

Five Focal Point Limited

Beech Court Care Home

Inspection report

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28 January 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

Beech Court Care Home provides accommodation and personal care for up to 23 people. On the day of our inspection, 13 people were either living at the service or having a short respite stay.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The provider ensured people were protected from the risk of people accessing the home who were not vaccinated and/or could not provide evidence of a negative LFT result. There was sufficient space indoors and outdoors for safe visitation to take place. This included a newly built summer house to reduce the risk of the spread of COVID-19.

We observed staff wearing PPE as required. When staff provided personal care there were sufficient PPE stations to enable them to don and doff (put on and take off) their PPE safely. Communal areas were spacious, and seating was set at a safe distance to encourage social distancing. We did note there was no process in place informing staff what clothes they should wear when arriving to and leaving from work. We were told some staff wore their uniforms to work, other changed at work and this was the same when staff left work. The representative of the provider acknowledged this increased the risk of the spread of COVID-19 and would address this immediately.

The home was currently in 'Outbreak status' meaning the home was closed to non-essential visitors until the home was clear of COVID-19. However, we were informed that all people living at the home had now tested negative for COVID-19 and the home was due to re-open soon. Safe isolation procedures were in place to protect others from the risk of infection. There were ample supplies of PPE throughout the home.

The provider had processes in place that ensured the safe admission of new people to the home. The provider also assessed the impact of isolation on people's wellbeing. This included increased time spent by staff with people in their bedrooms to offer support and reassurance. All new admissions had to meet required vaccination status and negative LFT result before entry was granted to the home.

It was acknowledged isolation for people living with dementia was difficult at times. Increased support from staff was in place where needed. Posters were placed around the home offering guidance and information for people and staff advising them how to spot the signs of COVID-19 and to help to reduce the risk of spreading it.

A robust testing regime was in place. All staff and people living at the home were tested regularly and in accordance with government guidance. The provider had ensured they and their staff were aware of government guidelines which state when a member of staff must be fully vaccinated by in order for them to continue in their role.

Regular cleaning of all touch points and other key areas were carried out throughout the day. We observed

the home was visibly clean and tidy.

There were enough staff to support people safely and to cover any staff holidays, sickness and COVID-19 isolation. Agency staff have not been needed to cover shifts.

The provider considered staff member's wellbeing. A variety of initiatives were in place to thank staff for their support.

The provider had assessed the impact of potential 'winter pressures' and acted accordingly. Regular COVID-19, outbreak and other related audits were carried out to help identify any areas of concern. Action plans were in place and reviewed.

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

Beech Court Care 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 28 January 2022 and was announced. We gave the provider 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

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 somewhat assured that the provider was promoting safety through the layout and hygiene practices of the premises. We did note there was no process in place informing staff what clothes they should arrive to or leave from work. We have signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach.
 - 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 registered manager ensured people were able to see their visitors in such a way that did not increase the risk of the spread of infection throughout the home. People's individual needs had been assessed, and the impact of not seeing visitors would have on their wellbeing. Action had been taken by the registered manager to the reduce the risk of people experiencing social isolation and loneliness.
- 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.