

Mere Lodge Healthcare Limited

# Mere Lodge

## Inspection report

93 Mere Road  
Leicester  
Leicestershire  
LE5 5GQ

Tel: 01162517441

Date of inspection visit:  
11 November 2020

Date of publication:  
23 November 2020

## Ratings

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

## Overall summary

Mere lodge is an adapted terraced property, providing residential, personal and nursing care over two floors and can support up to four people. There were four people using the service at the time of the inspection.

Some areas of the service were not well maintained. The flooring in the lounges and corridor was perforated which would not allow proper disinfection. There were areas of unpainted wood on doors and skirting boards which could allow a transfer of infection. This compromised infection control measures and the effectiveness of cleaning, which meant there was a higher risk of infection spread between people and staff.

Quality assurance audits undertaken by the provider were not effective in identifying the shortfalls found during the inspection.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- The provider had obtained a continuing supply of personal protective equipment (PPE). This included face masks, gloves, aprons and hand sanitiser and we saw staff used these appropriately. Staff told us they were encouraged to change their PPE regularly.
- Used PPE was disposed of appropriately in foot operated pedal bins placed throughout the home. This reduced the potential for transfer of infection.
- Staff encouraged people to wash their hands frequently throughout the day. Where this was not possible, hand sanitiser was offered to reduce the potential for transfer of infection.
- The provider participated in regular COVID-19 testing of people living in the service and staff. This ensured action could be taken swiftly to reduce the potential spread of infection if a positive test was returned.
- Areas were disinfected with products approved to reduce the potential transfer of infection.
- Risk assessments had been completed to protect people and staff who may be at a higher risk if they contracted COVID-19. Measures were in place to support them.
- Staff worked in allocated teams which lessened the potential of cross infection between staff members.

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?

No ratings were awarded following this inspection. This was a thematic review seeking to identify examples of good practice in infection prevention and control.

### Inspected but not rated

# Mere Lodge

## **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 coronavirus pandemic we are conducting a thematic review of infection control and prevention measures in care homes.

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The service was selected to take part in this thematic review which is seeking to identify examples of good practice in infection prevention and control.

This inspection took place on 11 November 2020 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 making sure infection outbreaks can be effectively prevented or managed.

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