

Central and Cecil Housing Trust

Rathmore House

Inspection report

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02 March 2022

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11 March 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

Rathmore House is a 'care home'. Rathmore House can accommodate up to 20 older people and specifically those who are living with dementia and who require support with their personal care. At the time of our inspection there were 20 people living in the home.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Information about the impact and changing guidance around management of COVID-19, including any times where people had tested positive, was well managed and shared with everyone that needed to know, such as staff, people using the service and relatives. The provider had been engaging well with people using the service and relatives about changes to guidance throughout the pandemic.

Visitors to people were managed safely, and the home was receiving visitors. People could see their relatives in either their own bedroom or a small wooden building that had been erected in the garden. The provider was aware of the recent government announcements regarding lifting restrictions and vaccination requirements for staff. This demonstrated that the provider was keeping up to date with latest developments and guidance.

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

Rathmore House

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 how services manage infection control and visiting arrangements. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection prevention and control measures the provider had 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 2 March 2022 and was announced. We gave the service just over 24 hours 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. Regular agency staff were used if cover was required for staff absences that occurred. The deputy manager told us that these staff were prevented from working in other care services and they had arrangements in place with the staffing agencies to ensure this did not happen. The deputy manager also told us that the service had not thus far experienced any significant staffing pressures, although things had been challenging during an outbreak that started over the Christmas and new year period. This had been managed well, which the local authority had also confirmed with the CQC.. Everyone living or working at the home was well at present with no current COVID-19 infections in evidence.

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.

Visiting in care homes

Visitors to people were managed safely. Visitors had to show evidence of a recent clear COVID-19 test or could take a lateral flow test at the home. Visitors were then asked to complete a short questionnaire about their health and had their temperature taken, and this was all recorded. People could see their relatives in either their own bedroom or a small wooden building that had been erected in the garden.

Care homes (Vaccinations as Condition of Deployment)

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 Government has announced its intention to change the legal requirement for vaccination in care homes, but the service was meeting the current requirement to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19.