

Hanumaan Limited

# Blyth Country House Care Home

## Inspection report

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08 February 2022

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## Ratings

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

# Summary of findings

## Overall summary

Blyth Country House Care Home is a nursing home providing care to 19 people at the time of the inspection. The service can support up to 30 people.

We found the following examples of good practice

The service had implemented effective measures to prevent relatives, professionals and others visiting from spreading infection on entering the service. Visitors were asked to complete Lateral Flow Device test and were provided with appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

During the outbreak of COVID-19 regular visits were postponed, however visits were encouraged for relatives of people who were coming towards the end of their life. Alternative forms of maintaining social contact were used during the outbreak for friends and relatives to stay in touch with their family members, which included video calls, window visits and phone calls.

Staff were provided with ample supply of PPE and had received appropriate training on donning and doffing their PPE. We saw staff wearing PPE in line with the latest guidance.

People and staff were taking part in in regular testing scheme.

Cleaning staff had cleaning schedules, which included frequency of cleaning of frequently touched areas such as light switches, door handles and handrails. The registered manager completed regular infection prevention and control (IPC) audits and any shortfalls were actioned without delay.

The provider had up to date IPC policies and procedures which reflected current government advice and guidance.

## 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**

# Blyth Country House Care 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 the COVID-19 pandemic we are looking at how services manage infection control and visiting arrangements. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection prevention and control measures the provider had 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 8 February 2022 and was announced. We gave the service one-day 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

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.
- The provider had protocols in place to ensure people could be visited by their family, friends and other people involved in their life. The protocols in place were in accordance with the government guidance at the time of our inspection.