

Strong Life Care Limited

Earls Lodge Care Home

Inspection report

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04 November 2020

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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

Earls Lodge Care Home is a 'care home'. People in care homes receive accommodation and nursing or personal care as a single package under one contractual agreement. The home is registered to accommodate 52 people. The designated setting can accommodate up to 13 people in one unit.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- The service had a dedicated unit to be used as a designated setting for people with a positive COVID-19 result. The unit had a separate entrance for staff to use, away from the main home. Staff were designated to the unit and would not move between units to reduce the risk of transmission. The service had supported people with COVID-19 during a previous outbreak and had learned lessons and gained experience in how to care for people safely.
- All rooms had an en-suite toilet and wash basin. Staff understood the requirement to put in place enhanced cleaning schedules for all communal areas and bedrooms in the unit to prevent the transmission of infection.
- Staff had been trained and understood their responsibility in relation to infection prevention and control. Risk assessments on staff, visitors and professionals had been undertaken. Staff had the necessary PPE and the management team undertook spot checks to ensure they were using this correctly and undertook supervision of staff where they identified any shortfalls.
- The provider recognised the need to ensure people were encouraged to remain as independent as possible throughout their stay. This was to ensure people retained the skills they needed to return to their usual place of living as soon as they recovered.
- The management team were on call 24 hours a day to support staff. They understood their responsibilities to monitor the quality and safety of the service to ensure people who used the service and staff were safe during the pandemic.
- We were assured that this service met good infection prevention and control guidelines as a designated care setting.

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

We were assured the service was following safe infection prevention and control procedures.

Inspected but not rated

Earls Lodge 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.

This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection control and prevention measures the provider has in place. As part of CQC's response to the coronavirus pandemic we are conducting a review of infection control and prevention measures in care homes.

The service had been identified for use by the Local Authority as a designated care setting in response to the Winter Plan for people discharged from hospital with a positive Covid-19 status. This inspection was to ensure that the service was compliant with infection control and prevention measures.

This inspection took place on 04 November 2020 and was announced.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

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.