

Angel Care plc

Birchy Hill Care Home

Inspection report

Birchy Hill
Sway
Lymington
Hampshire
SO41 6BJ

Tel: 01590682233

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18 August 2020

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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

Birchy Hill Care Home provides care for up to 70 people who require residential or nursing care. The service cares for people with a variety of needs, including complex needs associated with chronic and acute medical conditions and provides specialised dementia care. Accommodation for people is arranged over three floors and five living units. There is a well maintained sensory garden that provides safe, accessible areas for people to enjoy.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- Visits to the home were by appointment only to manage numbers. The provider policy stated one person at a time per family allowed to visit. There was ample outside space to enable socially distanced visits within each separate area of the garden in proximity to each individual unit. People were also able to keep in touch with friends and family via Skype. Computers were made available within the home with instructions and support on how to use them.
- Each of the five units was treated as a separate entity, described by the registered manager as five 'homes' within the home. Staff only worked on one unit, which included cleaning staff, to reduce risks of cross infection between units. Staff took breaks individually and in designated areas, including outdoors in the garden.
- Vulnerable staff were risk assessed and supported to manage any health conditions or to shield if required. Staff were asked if they would like to be re-deployed to non-contact duties to reduce risks.

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

We were assured the service were following safe infection prevention and control procedures to keep people safe.

Inspected but not rated

Birchy Hill 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.

This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection control and prevention measures the provider has in place. As part of CQC's response to the coronavirus pandemic we are conducting a thematic review of infection control and prevention measures in care homes.

This inspection took place on 18 August 2020 and was announced. The service was selected to take part in this thematic review which is seeking to identify examples of good practice in infection prevention and control.

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.