

Peninsula Care Homes Limited

Bramble Down

Inspection report

Woodland Road
Denbury
Newton Abbot
Devon
TQ12 6DY

Tel: 01803812844
Website: www.peninsulacarehomes.co.uk

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30 March 2021

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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

Bramble Down offers accommodation with nursing care and support to up to 40 older people. The service is on two floors, with access to the upper floor via stairs and lift. Bedrooms have en-suite facilities. There is a garden and courtyard outside.

We found the following examples of good practice:

Visitors were only permitted by prior appointment. A new role of 'Welcome Host' ensured a positive greeting and staff facilitated visits to make sure they were as positive as possible. A clear visiting policy was communicated with families to ensure safe and enjoyable visiting as well as regular newsletters. Visitors were shown how to don and doff and a new screen and microphone had been purchased.

People and staff have been regularly tested to ensure they have not contracted COVID-19. Strict measures were in place to ensure people and staff would be isolated immediately if they had any symptoms of the virus, or if they had tested positive. Contingency and admission plans were clear. People and staff had received their Coronavirus vaccinations and had received support and information, including easy read, to help them feel comfortable with their decisions.

People had coped well during the pandemic due to a positive staff group and a good range of activities to suit individual interests, managed by three activity leaders. Staff hours had been enhanced to enable additional support. Staff were available to support visits using technology regularly. There had been many activities to keep people's spirits up and maintain wellbeing; Christmas light display and a reindeer visit, carol singing outside, cooking club, arts and crafts club, Remembrance Day activities and celebrating BBC Music Day. The home had large grounds for people to use safely.

Safe procedures have been followed by staff to minimise the risk of transmitting COVID-19. They had good stocks of all personal protective equipment (PPE). There were supplies of PPE available around the home. Staff were seen using appropriate PPE. Staff had received training on donning and doffing and on the coronavirus pandemic from various sources including local health and social care professionals, e-learning and from in-house training sessions. Links with the wider social care community helped problem solving and sharing information. Staff were managed in cohorted teams with separate entrances and break spaces to further minimise the risk. Regular spot checks and walk arounds ensured guidance was followed. The service was involved in the new local Infection Control Champion training.

The home was clean and hygienic. Detailed cleaning schedules were in place for all areas of the home. All touch points were cleaned frequently including high touch points. Deep cleaning of all areas was carried out regularly. The home was well-ventilated and new cleaning products had been sourced for effectiveness.

The registered manager and providers acknowledged the staff team had been through a very difficult time and supported them to have regular time off, support and access to counselling if needed. The registered

manager said the provider had been 'brilliant', even arranging for managers to access a psychiatrist which they found really helpful. Staff felt valued and appreciated, receiving regular support calls, bonuses and had received special treats as a thank you for their hard work.

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

Bramble Down

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 30 March 2021 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 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.