

# Hertfordshire County Council

# Tanners Wood

## Inspection report

5-5a Tanners Wood Close  
Tanners Wood Lane  
Abbots Langley  
Hertfordshire  
WD5 0HR

Tel: 01923270270  
Website: [www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org)

Date of inspection visit:  
24 February 2021

Date of publication:  
18 March 2021

## Ratings

Overall rating for this service	Inspected but not rated
Is the service safe?	<b>Inspected but not rated</b>

# Summary of findings

## Overall summary

Tanners Wood is a 'care home' that is registered to provide accommodation and personal care. The service operates as a short break and respite care service for people with a learning disability and/or physical disability. This service is located at 5 Tanners Wood Close and can accommodate a maximum of eight people.

In response to the Winter Plan, 1 Tanners Wood Close (a separate detached property in the close) has been identified by the Local Authority for use as a designated care setting. The registration for Tanners Wood has been extended to include this property and an additional three people that can be accommodated there.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- The service was receiving professional visitors to the designated care setting with robust infection control procedures in place. All visitors were provided with guidance, personal protective equipment (PPE) and a health screening completed. Each visitor had their temperature checked by staff on arrival.
- The service had prepared ways for people to maintain social contact with family and friends via technology and phone calls, as face-to-face visits would be restricted in the unit due to the requirements of the isolation period people must undertake. TV's had been fitted to each bedroom and in-house activities had been prepared for people for use during their stay.
- Staff were provided with a designated preparation area on arrival to and departure from the building. PPE donning and doffing stations were to be situated throughout the building, with ample PPE supplies available. Systems for waste disposal, laundry management and catering were in place.
- The provider had developed policies and procedures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Guidance and information, with detailed safe systems of work, had been drafted for staff. Management oversight and daily checks, alongside regular infection prevention and control audits were in place.
- Preparations of the building were near completion at the time of our visit and a deep clean was planned before becoming operational. The registered manager confirmed this would be completed by an external cleaning contractor.

We were assured that this service met good infection prevention and control guidelines as a designated care setting.

## 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**

# Tanners Wood

## **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.

The service had been identified for use by the Local Authority as a designated care setting in response to the Winter Plan for people discharged from hospital with a positive Covid-19 status. This targeted inspection was to ensure that the service was compliant with infection control and prevention measures.

This inspection took place on 24 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.