

Abbeyfield Lancashire Extra Care Society Limited

Abbeyfield Care Home

Clitheroe

Inspection report

Abbeyfield House
Union Street, Low Moor
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 2NH

Tel: 01200442550

Website: www.abbeyfieldcarehomeclitheroe.org

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17 November 2020

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Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Inspected but not rated

Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Abbeyfield Care Home is a residential care home and at the time of the inspection was providing personal care to 31 people aged 60 and over. The service can support up to 40 people.

At the time of the inspection there were strict rules in place throughout England relating to social restrictions and shielding practices. These were commonly known as the 'New National Restrictions'. This meant the Covid-19 alert level was very high and there were tighter restrictions in place affecting the whole community.

We found the following examples of good practice:

Staff, management and visitors were using personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly and there were procedures in place around the use of PPE.

The provider and manager had comprehensive processes to minimise the risk to people, staff and visitors from catching and spreading infection. These included weekly testing of staff and at least every 28 days for people living in the home. Hand sanitiser and PPE were available throughout the home. There were signs to remind staff, visitors and people about the use of PPE, the importance of washing hands and regular use of hand sanitisers.

Where appropriate and consistent with infection control rules, 'socially-distanced' visits had been taking place. At the inspection however, and consistent with enhanced restrictions in the event of infection outbreak, these visits had been restricted and were only allowed in exceptional circumstances. We noted the processes around this were consistent with the rules and were regularly reviewed and adapted to reflect latest guidance and legislation.

Visiting rules and process were communicated effectively to people using the service and their relatives. At the time of the inspection, the manager was arranging an 'on-line conference' with most relatives and friends to further communicate and advise of processes around visiting.

Infection control policy and people's risk assessments had been completed and revised following the pandemic so that people were protected in the event of becoming unwell or in the event of a Covid-19 outbreak in the home. The manager insisted people were tested before admission and consistent with local guidance, people were not being admitted to the home at the time of the inspection. This will be reviewed as appropriate and in line with any changes in restrictions. We were satisfied the service, staff, people and visitors were following the rules.

People's mental wellbeing had been promoted by innovative use of social media and electronic tablets so people could contact their relatives and friends. Staff had comprehensive knowledge of good practice guidance and had attended specific training. The records around this needed to be formalised and documented to assist the registered manager and provider in establishing whose training needed updating.

There were sufficient staff to provide continuity of support and ensure safeguards were in place should there be a staff shortage.

Policies and infection control processes were regularly reviewed when guidance changed. The home was clean and hygienic. A designated cleaner was working throughout the inspection. The disposal of some PPE required additional processes and we signposted the registered manager to 'best practice' around this issue.

All staff had received Covid-19 related supervision and had access to appropriate support to manage their wellbeing should it be required.

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

People were Safe. We were assured the provider managed infection prevention and control at the time of the inspection.

Inspected but not rated

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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 17 November 2020 and was announced. It was announced because the home had an outbreak of Covid-19 and checks were made at the service before inspection to ensure it was safe to proceed.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

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

- 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 any infection outbreaks could be effectively prevented or managed.
- We were assured that the provider's infection prevention and control policy was up to date.

We have also signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach.