

Riverside House Propco Limited

Riverside House

Inspection report

Low Stanners Morpeth Northumberland NE61 1TE

Tel: 01670503103

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Overall rating for this service	Inspected but not rated
Is the service safe?	Inspected but not rated

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Riverside House is a home providing accommodation and personal care to older people, including people who may live with dementia. The service can support up to 46 people. At the time of inspection 32 people were using the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The manager had identified, assessed and mitigated all COVID-19 related risks to people, staff and visitors.

Comprehensive policies and procedures were in place to manage any risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. This included the management of people with a COVID-19 positive diagnosis. The policies and procedures were updated regularly following any changes in national guidance.

A programme of regular COVID-19 testing for both people in the home, staff, essential carers and visitors to the home was implemented. All visitors, including professionals were subject to a range of screening procedures, including showing evidence of vaccination and a negative lateral flow test before entry into the home was allowed.

There was an ample supply of PPE for staff and visitors to use. Staff had received additional training during the pandemic about correct PPE usage and infection prevention and control from the provider. We observed staff wearing it correctly during the inspection.

Increased daily cleaning schedules were implemented including regular touchpoint cleaning. Hand sanitiser was available throughout the service.

People living in the home and their relatives were supported to maintain contact.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?	Inspected but not rated
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Further information is in the detailed findings below.



Riverside 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 COVID-19, we are conducting reviews to ensure that the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) practice is safe and that services are compliant with IPC measures. This was a targeted inspection looking at the IPC practices the provider has 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 9 February 2022 and was announced. We gave the service 24 hours' notice of the inspection.

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.
- Management followed government guidance regarding visiting to the home. Arrangements were in place for people to keep in touch with relatives and receive visits from essential care givers, guidance regarding visiting was followed and relaxed as restrictions eased.

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.