

# Living Developments Limited

# Elm Tree House

## Inspection report

32 Crow Lane West  
Newton Le Willows  
Merseyside  
WA12 9YG

Tel: 01925291492

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01 February 2021

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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

Elm Tree House is registered to provide accommodation and personal care to up to 20 people; some of whom are living with dementia. At the time of our inspection, 16 people were living in the home.

We found the following examples of good practice.

We were assured the provider and staff at the home had taken appropriate action to help minimise the spread of infection and help ensure people were safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Staff had received appropriate training and guidance in infection prevention and control (IPC) and they were observed to follow correct procedures in the use of PPE. There were sufficient supplies of PPE around the premises and appropriate areas identified for staff to safely remove and dispose of PPE. The home was kept clean and hygienic with regular cleaning schedules adhered to.

The service made effective use of available COVID-19 testing for both people, staff and visitors. Safe procedures were in place for admitting people into the home. Staff ensured newly admitted people were given additional support to maintain their health and wellbeing.

The service had safe visiting procedures in place to minimise the spread of infection. Due to the layout of the premises, visits could not currently take place inside. The registered manager and provider were in the process of reviewing this to look at ways to facilitate indoor visits. Staff reassured people throughout the pandemic and provided them with the support they needed to maintain regular contact with family and friends through the use of technology.

Staff followed shielding and social distancing rules and encouraged people to maintain social distancing where able to. Staff were allocated specific zones and areas to help reduce levels of anxiety and maintain people's health and wellbeing whilst safely cohorting people who had tested positive for COVID-19.

Due to limited space and entrance to the premises, staff had limited access to separate changing areas prior to the start of their shift. We provided additional guidance in relation to this.

## 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**

# Elm Tree 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 care homes with outbreaks of coronavirus, we are conducting reviews to ensure that the Infection Prevention and Control practice was safe and the service was compliant with IPC measures. This was a targeted inspection looking at the IPC practices the provider has in place.

This inspection took place on 1 February 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.

We provided additional guidance in relation to staff accessing separate changing facilities.