

Anne Gray Care Limited

# The Larches - Tiverton

## Inspection report

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Date of inspection visit:  
02 February 2022

Date of publication:  
04 March 2022

## Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Inspected but not rated

Is the service safe?

**Inspected but not rated**

# Summary of findings

## Overall summary

The Larches is in the market town of Tiverton closely situated to the town's famous canal. The home provides accommodation for up to 20 people requiring personal care.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The registered manager had followed guidance on infection control procedures to safely support people living at the service during the pandemic.

People and staff had regularly been tested for COVID-19 and this process was monitored and kept under review by the registered manager.

All staff had received infection control training and had clear guidance around the home to remind them of the correct procedure for donning and doffing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). People told us that staff wore PPE and they felt safe.

Guidance had been implemented to allow, where possible, for relatives to continue to visit people safely. Checks were in place and carried out to reduce the risk of infection from visitors to the location. People told us their relatives were able to visit and they were kept informed by the registered manager of visiting guidance.

People had been supported to continue to access healthcare, this had included weekly visits and calls from the homes designated GP.

The home was clean and free from odours. Housekeeping staff completed cleaning schedules and frequent cleaning of regularly touched surfaces was implemented.

On arrival to work staff had a designated room for putting on their uniforms and PPE. Adequate supplies of PPE and hand hygiene products were available throughout the premises.

The provider had ensured that staff met vaccination requirements. They had a system to ensure visiting professionals entering the home had been vaccinated.

People were admitted to the service safely.

The registered manager undertook infection control audits which included handwashing and safe use of PPE and actions had been taken where necessary to improve infection control measures. This included a new cleaning regime.

The provider's infection control policy was in line with government guidance.

## 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**

# The Larches - Tiverton

## **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 2 February 2022 and was unannounced.

# 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.
- The provider was facilitating visits for people living in the home in accordance with the current guidance. People told us their relatives were able to visit and they were kept informed by the registered manager of visiting guidance.

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.