

Brownhill Care Limited

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## Inspection report

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Date of inspection visit:  
28 February 2022  
03 March 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

Brownhill Care Limited is a 'care home'. People in care homes receive accommodation and nursing or personal care as single package under one contractual agreement. At this inspection staff were providing personal care and mental health support to the maximum of 14 people. The care home is situated in two purpose-built adapted large houses with individual bedrooms with spacious indoor and outdoor communal areas.

We found the following examples of good practice

The provider had embedded systems to manage and mitigate the risks of infection. The registered manager kept up to date and understood current best practice guidance in the management of COVID-19. Staff and people had a COVID-19 risk assessment with plans in place to mitigate any risks.

Staff understood how to protect people and visitors from infection. Professionals and visitors were asked to provide evidence of their COVID-19 vaccination status, to complete an on the day lateral flow test, have their temperature taken and encouraged to follow social distancing recommendations, before entering the home. All test results were recorded.

Current infection control and prevention guidance, including handwashing was provided for people, professionals and for visitors and this information was also clearly displayed around the home.

The provider supported people to continue to maintain relationships with people not living at the service. People had access to video calls, telephone calls and in person visits in the purpose built garden cabin that was specially designed to accommodate visits safely.

The registered manager told us and we saw there was sufficient personal protective and equipment (PPE) available for use and in stock. Staff wore and disposed of gloves, aprons and masks safely.

## The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

### Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated.

**Inspected but not rated**

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## **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 28 February and 3 March 2022 and was announced. We gave the service 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 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

- The provider had a clear process in place to keep people and visitors safe from the risks of infection.
- All visitors and professionals were provided with enough information on the checks they needed to take part in before entering the home. All results and each vaccination record was logged in a designated folder.
- All checks were completed outside the home in the purpose built cabin. This reduced the risk of infection to people and staff keeping them safe as possible.
- People, visitors and professionals had access to and wore personal protective equipment (PPE) including gloves, masks and aprons to help reduce the risk of infection.
- Visitors were supported to have in person visits in the outdoor communal area or in the garden cabin that allowed for safe visiting and maintain social distancing. This arrangement meant people could continue to maintain relationships with people they cared for which could have a positive impact on their health and well-being.