

Somerset Care Limited

Inver House

Inspection report

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Date of inspection visit:
15 February 2022

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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

Inver House is a 'care home'. People in care homes receive accommodation and nursing or personal care as a single package under one contractual agreement. Inver House is registered to provide care and support for up to 50 older people, some of who were living with dementia. At the time of the inspection, there were 39 people living at the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Inver House was clean, hygienic and well maintained. There was a robust cleaning schedule in place which included regular cleaning of frequently touched points, such as, door handles, tables, light switches and call bells. Windows were opened periodically to enable ventilation.

The service had a good supply of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) available to meet current and future demand. Staff had received training in the correct use and disposal of PPE. We observed PPE being used appropriately.

People were fully supported to maintaining contact with families and loved ones and visits to the service were conducted in line with the latest government guidance.

Correct procedures were in place and followed for COVID-19 testing. When people needed to isolate the service was able to accommodate this and minimise the impact on people's well-being. Appropriate measures were in place to facilitate safe admissions to the home.

There was an up to date infection prevention and control (IPC) policy. Staff were regularly updated with any changes to government guidance and procedures to follow so they could keep themselves, people and visitors safe.

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.

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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 15 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.

Visiting in care homes

- People were supported to see their relatives and loved ones in accordance with the current government guidance.

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.