



Unannounced Care Inspection Report 8 August 2018



Brooklands Healthcare Antrim

Type of Service: Residential Care Home
Address: Residential Unit, 50 Bush Road, Antrim, BT41 2QB
Tel No: 028 9440 6444
Inspector: John McAuley

www.rqia.org.uk

Assurance, Challenge and Improvement in Health and Social Care

It should be noted that this inspection report should not be regarded as a comprehensive review of all strengths and areas for improvement that exist in the service. The findings reported on are those which came to the attention of RQIA during the course of this inspection. The findings contained within this report do not exempt the service from their responsibility for maintaining compliance with legislation, standards and best practice.

1.0 What we look for



2.0 Profile of service

This is a residential care home with 44 beds that provides care for residents living with dementia. The home is in the same shared complex with a registered nursing home.

3.0 Service details

Organisation/Registered Provider: Brooklands Healthcare Limited Responsible Individual(s): Therese Conway	Registered Manager: Claire Coen
Person in charge at the time of inspection: Sharon McCreary, Manager	Date manager registered: Awaiting registration
Categories of care: Residential Care (RC) DE – Dementia	Number of registered places: 44

4.0 Inspection summary

An unannounced care inspection took place on 8 August 2018 from 10.00 to 14.20 hours.

This inspection was underpinned by The Residential Care Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 and the DHSSPS Residential Care Homes Minimum Standards, August 2011.

The inspection sought to determine if the home was delivering safe, effective and compassionate care and if the service was well led.

Evidence of good practice was found in relation to adult safeguarding, care records, audits and reviews, management of complaints and incidents and infection prevention and control. Good practice was also found in relation to the home's environment, governance arrangements and the maintenance of good working relationships.

No areas requiring improvement were identified during this inspection.

Feedback from residents in accordance with their capabilities was all positive in regard to their life in the home. Also feedback from two visiting residents' representatives was complimentary in regard to the provision of care and the kindness and support received from staff.

The findings of this report will provide the home with the necessary information to assist them to fulfil their responsibilities, enhance practice and resident experience.

4.1 Inspection outcome

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	0	0

This inspection resulted in no areas for improvement being identified. Findings of the inspection were discussed with Sharon McCreary, Manager and Therese Conway, Responsible Individual, as part of the inspection process and can be found in the main body of the report.

4.2 Action/enforcement taken following the most recent care inspection

No further actions were required to be taken following the most recent inspection on 22 March 2018.

5.0 How we inspect

Prior to the inspection a range of information relevant to the service was reviewed. This included the following records: the previous inspection report, notifiable events, and written and verbal communication received since the previous care inspection.

During the inspection the inspector met with the 25 residents, six staff of various grades, two residents' representatives, the manager and the responsible individual.

A total of 10 questionnaires were provided for distribution to residents' representatives to enable them to share their views with RQIA. A poster was provided for staff detailing how they could complete an electronic questionnaire. Four questionnaires were returned by residents' representatives.

During the inspection a sample of records was examined which included:

- Staff duty rota
- Induction programme for new staff
- Staff supervision and annual appraisal schedules
- Staff competency and capability assessments
- Staff training schedule and training records
- Two staff files
- Four residents' care files
- Minutes of staff meetings
- Complaints and compliments records
- Audits of risk assessments, care plans, care reviews; accidents and incidents (including falls, outbreaks), complaints, environment, catering, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC), NISCC registration
- Infection control records
- Accident, incident, notifiable event records
- Reports of visits by the registered provider
- Legionella risk assessment
- Fire safety risk assessment
- Fire drill records
- Maintenance of fire-fighting equipment, alarm system, emergency lighting, fire doors, etc.
- Individual written agreements
- Programme of activities
- Policies and procedures

The findings of the inspection were provided to the person in charge at the conclusion of the inspection.

6.0 The inspection

6.1 Review of areas for improvement from the most recent inspection dated 22 March 2018

The most recent inspection of the home was an unannounced care inspection.

6.2 Review of areas for improvement from the last care inspection dated 22 March 2018

There were no areas for improvements made as a result of the last care inspection.

6.3 Inspection findings

6.4 Is care safe?

Avoiding and preventing harm to patients and clients from the care, treatment and support that is intended to help them.

The manager advised that the staffing levels for the home were subject to regular review to ensure the assessed needs of the residents were met. Temporary/agency staff were not used in the home.

No concerns were raised regarding staffing levels during discussion with residents, two residents' representatives and staff.

An inspection of the duty rota confirmed that it accurately reflected the staff working within the home.

Discussion with the manager and staff evidenced that an induction programme was in place for all staff, relevant to their specific roles and responsibilities. A sample of two records of induction were inspected and found to be maintained appropriately.

Discussion with staff confirmed that mandatory training, supervision and annual appraisal of staff was regularly provided. The schedule of this was inspected.

Discussion with the manager and staff confirmed that competency and capability assessments were undertaken for any person who is given the responsibility of being in charge of the home for any period in the absence of the manager. A staff competency and capability assessment was inspected and found to be satisfactory.

The home's recruitment and selection policy and procedure was in compliance with current legislation and best practice. Discussion with the manager confirmed that staff were recruited in line with Regulation 21 (1) (b), Schedule 2 of The Residential Care Homes Regulations

(Northern Ireland) 2005. A sample of two staff members' recruitment files were inspected and these were found to be appropriately maintained.

Inspection of staff recruitment files confirmed that AccessNI enhanced disclosures were undertaken for all staff prior to the commencement of employment.

A register of staff working in the home was available and contained all information as outlined within the legislation.

Arrangements were in place to monitor the registration status of staff with their professional body (where applicable). Care staff spoken with advised that they were registered with the Northern Ireland Social Care Council (NISCC).

The adult safeguarding policy in place was consistent with the current regional policy and procedures. This included the name of the safeguarding champion, definitions of abuse, types of abuse and indicators, onward referral arrangements, contact information and documentation to be completed. The role and function of the adult safeguarding champion (ASC) and the necessity to complete the annual ASC position report from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 was discussed.

Staff were knowledgeable and had a good understanding of adult safeguarding principles and had an awareness of child protection issues. They were also aware of their obligations in relation to raising concerns about poor practice and whistleblowing. An inspection of staff training records confirmed that mandatory adult safeguarding training was provided for all staff.

Discussion with the manager, inspection of accident and incidents notifications, care records and complaints records confirmed that all suspected, alleged or actual incidents of abuse were fully and promptly referred to the relevant persons and agencies for investigation in accordance with procedures and legislation; written records were retained. Appropriate protection plans, as agreed with the adult safeguarding team, were in place to address any identified safeguarding concerns, where issues were identified.

The manager stated there were risk management procedures in place relating to the safety of individual residents and the home did not accommodate any individuals whose assessed needs could not be met. An inspection of care records identified that residents' care needs and risk assessments were obtained from the trust prior to admission.

The home's policy and procedure on restrictive practice/behaviours which challenge was in keeping with DHSSPS Guidance on Restraint and Seclusion in Health and Personal Social Services (2005) and the Human Rights Act (1998). It also reflected current best practice guidance including Deprivation of Liberties Safeguards (DoLS).

The manager advised there were restrictive practices within the home, notably the use of key pad entry systems and pressure alarm mats. In the care records inspected the restrictions were appropriately assessed, documented, minimised and reviewed with the involvement of the multi-professional team, as required. Restrictive practices were described in the Statement of Purpose and Residents' Guide.

There was an infection prevention and control (IPC) policy and procedure in place which was in line with regional guidelines. Staff training records evidenced that all staff had received training

in IPC in line with their roles and responsibilities. Discussion with staff established that they were knowledgeable and had understanding of IPC policies and procedures.

Inspection of the premises confirmed that there were wash hand basins, adequate supplies of liquid soap, alcohol hand gels and disposable towels wherever care was delivered. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), e.g. disposable gloves and aprons, was available throughout the home. Observation of staff practice identified that staff adhered to IPC procedures.

Good standards of hand hygiene were observed to be promoted within the home among residents, staff and visitors. Notices promoting good hand hygiene were displayed throughout the home in both written and pictorial formats.

IPC compliance audits were undertaken and action plans developed to address any deficits noted. These audits included hand hygiene, the environment and staff uniforms/attire.

The manager reported that there had been no outbreaks of infection within the last year. Any outbreak would be managed in accordance with home's policy and procedures, reported to the Public Health Agency, the trust and RQIA with appropriate records retained.

The manager reported that they were aware of the "Falls Prevention Toolkit" and were using this guidance to improve post falls management within the home. Audits of accidents/falls were undertaken on a monthly basis and analysed for themes and trends; an action plan was developed to minimise the risk where possible. Referral was made to the trust falls team in line with best practice guidance.

The home was clean and tidy with a good standard of decor and furnishings being maintained. Of the sample of residents' bedrooms viewed these were found to be individualised with photographs, memorabilia and personal items.

The catering and laundry facilities were found to be organised and well maintained. One staff member made comment to the effect;

- "All is fine and working well in the kitchen"

Inspection of the internal and external environment identified that the home and ground were kept tidy, safe, suitable for and accessible to residents, staff and visitors. There were no obvious hazards to the health and safety of residents, visitors or staff.

No malodours were detected in the home.

The home had an up to date Legionella risk assessment in place dated 11 May 2018 and it was reported by the manager that all recommendations were being addressed.

It was established that one resident smoked. An inspection of this resident's care records identified that a risk assessment and corresponding care plan was in place pertaining to this.

The manager advised that equipment and medical devices in use in the home were well maintained and regularly serviced. A system was in place to regularly check the Northern Ireland Adverse Incidence Centre (NIAIC) alerts and action as necessary.

The manager confirmed that the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) inspections were up to date with the last being on 17 April 2018.

The home had an up to date fire risk assessment in place dated 19 January 2108. The recommendations from this assessment were reported by the manager to be being addressed.

Inspection of staff training records confirmed that staff completed fire safety training twice annually. Fire drills were completed on a regular basis and records inspected confirmed these were up to date. The records also included the staff who participated and any learning outcomes. Fire safety records identified that fire-fighting equipment, fire alarm systems, emergency lighting and means of escape were checked on a regular and up to date basis. Individual residents had a completed Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan (PEEP) in place.

Four completed questionnaires were returned to RQIA from residents' representatives and staff. Respondents described their level of satisfaction with this aspect of care as very satisfied and satisfied.

Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to adult safeguarding, infection prevention and control and the home's environment.

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified in respect of this domain during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	0	0

6.5 Is care effective?

The right care, at the right time in the right place with the best outcome

Discussions with the team leader and senior care assistant established that staff in the home responded appropriately to and met the assessed needs of the residents.

There was a records management policy in place which includes the arrangements for the creation, storage, maintenance and disposal of records. Records were stored safely and securely in line with data protection/General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

An inspection of a sample of four residents' care records was undertaken. This confirmed that care records were maintained in line with the legislation and standards. They included an up to date assessment of needs, life history, risk assessments, care plans and daily/regular statement of health and well-being of the resident. Care needs assessment and risk assessments such as manual handling, nutrition and falls were reviewed and updated on a regular basis or as changes occurred.

Care records also reflected the multi-professional input into the residents' health and social care needs and were found to be updated regularly to reflect the changing needs of the individual residents.

Residents and/or their representatives were encouraged and enabled to be involved in the assessment, care planning and review process, where appropriate. Care records inspected were observed to be signed by the resident's representative.

An individual agreement setting out the terms of residency was in place and appropriately signed.

Discussion with staff confirmed that a person centred approach underpinned practice. Staff were able to describe in detail how the needs, choices and preferences of individual residents were met within the home.

A varied and nutritious diet was provided which met the individual and recorded dietary needs and preferences of the residents. Observation of the lunchtime menu was discreetly undertaken. The meal was appetising and nicely presented with provision of choice. Staff attended to resident's needs in an organised unhurried manner. The dining room and tables were nicely presented and facilitated which in total gave a nice ambience to the meal time experience. Feedback from residents after they meal was positive.

Systems were in place to regularly record residents' weights and any significant changes in weight were responded to appropriately. There were arrangements in place to refer residents to dietitians and speech and language therapists (SALT) as required. Guidance and recommendations provided by dieticians and SALT were reflected within the individual resident's care plans and associated risk assessments.

Discussion with the manager and staff confirmed that wound care was managed by community nursing services. Staff advised that they were able to recognise and respond to pressure area damage. Referrals were made to the multi-professional team to areas any concerns identified in a timely manner. At the time of this inspection one resident was reported to be receiving this area of care from district nursing services.

The manager advised that there were arrangements in place to monitor, audit and review the effectiveness and quality of care delivered to residents at appropriate intervals. Audits of risk assessments, care plans, care review, accidents and incidents (including falls, outbreaks), complaints, environment, catering were available for inspection and evidenced that any actions identified for improvement were incorporated into practice. Further evidence of audit was contained within the reports of the visits by the registered provider.

The manager advised that systems were in place to ensure effective communication with residents, their representatives and other key stakeholders. These included pre-admission information, multi-professional team reviews, residents' meetings, staff meetings and staff shift handovers.

Observation of practice evidenced that staff were able to communicate effectively with residents.

There were also systems in place to ensure openness and transparency of communication, for example, the visits by registered provider reports and latest RQIA inspection reports were on

display or available on request for residents, their representatives any other interested parties to read.

An inspection of a sample of care records, along with accident and incident reports, confirmed that referral to other healthcare professionals was timely and responsive to the needs of the residents.

Four completed questionnaires were returned to RQIA from residents’ representatives and staff. Respondents described their level of satisfaction with this aspect of care as very satisfied and satisfied.

Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to care records, audits and reviews, communication between residents, staff and other interested parties.

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified in respect of this domain during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	0	0

6.6 Is care compassionate?

Patients and clients are treated with dignity and respect and should be fully involved in decisions affecting their treatment, care and support.

A range of policies and procedures was in place which supported the delivery of compassionate care.

The manager advised that staff in the home promoted a culture and ethos that supported the values of dignity and respect, independence, rights, equality and diversity, choice and consent of residents.

Residents advised that consent was sought in relation to care and treatment.

Discussion with residents and observation of care practice and social interactions demonstrated that residents were treated with dignity and respect. Staff interactions with residents was observed to be polite, friendly, warm and supportive. There was found to be a nice rapport between residents and staff. Staff described their awareness of promoting residents’ rights, independence, dignity and confidentiality were protected. For example this was observed with staff knocking bedroom door and seeking permission to enter and sensitivity on how verbal information was taken.

Discussion with residents and staff confirmed that residents’ spiritual and cultural needs, including preferences for end of life care, were met within the home.

Action was taken to manage any pain and discomfort in a timely and appropriate manner. This was further evidenced by the inspection of care records, for example, care plans were in place for the identification and management of pain, falls, infection, nutrition, where appropriate.

Residents were provided with information, in a format that they could understand, which enabled them to make informed decisions regarding their life, care and treatment. Care plans, menus and the activity programme, for example, were written in a pictorial format.

Discussion with residents and observation of practice confirmed that residents' needs were recognised and responded to in a prompt and courteous manner by staff. Residents also confirmed that they felt they were listened to, valued and communicated with in an appropriate manner and their views and opinions were taken into account in all matters affecting them.

Discussion with residents and staff confirmed that residents were enabled and supported to engage and participate in meaningful activities. Arrangements were in place for residents to maintain links with their friends, families and wider community.

The inspector met 25 residents at the time of this inspection. Residents spoke in complimentary terms about the provision of care, the kindness and support received from staff, the provision of meals, activities and events and the general atmosphere in the home. Some of the comments made included statements such as;

- "Everything is fine"
- "I am very happy. No problems"

The inspector also met with two residents' visiting relatives/representatives. Both spoke with praise for the provision of care and the kindness and support received from staff. One of the comments made included a statement such as;

- "I am very pleased with the care provided here. The staff are all very kind and attentive and work very hard"

Four completed questionnaires were returned to RQIA from residents' representatives and staff. Respondents described their level of satisfaction with this aspect of care as very satisfied and satisfied.

Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to feedback from residents and staff and general observations of care practices.

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified in respect of this domain during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	0	0

6.7 Is the service well led?

Effective leadership, management and governance which creates a culture focused on the needs and experience of service users in order to deliver safe, effective and compassionate care

The manager outlined the management arrangements and governance systems in place within the home and stated that the needs of residents were met in accordance with the home's Statement of Purpose and the categories of care for which the home was registered with RQIA.

A range of policies and procedures was in place to guide and inform staff. Policies were centrally indexed and retained in a manner which was easily accessible by staff.

The home's complaints policy and procedure was in accordance with the legislation and Department of Health (DoH) guidance on complaints handling. Residents and/or their representatives were made aware of how to make a complaint by way of the Resident's Guide and information on display in the home. Discussion with the manager confirmed that she was knowledgeable about how to respond to complaints. RQIA's complaint poster was available and displayed in the home.

Inspection of the complaints records confirmed that arrangements were in place to effectively manage complaints from residents, their representatives or any other interested party. Records of complaints included details of any investigation undertaken, all communication with complainants, the outcome of the complaint and the complainant's level of satisfaction. Arrangements were in place to share information about complaints and compliments with staff. An audit of complaints was used to identify trends, drive quality improvement and to enhance service provision.

The home retains compliments received, e.g. thank you letters and cards and there are systems in place to share these with staff.

The home's accident, incident and notifiable events policy and procedure included reporting arrangements to RQIA. An inspection of these events confirmed that these were effectively documented and reported to RQIA and other relevant organisations in accordance with the legislation and procedures. A regular audit of accidents and incidents was undertaken and was inspected as part of the inspection process. The registered manager advised that learning from accidents and incidents was disseminated to all relevant parties and action plans developed to improve practice.

There was a system to ensure safety bulletins, serious adverse incident alerts and staffing alerts were appropriately reviewed and actioned.

There was evidence of managerial staff being provided with additional training in governance and leadership. The manager advised that there was a system to share learning from a range of sources including complaints, incidents, training; feedback was integrated into practice and contributed to continuous quality improvement.

Discussion with the manager confirmed that information in regard to current best practice guidelines was made available to staff. Staff were provided with mandatory training and

additional training opportunities particularly with dementia, although staff did say that they would like this to be continued to be developed.

A visit by the registered provider was undertaken as required under Regulation 29 of The Residential Care Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005; a report was produced and made available for residents, their representatives, staff, RQIA and any other interested parties to read. An action plan was developed to address any issues identified which include timescales and person responsible for completing the action.

There was a clear organisational structure and all staff were aware of their roles, responsibility and accountability. This was outlined in the home's Statement of Purpose and Residents Guide. Discussion with the manager identified that she had understanding of her role and responsibilities under the legislation, as did the responsible individual.

The manager stated that the registered provider was kept informed regarding the day to day running of the home including telephone calls, emails and visits to the home. The registered provider was in the home at the time of this inspection and was available throughout it and for feedback at the conclusion.

Inspection of the premises confirmed that the RQIA certificate of registration and employer's liability insurance certificate were displayed.

The home had a whistleblowing policy and procedure in place and discussion with staff confirmed that they were knowledgeable regarding this. The manager advised that staff could also access line management to raise concerns and that staff would be offered support.

Discussion with staff confirmed that there were good working relationships within the home and that management were responsive to suggestions and/or concerns raised. There were open and transparent methods of working and effective working relationships with internal and external stakeholders.

Four completed questionnaires were returned to RQIA from residents' representatives and staff. Respondents described their level of satisfaction with this aspect of care as very satisfied and satisfied.

Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to governance arrangements, management of complaints and incidents and maintaining good working relationships.

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified in respect of this domain during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	0	0

7.0 Quality improvement plan

There were no areas for improvement identified during this inspection, and a QIP is not required or included, as part of this inspection report.



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