

R Smart and Dr M Smart

# Hill Barn

## Inspection report

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Date of inspection visit:  
22 January 2021  
25 January 2021

Date of publication:  
26 February 2021

## Ratings

Overall rating for this service	Inspected but not rated
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Is the service safe?	Inspected but not rated
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# Summary of findings

## Overall summary

Hill Barn provides accommodation and personal care for up to 26 people, some living with dementia. At the time of this inspection there were 23 people living in the home.

We found the following examples of good practice:

Relatives visiting had been facilitated in a purpose built pod into one of the lounge areas with external access.

People who used the service had been assessed for the best way of keeping in contact with their relatives. This was especially important if the pod was not appropriate. Smart speakers and video calling with noise eliminating headphones had led to meaningful conversations.

The service had appropriate plans for managing positive cases of COVID-19 which had proved effective.

Staff and people who used the service had completed surveys to gain feedback on how the service had managed during the pandemic, with positive comments received from staff on how supported they felt and how people who used the service felt safe.

Managers had been proactive in their approach to decision making when there was contradictory information from guidance and professionals, to help protect people who used their service and provide the care they required.

## 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**

# Hill Barn

## **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 22 January 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.