home in both written and pictorial formats.

IPC compliance audits were undertaken and action plans developed to address any deficits noted.

The registered manager reported that there have been no outbreaks of infection within the last year. If there were to be this would be managed in accordance with the home's policy and procedures and reported to the Public Health Agency, the Trust and RQIA.

A general inspection of the home was undertaken. The home was clean and tidy with a good standard of décor and furnishings being maintained. Residents' bedrooms were found to be individualised with photographs, memorabilia and personal items. Communal areas were comfortable and nicely furnished and presented.

The grounds of the home were very well maintained.

Inspection of the internal and external environment identified that the home and grounds were kept tidy, safe, suitable for and accessible to residents, staff and visitors. There were no obvious hazards to the health and safety of residents, visitors or staff. No malodours were detected in the home.

The registered manager advised that the home's policy, procedures and risk assessments relating to safe and healthy working practices were appropriately maintained and reviewed regularly e.g. Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH), fire safety, hot surfaces and smoking etc.

The registered manager reported that they were aware of the "Falls Prevention Toolkit" and were using this guidance to improve post falls management within the home. Audits of accidents/falls were undertaken on a monthly basis and analysed for themes and trends; an action plan was developed to minimise the risk where possible. Referral was made to the trust falls team in line with best practice guidance.

The home had an up to date Legionella risk assessment in place dated 5 June 2018. No recommendations were made from this assessment.

The registered manager and inspection of Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) records confirmed that safety maintenance records were up to date, as dated 12 March 2018.

The registered manager advised that equipment and medical devices in use in the home were well maintained and regularly serviced. A recorded system was in place to regularly check the Northern Ireland Adverse Incidence Centre (NIAIC) alerts and action as necessary.

The home had an up to date fire risk assessment in place dated 1 December 2017. No recommendations were made from this assessment.

Inspection of staff training records confirmed that staff completed fire safety training twice annually. Fire drills were completed on a regular basis and records inspected confirmed these were up to date. The records also included the staff who participated and any learning outcomes. Fire safety records identified that fire-fighting equipment, fire alarm systems, emergency lighting and means of escape were checked on a regular and up to date basis. Individual residents had a completed Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan (PEEP) in place.

Four completed questionnaires were returned to RQIA from residents' representatives. Respondents described their level of satisfaction with this aspect of care as very satisfied and satisfied.

Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to adult safeguarding, falls prevention, risk management and the environment.

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified in respect of this domain during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	0	0

6.5 Is care effective?

The right care, at the right time in the right place with the best outcome

Discussion with the registered manager established that staff in the home responded appropriately to and met the assessed needs of the residents.

There was a records management policy in place which includes the arrangements for the creation, storage, maintenance and disposal of records. Records were stored safely and securely in line with data protection/General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

An inspection of three residents' care records was undertaken. This confirmed that these were maintained in line with the legislation and standards. They included an up to date assessment of needs, life history, risk assessments, care plans and daily/regular statement of health and well-being of the resident. Care needs assessment and risk assessments (e.g. nutrition, falls, where appropriate) were reviewed and updated on a regular basis or as changes occurred.

The care records also reflected the multi-professional input into the residents' health and social care needs and were found to be updated regularly to reflect the changing needs of the individual residents.

Residents and/or their representatives were encouraged and enabled to be involved in the assessment, care planning and review process, where appropriate. Care records inspected were observed to be signed by the resident's representative.

Care records were legible, accurate, up-to-date and signed and dated by the person making the entry. Care records were also maintained in an organised, methodical manner with good access to information.

An individual agreement setting out the terms of residency was in place and appropriately signed.

Discussion with staff confirmed that a person centred approach underpinned practice. Staff were able to describe in detail how the needs, choices and preferences of individual residents were met within the home. For example staff could readily identify residents' needs and preferences and how these were facilitated.

A varied and nutritious diet is provided which meets the individual and recorded dietary needs of residents. Systems were in place to regularly record residents' weights and any significant changes in weight are responded appropriately. There are arrangements in place to refer residents to dietitians and speech and language therapists (SALT) as required.

Observations of the supervision and assistance with the dinner time meal found that this was undertaken in an unhurried, organised manner with a nice ambience in place for residents to enjoy their meal. A group of residents were facilitated to have this meal in the garden whilst others choose to have the meal indoors. The dinner time meal was appetising and nicely presented.

Staff advised that they were able to recognise and respond to pressure area damage. It was reported that there are no residents in the home with pressure area damage.

The registered manager advised that there were arrangements in place to monitor, audit and review the effectiveness and quality of care delivered to residents at appropriate intervals. Audits of risk assessments, care plans, care review, accidents and incidents (including falls, outbreaks), complaints, environment were available for inspection and evidenced that any actions identified for improvement were incorporated into practice.

The registered manager advised that systems were in place to ensure effective communication with residents, their representatives and other key stakeholders. These included pre-admission information, multi-professional team reviews, residents' meetings, staff meetings and staff shift handovers.

Observation of practice evidenced that staff were able to communicate effectively with residents. Staff interactions with residents were observed to be polite, friendly, warm and supportive.

Discussion with the staff confirmed that management operated an open door policy in regard to communication within the home.

An inspection of care records, along with accident and incident reports, confirmed that referral to other healthcare professionals was timely and responsive to the needs of the residents.

Four completed questionnaires were returned to RQIA from residents' representatives. Respondents described their level of satisfaction with this aspect of care as very satisfied and satisfied.

Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to the management of care records and communication between residents, residents' representatives, aligned healthcare professionals and staff.

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified in respect of this domain during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	0	0

6.6 Is care compassionate?

Patients and clients are treated with dignity and respect and should be fully involved in decisions affecting their treatment, care and support.

A range of policies and procedures was in place which supported the delivery of compassionate care.

The registered manager advised that staff in the home promoted a culture and ethos that supported the values of dignity and respect, independence, rights, equality and diversity, choice and consent of residents.

The registered manager and residents advised that consent was sought in relation to care and treatment. For example, written consent was obtained for any photographs used for care record identification and social activities.

Discussion and observation of care practice and social interactions demonstrated that residents were treated with dignity and respect. Staff described their awareness of promoting residents' rights; independence, dignity and confidentiality were protected. This included sensitivity in ensuring handover information was done discreetly and knocking and requesting of entry to residents' bedrooms.

Discussion with staff confirmed that residents' spiritual and cultural needs, including preferences for end of life care, were met within the home.

Action was taken to manage any pain and discomfort in a timely and appropriate manner. This was further evidenced by the inspection of care records, for example, care plans were in place for the management of pain, falls, infection, nutrition, where appropriate.

Residents were provided with information, in a format that they could understand, which enabled them to make informed decisions regarding their life, care and treatment. An example of this was a notice board in the reception of the home which contained added information for both residents and their representatives.

Discussion with staff, residents and observation of practice confirmed that residents' needs were recognised and responded to in a prompt and courteous manner by staff. Residents' were listened to, valued and communicated with in an appropriate manner and their views and opinions were taken into account in all matters affecting them. Systems of communication included, care review meetings and day to day contact with management.

Discussion with staff, residents, observation of practice and review of care records confirmed that residents were enabled and supported to engage and participate in meaningful activities. A programme of planned activity was in place. The inspector met with the activities co-ordinator who spoke with enthusiasm about her role and how this was time managed to meet residents, needs. At the time of this inspection, residents were enjoying the company of one another or watching television, or relaxing in the garden. Arrangements were in place for residents to maintain links with their friends, families and wider community.

The inspector met with all the residents in the home at the time of this inspection. In accordance with their capabilities all confirmed that they were happy with their life in the home, their relationship with staff, activities and the provision of meals. Some of the comments made included statements such as:

- "I am very happy here. I feel safe and well looked after."
- "It's a great place."
- "There's a lovely atmosphere here. We all get on well here."
- "The meals are lovely."

The inspector also met with one visiting relative who spoke in complimentary terms about the provision of care, the kindness and support received from staff and the overall homeliness of the home.

Four completed questionnaires were returned to RQIA from residents' representatives. Respondents described their level of satisfaction with this aspect of care as very satisfied and satisfied.

Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to the culture and ethos of the home, listening to and valuing residents and taking account of the views of residents.

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified in respect of this domain during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	0	0

6.7 Is the service well led?

Effective leadership, management and governance which creates a culture focused on the needs and experience of service users in order to deliver safe, effective and compassionate care

The registered manager outlined the management arrangements and governance systems in place within the home and stated that the needs of residents were met in accordance with the home's Statement of Purpose and the categories of care for which the home was registered with RQIA.

A range of policies and procedures was in place to guide and inform staff.

There was a complaints policy and procedure in place which was in accordance with the legislation and Department of Health (DoH) guidance on complaints handling. Residents and/or their representatives were made aware of how to make a complaint by way of the Resident's Guide and information on display in the home. Discussion with the registered manager confirmed she was knowledgeable about how to respond to complaints.

Inspection of the complaints records confirmed that arrangements were in place to effectively manage complaints from residents, their representatives or any other interested party. Records of complaints included details of any investigation undertaken, all communication with complainants, the outcome of the complaint and the complainant's level of satisfaction. Arrangements were in place to share learning from complaints with staff.

RQIA's complaint poster was available and displayed in the home.

The home retained compliments received, e.g. thank you letters and cards and there are systems in place to share these with staff.

There was an accident, incident and notifiable events policy and procedure in place which included reporting arrangements to RQIA. An inspection of these events confirmed that these were effectively documented and reported to RQIA and other relevant organisations in accordance with the legislation and procedures. A regular audit of accidents and incidents was undertaken and was reviewed as part of the inspection process. The registered manager advised that learning from accidents and incidents was disseminated to all relevant parties and action plans developed to improve practice.

There was evidence of managerial staff being provided with additional training in governance and leadership. The registered manager advised that there was a system to share learning from a range of sources including complaints, incidents, training; feedback was integrated into practice and contributed to continuous quality improvement.

Discussion with the registered manager confirmed that information in regard to current best practice guidelines was made available to staff. Staff were provided with mandatory training and additional training opportunities relevant to any specific needs of the residents.

A visit by the registered provider was undertaken as required under Regulation 29 of The Residential Care Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005; a report was produced and made available for residents, their representatives, staff, RQIA and any other interested parties to

read. The reports of March 2018, April 2018 and May 2108 were inspected. These reports contained good evidence of governance and quality improvement. The reports also had an action plan developed to address any issues identified which include timescales and person responsible for completing the action.

There was a clear organisational structure and all staff were aware of their roles, responsibility and accountability. This was outlined in the home's Statement of Purpose and Residents' Guide. Discussion with the registered manager identified that she had understanding of her role and responsibilities under the legislation.

The registered manager stated that the registered provider was kept informed regarding the day to day running of the home through telephone calls, emails and visits to the home.

Inspection of the premises confirmed that the RQIA certificate of registration and employer's liability insurance certificate were displayed.

The home had a whistleblowing policy and procedure in place and discussion with staff confirmed that they were knowledgeable regarding this. The registered manager advised that staff could also access line management to raise concerns and that staff would be offered support. Discussion with staff confirmed that there were good working relationships within the home and that management were responsive to suggestions and/or concerns raised. There were open and transparent methods of working and effective working relationships with internal and external stakeholders.

The registered manager described the arrangements in place for managing identified lack of competency and poor performance for all staff.

Staff spoken with during the inspection made the following comments:

- "Management is very supportive."
- "It is a great home to work in. I am very happy."

Four completed questionnaires were returned to RQIA from residents' representatives. Respondents described their level of satisfaction with this aspect of care as very satisfied and satisfied.

Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to governance arrangements, management of complaints and incidents, quality improvement and maintaining good working relationships.

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified in respect of this domain during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	0	0

7.0 Quality improvement plan

There were no areas for improvement identified during this inspection, and a QIP is not required or included, as part of this inspection report.



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