

Pathways North West Limited

# Oswald House

## Inspection report

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12 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

Oswald House is registered to provide accommodation, rehabilitation, care and support for up to nine women with complex mental health issues in a gender sensitive unit. The home is a large detached house located in the village of Oswaldtwistle, Accrington. At the time of the inspection, there were seven people using the service

We found the following examples of good practice.

The provider had established effective infection prevention and control procedures which were understood and followed by the staff. All visitors including professionals were subject to checks to ensure an up to date lateral flow test and evidence of double COVID-19 vaccination was viewed before entry into the home.

There was a good supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) for staff and any visitors to use. Staff had received training on the use of PPE and we observed staff wearing it correctly during our inspection.

People living in the home were able to maintain contact with friends and family with visits either in the home or out of the home.

People's health and well-being was carefully monitored. A regular programme of testing for COVID-19 was in place for staff and people living in the home. This meant swift action could be taken when any positive results were received.

Daily cleaning schedules were implemented and these were enhanced with additional touch point cleaning.

## 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**

# Oswald House

## **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 12 January 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 somewhat assured that the provider was making sure infection outbreaks can be effectively prevented or managed. We signposted the provider to national guidance regarding resident's visits out of the home without full COVID-19 vaccination.
- We were assured that the provider's infection prevention and control policy was up to date.
- We were somewhat assured the provider was facilitating visits for people living in the home in accordance with the current guidance. We discussed with the provider national guidance in relation to identifying an essential care giver for residents where appropriate, so that visits could be maintained in the event of an outbreak of COVID-19.

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.

We have also signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach.

