

Inspection Report

15 June 2023



Island Resource Centre

Type of service: Day Care Setting
Address: Cuba Walk, Belfast, BT4 1EQ
Telephone number: 028 9504 3140

www.rqia.org.uk

Assurance, Challenge and Improvement in Health and Social Care

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1.0 Service information

Organisation/Registered Provider: Belfast Health and Social Care Trust	Registered Manager: Mr Patrick Goan
Responsible Individual: Dr Catherine Jack	Date registered: 20 April 2009
Person in charge at the time of inspection: Mr Patrick Goan	
Brief description of the accommodation/how the service operates: The Island Resource Centre is a day care setting that is registered to provide care and day time activities for up to 60 adult service users with a physical disability and/or sensory impairment. The day care setting is open Monday to Friday and is managed by BHSCT.	

2.0 Inspection summary

An unannounced inspection was undertaken on 15 June 2023 between 09.00 a.m. and 11.45 a.m. The inspection was conducted by a care inspector.

The inspection examined the agency's governance and management arrangements, reviewing areas such as staff recruitment, professional registrations, staff induction and training and adult safeguarding. The reporting and recording of accidents and incidents, complaints, whistleblowing, Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS), Service user involvement, Restrictive practices, Dysphagia management and Covid-19 guidance was also reviewed.

It was positive to note that service users benefited from a well led service. There was a clear leadership and management structure in place which helped to ensure staff were knowledgeable about their role and responsibilities. The service was well organised and had a range of systems in place to support good communication.

Good practice was identified in relation to service user involvement. Staff we spoke with demonstrated strong caring values and a desire to provide service users with personalised care. Staff were familiar with the choices and preferences of individual service users and expressed a commitment to providing care in keeping with service users' care and support plans.

We noted some of the compliments received by the setting from various sources:

- "They go above their duties at all times."
- "Staff are willing to help me when I need it."
- "The centre and staff are a great support to service users and carers."

3.0 How we inspect.

RQIA's inspections form part of our ongoing assessment of the quality of services. Our reports reflect how they were performing at the time of our inspection, highlighting both good practice and any areas for improvement. It is the responsibility of the service provider to ensure compliance with legislation, standards and best practice, and to address any deficits identified during our inspections.

In preparation for this inspection, a range of information about the service was reviewed. This included any previous areas for improvement identified, registration information, and any other written or verbal information received from service users, relatives, staff or the commissioning trust.

As a public-sector body RQIA has a duty to respect, protect and fulfil the rights that people have under the Human Rights Act 1998 when carrying out our functions. In our inspections of day care services, we are committed to ensuring that the rights of people who receive services are protected. This means we will be seeking assurances from providers that they take all reasonable steps to promote people's rights. Users of day care settings have the right to expect their dignity and privacy to be respected and to have their independence and autonomy promoted.

Information was provided to service users, relatives, staff and other stakeholders on how they could provide feedback on the quality of services; with questionnaires and an electronic staff survey.

4.0 What did people tell us about the service?

During the inspection we spoke with a number of service users and staff members.

The information provided indicated that there were no concerns in relation to the day care setting.

Comments received included:

Service users' comments:

- "Good staff."
- "No complaints."
- "I like the activities."
- "The staff are a great help with everything."
- "I feel safe and secure here."
- "Staff are excellent."
- "Staff are a good support."

Staff comments:

- "Open door policy here with manager."
- "I'm aware of my responsibility to NISCC as a care worker."
- "A very person centred service."
- "I can see clearly the benefit of centre attendance for service users."

- “No issues or complaints.”
- “The staff communicate well with each other.”
- “My induction is ongoing and comprehensive.”

During the inspection we provided a number of questionnaires for service users to complete and share their views in regard to service quality and their lived experiences:

No Service user questionnaires were returned prior to the issue of this report.

No staff questionnaires were returned prior to the issue of this report.

5.0 The inspection

5.1 What has this service done to meet any areas for improvement identified at or since last inspection?

The last care inspection of the day care setting was undertaken on 14 January 2022. by a care inspector. No areas for improvement were identified.

5.2 Inspection findings

5.2.1 Are there systems in place for identifying and addressing risks?

The day care setting’s provision for the welfare, care and protection of service users was reviewed. The organisation’s policy and procedures reflected information contained within the Department of Health’s (DoH’s) regional policy ‘Adult Safeguarding Prevention and Protection in Partnership’ July 2015 and clearly outlined the procedure for staff if they needed to report any concerns. The organisation had an identified Adult Safeguarding Champion (ASC).

Staff were required to complete adult safeguarding training during their induction and every two years thereafter. Staff who spoke with us had a clear understanding of their responsibility in identifying and reporting any actual or suspected incidences of abuse and the process for reporting concerns. Staff could also describe their role in relation to reporting poor practice and their understanding of the day care setting’s policy and procedure with regard to whistleblowing.

The manager retained records of any referrals made to the Health and Social Care (HSC) Trust in relation to adult safeguarding. The manager had ensured that service users were provided with information about keeping themselves safe and the details of the process for reporting any concerns.

Staff were provided with training appropriate to the requirements of their roles. Where service users required the use of specialised equipment to assist them with moving and handling, this was included within the day care setting’s mandatory training programme. A review of records confirmed that where the day care setting is unable to provide training in the use of specialised equipment, if required training will be requested from the HSC Trust.

It was positive to note that a number of care reviews were undertaken in keeping with the day care setting's policies and procedures. The outcomes for people using the service reflected the principles and values of promoting choice and control, independence and community inclusion.

We noted some comments from recent reviews:

- "I get on well with everyone."
- "The staff are kind and approachable."
- "I'm treated very well by staff at the centre."
- "The centre helps me get out of the house and meet other people."
- "I love the centre the staff are very good."
- "I enjoy the company and the fun."

It was positive to note that service users were supported to exercise choice and control in regard to decision making and staff supported them in the least restrictive way possible and in their best interests; the policies and systems in the setting supported this practice. Service users had the support of a team of staff who were suitably skilled and experienced to meet their assessed needs.

Staff had completed Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards DoLS training appropriate to their job roles. The manager reported that one current service user was subject to DoLS arrangements. The documentation in place was satisfactory and was included within the care plan.

Records examined identified that a number of safety checks and audits had been undertaken including fire alarm tests. It was noted that the last full fire evacuation drill was undertaken on the 1 October 2022, all staff included. Fire risk assessments for the centre were completed on the 16 March 2022. Staff fire training has been completed on the 25 April 2023. During the inspection fire exits were observed to be clear of clutter and obstructions.

5.2.2 What are the arrangements for promoting service user involvement?

From reviewing service users' care records and in discussion with staff, it was good to note that service users and families had an input into devising individual activities. The service users' care plans contained details about their likes and dislikes and the level of support they may require.

Care records were written in a respectful way, supporting people to express their views and be involved in making decisions about their care, respecting and promoting people's privacy, dignity and independence. The quality of service provision had also been regularly reviewed through a range of internal and external audits.

It was also positive to note that the day care setting held service user meetings which supported the service users to discuss what they wanted to achieve from attending the setting and any activities they would like to become involved in.

Care and support plans were kept under regular review and service users and /or their relatives participated, where appropriate, in the review of the care provided on an annual basis, or when changes occurred.

The setting had completed a comprehensive annual report that was satisfactory. We noted some of the comments received for service users:

- "Meals are good for the price and I enjoy them."
- "The bus comes on time and I am comfortable in my wheelchair during the journey."
- "I enjoy my meals at the Island. They are varied and suitable for my swallowing issues".
- "My care plan is good and it has helped me."
- "I recently got another day and I am really happy as it gets me out of the house".
- "Sometimes can't get to my usual group activity if staff are short."
- "Staff are kind and reliable and easy to approach."
- "I enjoy the access to the internet when in the computer room and I also enjoy spending time with the other people who come here".
- "The staff are very pleasant and helpful even when they are very busy".
- "The centre has been a life saver for me."
- "Driver and care assistant take good care of my safety and comfort."
- "I enjoy my activities but would like more outings from the centre on the bus"

5.2.3 Is there a system in place for identifying service users Dysphagia needs in partnership with the Speech and Language Therapist (SALT)?

A number of service users were assessed by SALT and the documentation in place was satisfactory. A review of training records confirmed that staff had completed training in Dysphagia and in relation to how to respond to choking incidents. Swallowing awareness training was also completed by staff during First-Aid training.

5.2.4 What systems are in place for staff recruitment and are they robust?

A review of the day care setting's staff recruitment records confirmed that all pre-employment checks, including criminal record checks (Access NI), were completed and verified before staff members commenced employment and had direct engagement with service users. Checks were made to ensure that staff were appropriately registered relevant professional regulatory bodies such as NISCC or The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC).

There was a robust system in place for staff professional registrations to be monitored by the manager. Staff spoken with confirmed that they were aware of their responsibilities to keep their professional registrations up to date.

The setting uses the services of another registered care agency the documentation in place was satisfactory and did include a comprehensive induction record.

5.2.5 What are the arrangements for staff induction and are they in accordance with NISCC Induction Standards for social care staff?

There was evidence that all newly appointed staff had completed a structured orientation and induction, having regard to NISCC's Induction Standards for new workers in social care, to ensure they were competent to carry out the duties of their job in line with the agency's policies and procedures.

There was a robust, structured, induction programme which also included shadowing of a more experienced staff member. Written records were retained by the agency of the person's capability and competency in relation to their job role.

5.2.6 What are the arrangements to ensure robust managerial oversight and governance?

There were monthly quality monitoring arrangements in place in compliance with Regulation 28 of The Day Care Setting Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007. A review of the reports of the day care setting's quality monitoring established that there was engagement with service users, HSC and staff. The reports included details of a review of service users' care records; accident/incidents; safeguarding matters; staff recruitment, training and staffing arrangements.

Comments noted within monthly monitoring reports included:

Service users:

- "I enjoy attending the centre."
- "Staff are very supportive."
- "Staff are brilliant."

Staff:

- "Good teamwork."
- "I'm well supported by the manager."
- "Staff team work well together."

Relatives:

- "My relative's needs are met here."
- "Good staff communication."
- "I'm happy with the care provided."

HSC Staff:

- "The service users enjoy the centre."
- "There are good lines of open communication."
- "A good holistic quality of care."

No incidents had occurred that required investigation under the Serious Adverse Incidents (SAIs) or Significant Event Audits (SEAs) procedures.

There was a system in place to ensure that complaints were managed in accordance with the agency's policy and procedures. No complaints had been received since the last inspection.

The day care setting's registration certificate was up to date and displayed appropriately.

6.0 Quality Improvement Plan/Areas for Improvement.

This inspection resulted in no areas for improvement being identified. Findings of the inspection were discussed with Registered Manager as part of the inspection process and can be found in the main body of the report.



The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority

7th Floor, Victoria House
15-27 Gloucester Street
Belfast
BT1 4LS

Tel 028 9536 1111

Email info@rqia.org.uk

Web www.rqia.org.uk

 [@RQIANews](https://twitter.com/RQIANews)

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