

Caram (AH) Limited

Atholl House Nursing Home

Inspection report

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03 February 2022

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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

Atholl House Nursing Home is a nursing home providing personal and nursing care to 72 people at the time of the inspection, some of whom were living with dementia. Accommodation is provided across five units. The service can support up to 84 people.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The home had a designated unit which enabled people who were positive for COVID-19 to be safely admitted to the home without placing other people at the home at risk. The unit was self-contained and could be accessed independently from the rest of the home to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19. The unit had its own staff team.

Effective infection control systems were in place and these were understood and followed by staff. The home was clean and fresh and there was regular wiping down of touch points and equipment. Visiting arrangements followed current government guidance for routine visits and the use of essential care givers. Hand sanitiser and personal protective equipment (PPE) was readily available in the home and there were sufficient supplies of PPE. People, staff and essential care givers took part in the home's COVID-19 testing regime, which followed current government guidance. Appropriate processes were in place should anyone display any symptoms of COVID-19.

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

Atholl House Nursing Home

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 COVID-19, we are conducting reviews to ensure that the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) practice is safe and that services are compliant with IPC measures. This was a targeted inspection looking at the IPC practices the provider has in place. 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 3 February 2022 and was announced. We gave the service one days' notice of the inspection.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

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 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.
- The provider was following current government guidance when facilitating visits for people. This included the guidance where there was an outbreak of COVID-19.

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.