

Prime Life Limited

River Meadows

Inspection report

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Date of inspection visit:
18 January 2022

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09 February 2022

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

River Meadows is a residential home providing accommodation and personal care to people aged 65 and over, some of whom are living with dementia. The home is registered for up to 41 people. At the time of the inspection visit, 30 people lived at the home. Care is provided across two floors, each with its own communal areas.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- There was a clear process to allow visitors to meet family members. Visitors were required to provide a negative lateral flow test before being allowed into the home to help keep them and those they were visiting, safe.
- Clear instructions and guidance for visitors were prominently displayed and were laminated to ensure they could be cleaned regularly to limit cross infection.
- Staff were observed socially distancing and wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) in line with guidance. Staff wore PPE at all times to minimise the risk of infection to people who were unable to socially distance.
- Systems were in place to ensure staff received up to date guidance and training to ensure those staff continued to meet government guidelines for safe infection control practices to reduce the risk of cross infection.
- There was additional cleaning of touch points in communal areas to mitigate the risk of cross infection.

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

River Meadows

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 the preparedness of care homes in relation to infection prevention and control. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection control and prevention measures the provider has in place.

This targeted inspection was to ensure that the service was compliant with infection control and prevention measures. 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 18 January 2022 and was unannounced.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

We have not changed the rating of this key question, as we have only looked at the part of the key question relating to staffing and the prevention and control of infection.

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'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.
- We were not assured that the provider was making sure infection outbreaks can be effectively prevented or managed. We saw sterile PPE on trollies that also contained clinical waste that was not safely contained. The registered manager assured us they would seek advice or additional equipment from the provider to ensure cross infections remained minimised.

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.