

Scio Healthcare Limited

# The Elms Nursing Home

## Inspection report

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03 February 2021

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## Ratings

Overall rating for this service	Inspected but not rated
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Is the service safe?	<b>Inspected but not rated</b>
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# Summary of findings

## Overall summary

The Elms Nursing Home is a care home registered to provide accommodation and nursing care for up to 48 people, including people living with cognitive impairments and physical needs. People in care homes receive accommodation and nursing or personal care as single package under one contractual agreement. CQC regulates both the premises and the care provided.

The care home was clean, and staff were observed to have plentiful supply of cleaning products and personal protective equipment, which they were re-stocking as they moved around the home. Cleaning staff had a programme of continuously cleaning high touch surfaces, such as light switches, grab rails and door handles. We also saw communal areas were kept uncluttered so cleaning could take place effectively. There were appropriate laundry processes in place.

The provider had implemented a robust visiting process, which had been shared with people's relatives. Visits were by appointment only and the service ensured visits were spaced out, to help ensure social distancing could be maintained. There was a visiting pod available, which relatives entered from the garden and included a full screen to facilitate safe visits. However, at the time of our site visit the home was still closed to visitors, due to a recent outbreak of COVID-19. Visits for people who were at the end of their life were still supported and there was clear instructions and appropriate PPE for visitors, to manage risks. In addition, people were supported to have contact with their relatives using video calls and telephone calls.

Individual risk assessments were completed for each person in relation to them receiving visitors. These gave clear guidance for staff on how visits should be managed to ensure safety for all. In addition, there were detailed and robust risk assessments in place to manage and minimise the risks Covid-19 presented to people who used the service, staff and visitors.

Staff were using PPE correctly and in accordance with current guidance and had received training in relation to Covid-19 which included, infection control and use and donning and doffing of PPE. Staff infection control practices and PPE use was closely monitored by the management team, to ensure correct procedures were being followed.

Staff were required to change into clean uniforms in the home at the start of their shift and back into home clothes at the end of the shift. Staff uniforms were laundered in the home to ensure they were washed at the correct temperature.

The provider routinely tested people and staff for Covid-19. Staff had access to rapid response lateral flow tests (LFT) as well as standard Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) tests.

The registered manager and provider had systems to ensure there was clear oversight in relation to infection prevention and control. There were robust infection control audits in place.

## 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 Elms Nursing 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 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. In addition, we received information of concern about infection control and prevention measures at this service. This was a targeted inspection looking at the IPC practices the provider has in place.

This inspection took place on 3 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.