

Salutem LD BidCo IV Limited

Mulberry Court

Inspection report

Mulberry Court
Common Mead Lane
Gillingham
Dorset
SP8 4RE

Date of inspection visit:
03 February 2021

Date of publication:
15 February 2021

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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

Mulberry Court provides care in two bungalows for up to 12 people with learning disabilities, autism and communication difficulties. During our inspection there were 11 people living at the service. The buildings had been purpose built to provide housing for people who needed support to remain as independent as possible.

We found the following examples of good practice:

The home had a robust procedure for visitors to help reduce the risk of infection. This included a health questionnaire, temperature check and supply of personal protective equipment (PPE). In addition, all visitors, apart from emergency services personnel, were subject to a rapid Covid-19 test, which indicated a positive or negative test result within 30 minutes.

The home was visibly clean throughout. The cleaning schedule included general cleaning and high touch point areas such as light switches, handrails and door handles. Specialist cleaning products were used to minimise the risk of infection. The manager completed spot checks to monitor standards.

The home regularly tested people and staff in line with the government's testing programme. People and staff were currently Covid-19 free.

People had individual Covid-19 risk assessments. The manager had purchased buffs (a tube of cloth) as some people struggled with face masks. They had also produced an easy read booklet to help reassure people who might feel anxious seeing staff in PPE. Reasonable adjustments had also been considered for staff who were potentially more at risk of the virus due to health conditions, age and/or their ethnicity. This included changes to their shifts.

Staff had a plentiful supply of PPE and were observed wearing this appropriately during the inspection. The provider had ensured all staff had received training in donning and doffing of PPE and lateral flow testing. Monthly infection prevention and control audits were carried out by the manager and action taken where necessary.

The home understood the importance of helping people and staff to maintain their mental wellbeing. Activities to help people remain healthy and stimulated included crafting, films, baking and walks. A telephone and tablet were available to ensure people could stay in contact with family and friends when visits were not possible. Staff were provided with resources to help maintain their mental wellbeing and regular contact was made with them if they needed to self-isolate. The manager told us they felt very supported by the provider.

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

Mulberry Court

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 coronavirus pandemic we are looking at the preparedness of care homes in relation to infection prevention and control. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection control and prevention measures the provider has in place.

This inspection took place on 3 February 2021 and was announced.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

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.