

Luton Borough Council

Luton Council Respite and Shared Lives Service

Inspection report

562 Hitchin Road
Stopsley
Luton
Bedfordshire
LU2 7UG

Tel: 01582548561
Website: www.luton.gov.uk

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05 February 2021

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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

Luton Council Respite and Shared Lives Service is a respite 'care home' providing accommodation and personal care to a maximum of nine people who have a range of learning disabilities on a short-term basis. This is mostly over a weekend period. Three people were due to be staying at the home the evening of the inspection. We did not inspect the shared lives part of the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- The home was very clean and well ventilated. Key areas were cleaned several times a day. People had their own bathrooms.
- The registered manager had adapted the home's admission processes to prevent the spread of potential infections. There were plans in place if people developed COVID-19 symptoms during their stay.
- We observed staff wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly. Staff received training in relation to PPE. People had been supported (where possible) to understand the importance of staff wearing this equipment.
- The registered manager was monitoring key aspects of infection protection control (IPC) to promote people's safety. The home had not had any cases of COVID-19 so far during the pandemic.

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

Luton Council Respite and Shared Lives Service

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 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 inspection took place on 5 February 2021 and was announced, so we could ask some initial questions about COVID-19 practices at the home.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

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 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.

We were somewhat assured about the provider ensuring staff received regular COVID-19 testing. We have also signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach. After this inspection we were informed the provider had received funding for lateral flow testing when staff entered the building.