

Four Seasons (Evedale) Limited

# The Cedars and Larches

## Inspection report

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11 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

The Cedars and Larches is a residential care home providing personal and nursing care to 39 people aged 65 and over at the time of the inspection. The service can support up to 61 people in two adapted buildings. Each building is over two floors and provides communal spaces for dining and relaxing. There are supported bathing facilities and personalised bedrooms.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The home has had an outbreak of COVID-19. The provider had obtained the required support from health care professionals to protect people and staff to reduce the risk of spreading the infection.

The provider followed the required guidance for testing of staff and people living in the service for COVID-19 symptoms. We saw additional testing had been implemented as part of the outbreak measures.

The two buildings had dedicated domestic staff who ensure areas of the home were cleaned and disinfected with approved products to reduce the potential of transfer of infection. There were cleaning schedules in place, and these were monitored. Some areas required intensive cleans and we saw these were completed.

Staff had received training in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and managing the infection. This training had been revisited following the outbreak to ensure these measures were followed. We saw PPE was accessible throughout the buildings and staff used it in accordance with the training and guidance.

Staffing numbers had been reviewed to support the needs of people using the service and recruitment was ongoing to maintain consistent staffing levels.

The provider had a COVID 19 policy which was updated to reflect the most recent guidance, and this was shared with staff.

## 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 Cedars and Larches

## **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.

We received information of concern about infection prevention and control measures, visiting arrangements and staffing at this service. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection prevention and control measures 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 11 February 2022 and was announced.

# 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.
  - The provider was following the government guidance in relation to visitors. Technology was also used to enable contact through facetime or using the telephone to contact family and friend. The provider was reviewing the role of the essential care giver (ECG), to enable a more flexible approach to visiting for some relatives. The ECG will become part of the providers testing programme and are enabled to have access during an outbreak.
- 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.