

Stow Healthcare Group Limited

Brandon Park Residential and Nursing Home

Inspection report

Brandon Country Park
Brandon
Suffolk
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07 February 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

Brandon Park Residential and Nursing Home is a residential care home with nursing that provides accommodation and personal care for up to 65 older people. The home has recently been extended and now includes the Maple Memory Centre which supports people who are living with dementia. There were 52 people living in the service when we inspected on 7 February 2022.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The provider and registered manager had ensured staff were skilled in infection prevention and control (IPC) practices. This included up to date training on infection control and 'Donning and Doffing', (how to put on and remove) personal protective equipment (PPE).

There were plentiful supplies of PPE available and situated across various key areas in the home to aid safe infection prevention and control practice.

Relatives were encouraged to visit their family members. The role of an essential caregiver was supported and welcomed to ensure people's wellbeing was promoted. Current government guidelines in relation to COVID-19 were being followed by staff and visitors to reduce the risk of infection to people living at the home.

External health and social care professionals and visitors evidenced COVID-19 vaccination status, and had to produce a negative lateral flow COVID-19 test before entering the care home. Additionally, health declaration and temperature checks were completed.

There were cleaning schedules in place, the service was visibly clean and hygienic. Frequently touched areas, such as door handles and handrails received enhanced and frequent cleaning. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, housekeeping staff hours had been extended to enable additional cleaning to be undertaken each day to help reduce the risk of infection.

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

Brandon Park Residential and Nursing 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 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 7 February 2022 and was announced. We gave the service a short period of 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.

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 Government has announced its intention to change the legal requirement for vaccination in care homes, but the service was meeting the current requirement to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19.