

Eothen Homes Limited

Eothen Residential Homes - Gosforth

Inspection report

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Date of inspection visit:
01 February 2022

Date of publication:
09 March 2022

Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Inspected but not rated

Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Eothen Residential Homes - Gosforth is a care home that is registered to provide accommodation and personal care for a maximum of 37 people, some of who may live with a dementia related condition. At the time of the inspection 32 people were living at the home.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Sufficient stocks of personal protective equipment (PPE) were available and this was appropriately stored. Staff had been trained in how to use PPE safely to reduce the risk of cross contamination and spread of infection.

Systems were in place to check staff competencies in relation to the safe use of PPE. This included managers carrying out observations of staff practice and of testing staff on their knowledge.

Audits were carried out to review infection control within the home. This enabled action to be taken if any issues were identified.

Enhanced cleaning schedules had been introduced since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. This ensured regularly touched surfaces were cleaned throughout the day.

Infection control policies and procedures were in place. Information was available for staff to reference should they need any information.

Systems were in place to support people to maintain contact with people important to them. Where face to face visits were unable to take place, technology was available to support people to remain in contact with their family and friends. This helped to minimise the impact of the pandemic on people's wellbeing.

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

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

Eothen Residential Homes - Gosforth

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 1 February 2022 and was unannounced.

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 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 were somewhat assured that the provider was accessing testing for people using the service and staff. Staff and relatives told us they were tested for COVID-19 in line with government guidance. However, testing records did not evidence this always took place at the required frequency.

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

Visiting in care homes

- Systems were in place for people to receive visits from their relatives and friends. An appointment system was in place for indoor or garden visits in visiting suites. While we found no impact to people, this did not fully align with government guidance which specifies individual risk assessments must be completed for all people in relation to visiting.

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.