

Mrs Manju Peter

# Little Acre Care Home

## Inspection report

82 Skinburness Road  
Silloth  
Wigton  
Cumbria  
CA7 4QH

Tel: 01697332105

Date of inspection visit:  
17 February 2022  
22 February 2022

Date of publication:  
19 April 2022

## Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Inspected but not rated

Is the service safe?

**Inspected but not rated**

# Summary of findings

## Overall summary

Little Acre is a residential care home providing personal care for up to 14 residents. There were 13 people living there at the time of this inspection.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The provider had a COVID-19 testing programme in place for people, staff and visitors. Staff were tested daily as soon as they arrived at the home.

The provider made sure all visitors were checked and tested for COVID-19 before coming into the home. Relatives spoke positively about the visiting arrangements that were facilitated by the home.

The service had a good supply of infection control resources to support the home throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

The cleaning schedules had increased as a result of the pandemic. We signposted the provider to some minor improvements to the premises to support 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**

# Little Acre Care 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 17 February 2022 and was unannounced. We carried out discussions with relatives on 22 February 2022.

# 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 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 were somewhat assured that the provider was promoting safety through the layout and hygiene practices of the premises. The service needed to make sure there were sufficient pedal-operated clinical waste bins in the home. The provider took immediate steps to address this.

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

### Visiting in care homes

- The provider had a system for facilitating visits to people living in the home in line with current government guidance.
- Relatives told us they were satisfied with the visiting arrangements at the home. Their comments included, "The arrangement regarding COVID are fantastic and they keep us informed", "The COVID rules are pretty strict which we are happy with" and "I am happy with the visiting arrangements. They have been very cautious and successful at keeping COVID out."

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.