

# Unannounced Care Inspection Report 23 June 2017











# **Strathearn Court**

Type of Service: Nursing Home

Address: 229 Belmont Road, Belfast, BT4 2AH

Tel no: 028 9065 6665 Inspector: Heather Sleator

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 registered nursing home which is registered to provide nursing care for up to 55 persons.

### 3.0 Service details

| Organisation/Registered Provider: Four Seasons Healthcare   | Registered Manager: Mrs Ruth Murphy   |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Responsible Individual: Dr Claire Royston   |                                       |
| Person in charge at the time of inspection: Mrs Ruth Murphy   | Date manager registered: 1 April 2005 |
| Categories of care: Nursing Home (NH) I – Old age not falling within any other category. PH – Physical disability other than sensory impairment. PH (E) - Physical disability other than sensory impairment – over 65 years. TI – Terminally ill. | Number of registered places: 55       |

# 4.0 Inspection summary

An unannounced inspection took place on 23 June 2017 from 09.30 to 17.30.

This inspection was underpinned by The Health and Personal Social Services (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003, The Nursing Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 and the DHSSPS Care Standards for Nursing Homes 2015.

The inspection assessed progress with any areas for improvement identified during and since the last care inspection and 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 staff recruitment practices; staff induction, training and development; adult safeguarding arrangements; risk management; aspects of the care records and care delivery and effective communication systems. The culture and ethos of the home promoted treating patient with dignity and respect. There was also evidence of good practice identified in relation to the governance and management arrangements; management of complaints and incidents; quality improvement processes and maintaining good relationships within the home.

Areas requiring improvement were identified and included a review of the staffing arrangements and deployment of staff and that care plans should reflect current assessed need. These two areas for improvement had previously been identified at the inspection of 28 November 2016 and have been stated for a second time. A further identified area for improvement was the inappropriate storage of equipment in bathroom/shower facilities, this practice should cease and alternative arrangements made so as the home is acting in accordance with regional infection prevention and control guidance.

Patients and their representatives said that they were satisfied with the care and services provided and described living in the home, in positive terms. However, patients, staff and patient representatives all commented that they felt the home was 'short staffed' at times.

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

# 4.1 Inspection outcome

|                                       | Regulations | Standards |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Total number of areas for improvement | 0           | *3        |

<sup>\*</sup>The total number of areas for improvement includes two standards which have been stated for a second time.

Details of the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) were discussed with Ruth Murphy, Registered Manager, as part of the inspection process. The timescales for completion commence from the date of inspection.

Enforcement action did not result from the findings of this inspection.

# 4.2 Action/enforcement taken following the most recent medicines management inspection dated 18 January 2017

The most recent inspection of the home was an unannounced medicines management inspection undertaken on 18 January 2017. Other than those actions detailed in the QIP no further actions were required to be taken. Enforcement action did not result from the findings of this inspection.

### 5.0 How we inspect

Prior to the inspection a range of information relevant to the service was reviewed. This included the following records:

- notifiable events since the previous care inspection
- the registration status of the home
- written and verbal communication received since the previous care inspection which included information in respect of serious adverse incidents (SAI's), potential adult safeguarding issues and whistleblowing.
- the returned quality improvement plans (QIPs) from inspections undertaken in the previous inspection year
- the previous care inspection report
- pre inspection assessment audit

During the inspection the inspector met with 14 patients individually, nine staff and three patients' visitors/representatives. Questionnaires were also left in the home to obtain feedback from patients, patients' representatives and staff not on duty during the inspection. Ten questionnaires for staff and relatives and eight for patients were left for distribution

A poster informing visitors to the home that an inspection was being conducted was displayed and invited visitors/relatives to speak with the inspector.

The following records were examined during the inspection:

- duty rota for all staff from 12 June 2017 to 25 June 2017
- records confirming registration of staff with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) and the Northern Ireland Social Care Council (NISCC)
- staff training records
- incident and accident records
- two staff recruitment and induction files
- four patient care records
- four patient care charts including food and fluid intake charts and reposition charts
- staff supervision and appraisal planners
- records relating to adult safeguarding
- patient register
- staff register
- complaints received from the previous care inspection
- compliments received
- RQIA registration certificate
- certificate of public liability insurance
- minutes of staff, patient and relatives meetings held since the previous care inspection
- monthly quality monitoring reports undertaken in accordance with Regulation 29 of The Nursing Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005

RQIA have also reviewed any evidence available in respect of serious adverse incidents (SAI's), potential adult safeguarding issues, whistle blowing and any other communication received since the previous care inspection.

Areas for improvement identified at the last care inspection were reviewed and assessment of compliance recorded as either met or partially met.

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 18 January 2017

The most recent inspection of the home was an unannounced medicines management inspection.

This QIP will be validated by the pharmacist inspector at the next medicines management inspection

# 6.2 Review of areas for improvement from the last care inspection dated 28 November 2016

| Areas for improvement from the last care inspection                     |   |                          |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| Action required to ensure Regulations (Northern Ire                     | e compliance with The Nursing Homes   | Validation of compliance |
| Area for improvement 1  Ref: Regulation 6                               | The registered provider must inform RQIA of the change of use of any room in the home; an application of minor variation must be submitted.   |                          |
| Stated: First time  | Action taken as confirmed during the inspection: The required information was submitted to RQIA.  | Met                      |
| Action required to ensure Nursing Homes (2015)                          | compliance with The Care Standards for  | Validation of compliance |
| Area for improvement 1  Ref: Standard 12  Stated: Second time           | The registered provider should the dining experience for patients is reviewed and revised. The revision should ensure that patients who require a specialised/modified diet are afforded a choice at mealtimes and that the day's menu is clearly displayed for patients' information.  Action taken as confirmed during the inspection:  | Met                      |
|   | The serving of the midday meal was observed and an improvement in the dining experience for patients was in evidence.   |                          |
| Area for improvement 2  Ref: Standard 41.1 and 41.6  Stated: First time | The registered provider should ensure that the deployment of care staff in the afternoon should be reviewed so as the registered manager is satisfied that the duties undertaken by care assistants do not diminish the time available for patient care.  |                          |
|   | Action taken as confirmed during the inspection: The review of the staff duty rotas, discussion with staff, patients and relatives and observation of the daily routine did not evidence that there was any change regarding the deployment of staff. Staff were observed distributing laundry in the afternoon despite a reduction of the number of staff available. Refer to section 6.4 for further information. | Partially Met            |

| Area for improvement 3  Ref: Standard 4.2  Stated: First time | The registered provider should ensure that greater diligence is afforded by registered nurses regarding the planning and recording of care, with specific reference to the findings of the inspection.  |               |
|---|---|---------------|
|   | Action taken as confirmed during the inspection: The review of four patient care records evidenced that some improvement regarding the planning of care was in evidence. However, further improvement was still required. Refer to section 6.5 for further information. | Partially Met |
| Area for improvement 4  Ref: Standard 23                      | The registered provider should ensure staff should report on the condition of patients' skin on repositioning charts and report to nursing  |               |
| Stated: First time  | staff when or if changes in skin integrity are observed.  |               |
|   | Action taken as confirmed during the inspection: The review of patient repositioning records evidenced that staff were reporting on the condition of patients skin when repositioning.  | Met           |
| Area for improvement 5  | The registered provider should ensure that the environmental issues identified, including the   |               |
| Ref: Standard 44 Stated: First time                           | serving hatch in the dining room on the ground floor and sideboard used for storage in the ground floor dining room are be addressed.   |               |
|   | Action taken as confirmed during the inspection: The observation of the premises evidenced that the areas previously identified for improvement had been made good.   | Met           |

# 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 registered manager confirmed the planned daily staffing levels for the home and stated that these levels were subject to regular review to ensure the assessed needs of the patients were met. A review of the staffing rota for 12 June 2017 to 25 June 2017 evidenced that the planned staffing levels were generally adhered to. The planned staffing levels were based on the patients' dependency levels, which were assessed using the Care Home Equation for Safe Staffing (CHESS) assessment tool, developed by Four Seasons Healthcare. The registered manager explained that this was reviewed on a regular basis and that the staffing levels could be adjusted as required.

Observation of the delivery of care evidenced that patients' needs were met by the number and skill mix of staff on duty. In discussion with patients the following comments were made; "not enough staff" and "think it's a bit short staffed at times". One patient representative commented via questionnaire "I do feel sometimes that there could be more staff on hand". Staff stated they were satisfied with the staffing arrangements on the ground floor but staff felt under pressure at times, on the first floor, due to the dependency of the patients and the level of care and support the patients needed. Staff were observed on both the ground and first floors distributing laundry in the afternoon which diminishes the actual time care staff have to spend in direct patient care. However, all those spoken with confirmed that the patients' needs were always met. These comments were relayed to the registered manager during feedback who agreed to review the staffing arrangements and patients dependency levels. This was an area of improvement identified at the previous inspection of 28 November 2016 and has been restated as an area for improvement for the second time.

Discussion with staff confirmed that communication was well maintained in the home and that appropriate information was communicated in the shift handover meetings.

Discussion with the registered manager and a review of two personnel file evidenced that recruitment processes were in keeping with The Nursing Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 Regulation 21, schedule 2. Where nurses and carers were employed, their registrations were checked with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) and the Northern Ireland Social Care Council (NISCC), to ensure that they were suitable for employment. The review of recruitment records evidenced that enhanced criminal records checks were completed with Access NI and satisfactory references had been sought and received, prior to the staff member starting their employment.

Discussion with staff and review of records evidenced that newly appointed staff completed a structured orientation and induction programme at the commencement of their employment. Two completed induction programmes were reviewed. The induction programme included a written record of the areas completed and the signature of the person supporting the new employee. On completion of the induction programme, the employee and the inductor signed the record to confirm completion and to declare understanding and competence. The registered manager had also signed the record to confirm that the induction process had been satisfactorily completed.

Discussion with the registered manager and staff confirmed that there were systems in place to monitor staff performance and to ensure that staff received support and guidance. Staff were coached and mentored through one to one supervision, undertook competency and capability assessments and completed annual appraisals. Staff also confirmed that individual supervision was on-going.

Discussion with staff and a review of the staff training records confirmed that training had been provided in all mandatory areas and records were kept up to date. A review of staff training records confirmed that staff completed e-learning (electronic learning) modules on basic life support, medicines management, control of substances hazardous to health, fire safety, food safety, health and safety, infection prevention and control, safe moving and handling and adult prevention and protection from harm. The records reviewed confirmed that the training statistics to evidence completion were between 80 to 100 percent in all areas.

Observation of the delivery of care evidenced that training had been embedded into practice. Overall compliance with training was monitored by the registered manager and this information informed the responsible persons' monthly monitoring visit in accordance with regulation 29 of the Nursing Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005.

Discussion with the registered manager and review of records evidenced that the arrangements for monitoring the registration status of nursing staff were appropriately managed in accordance with the NMC. Similar arrangements were in place to ensure that care staff were registered with NISCC.

Staff consulted with, were knowledgeable about their specific roles and responsibilities in relation to adult safeguarding. The staff understood what abuse was and how they should report any concerns that they had. The relevant contact details were available in a folder for all staff to access; including the whistleblowing procedure.

Discussion with the registered manager confirmed that there were arrangements in place to embed the new regional operational safeguarding policy and procedure into practice. A safeguarding champion had been identified and all registered managers attended regional training on the new procedures on 16 June 2017. Discussion also evidenced that any potential safeguarding concern was managed appropriately and in accordance with the regional safeguarding protocols and the home's policies and procedures.

Review of patient care records evidenced that validated risk assessments were completed as part of the admission process and were reviewed as required. These risk assessments informed the care planning process.

A review of the accident and incident records confirmed that the falls risk assessments and care plans were consistently completed following each incident and that care management and patients' representatives were notified appropriately.

A number of patients had pressure relieving mattresses on their beds, to prevent skin breakdown. The correct mattress settings were indicated on the mattress pumps, to ensure their effective use and within the patient's supplementary care records.

A review of the home's environment was undertaken which included a number of bedrooms, bathrooms, shower and toilet facilities, sluice rooms, storage rooms and communal areas. The areas reviewed were found to be clean, tidy, well decorated and warm throughout. The majority of patients' bedrooms were personalised with photographs, pictures and personal items. The home had a welcoming and very pleasant atmosphere. The registered manager stated that a programme of redecoration of a number of areas in the home had commenced. The reception areas on the ground and first floors had been redecorated as had the dining rooms, corridors and the upstairs lounge. Approval for new flooring had been granted and will initially commence upstairs and then continue downstairs.

An area for improvement was identified in relation to the inappropriate storage of equipment in bathrooms/shower facilities. This was discussed with the registered manager who stated storage space in the home was very limited. However, alternative arrangements for the storage of equipment should be viewed as a priority in accordance with infection prevention and control guidelines. There was evidenced of the availability of and adequately stocked personal protection equipment (PPE).

Fire exits and corridors were observed to be clear of clutter and obstruction.

# Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to staff recruitment, induction, training, supervision and appraisal, adult safeguarding, risk management and the home's environment

### Areas for improvement

The inappropriate storage of equipment in bathroom/shower facilities should cease and alternative arrangements made.

An area for improvement identified at the previous inspection of 28 November 2016 regarding staffing arrangements and the deployment of staff has been stated as an area for improvement for the second time.

|                                       | Regulations | Standards |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Total number of areas for improvement | 0           | 1         |

### 6.5 Is care effective?

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

Review of four patient care records evidenced that a range of validated risk assessments were completed as part of the admission process and reviewed as required. There was evidence that risk assessments informed the care planning process.

There were a number of examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in this domain. For example, registered nurses were aware of the local arrangements and referral process to access other relevant professionals including General Practitioner's (GP), Speech and language therapist (SALT), dietician and Tissue Viability Nurse Specialists (TVN). Discussion with registered nurses and a review of care records evidenced that recommendations made by healthcare professionals in relation to specific care and treatment were clearly and effectively communicated to staff and reflected in the patient's record.

Patients who had been identified as being at risk of losing weight had their weight regularly monitored. This ensured that any weight loss was identified and appropriate action taken in a timely manner. The patients' weights were audited by the manager on a monthly basis. Patients who were identified as requiring a modified diet, had the relevant risk assessments completed. Care plans in place were reflective of the recommendations of SALT and care plans were kept under review. A sampling of food and fluid intake charts confirmed that patients' fluid intake was monitored.

The care plans detailed the 'do not attempt resuscitation' (DNAR) directive that was in place for the patients, as appropriate. This meant up to date healthcare information was available to inform staff of the patient's wishes at this important time to ensure that their final wishes could be met. At the time of the inspection no one was receiving end of life care.

Patients' bowel movements were monitored by the registered nurses on a daily basis, using the Bristol Stool guidance as a reference, to ensure that any changes from the patients' usual bowel patterns were identified and timely action taken.

Evidence was present that registered nurses regularly reviewed and updated patient care records on a monthly basis, as previously detailed. However, weakness were identified in relation to the process as the review of care records did not evidence that patients care plans had been revised to reflect current need. The review of one care record did not reflect a revised care plan for distressed reactions and a second care record reviewed did not evidence the guidelines for the use of a restrictive practice were being adhered to, for example; the use of a lap belt on specialised seating. This was discussed with the registered manager who agreed with the findings of the review of the care records. This was identified as an area for improvement at the previous inspection of 28 November 2016 and has been stated as an area for improvement, in this report, for a second time.

Personal or supplementary care records evidenced that records were maintained in accordance with best practice guidance, care standards and legislative requirements. For example, a review of repositioning records evidenced that patients were repositioned according to their care plans, the frequency of repositioning was recorded on the repositioning record and staff were reporting on the condition of the patient's skin.

Patients' records were maintained in accordance with Schedule 3 of the Nursing Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005; the registered manager confirmed that the patient register was checked on a regular basis.

There was evidence that the care planning process included input from patients and/or their representatives, if appropriate. There was evidence of regular communication with representatives within the care records.

Discussion with staff confirmed that nursing and care staff were required to attend a handover meeting at the beginning of each shift and discussions at the handover provided the necessary information regarding any changes in patients' condition. Staff also confirmed that communication between all staff grades was effective.

Staff meetings were held on a regular basis and records were maintained and made available to those who were unable to attend. The most recent general staff meeting was held on 10 May 2017 and a meeting with the registered nurses was held on 10 March 2017. Staff stated that there was effective teamwork with each staff member knew their role, function and responsibilities.

The serving of the midday meal was observed. Tables were attractively set with cutlery, condiments and napkins. Those patients who had their lunch in the lounge or their own bedroom were served their meal on a tray which was set with cutlery and condiments and the food was covered prior to leaving the dining room. The meals were nicely presented and smelt appetising. All of the patients spoken with enjoyed their lunch. The day's menu was displayed in the dining room. Registered nurses were observed supervising and assisting patients with their meals and monitoring patients' nutritional intake.

# Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to record keeping; nutrition and hydration and the oversight of weight loss and communication between residents, staff and patient representatives. An improvement in the arrangements for meals and mealtimes was evident.

# **Areas for improvement**

An area for improvement identified at the previous inspection of 28 November 2016 regarding care planning has been stated as an area for improvement for the second time.

|                                       | 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.

Staff interactions with patients were observed to be compassionate, caring and timely. Consultation with 14 patients individually and with others in smaller groups, confirmed that patients were afforded choice, privacy, dignity and respect

Patients and or their representatives were involved in decision making about their own care. Patients were consulted with regarding meal choices and their feedback had been listened to and acted on. Patients were offered a choice of meals, snacks and drinks throughout the day. Staff demonstrated a detailed knowledge of patients' wishes, preferences and assessed needs as identified within the patients' care plan.

Patients and/or patient representatives consulted with also confirmed that they were able to maintain contact with their families and friends. Staff supported patients to maintain friendships and socialise within the home. There was a personal activities leader (PAL) responsible for the provision of activities in the home. There was evidence of a variety of activities in the home and discussion with staff confirmed that patients were given a choice with regards to what they wanted to participate in. There were various photographs displayed around the home of patients' participation in recent activities. Social care plans were in place to provide information to staff to ensure that patients' social care needs were met individually.

Discussion with the registered manager confirmed that there were systems in place to obtain the views of patients and their representatives and staff on the quality of the service provided. An electronic feedback system was also situated in the reception area. This was available to relatives and other visitors to give general feedback on an ongoing basis or answer specific questions on the theme of the month. The feedback was summarised automatically by the system and the results were available to the manager and the regional manager.

Staff and patient representatives confirmed that when they raised a concern or query, they were taken seriously and their concern was addressed appropriately. From discussion with the registered manager, staff, relatives and a review of the compliments record, there was evidence that the staff cared for the patients and their relatives in a kindly manner. Comments from relatives included, "I would recommend this home to anyone."

During the inspection, we met with 14 patients, four care staff, two registered nurses, the personal activities leader, two domestic staff and three patients' representatives.

Some comments received are detailed below:

#### Staff

- "Good teamwork."
- "The manager keeps us informed of everything."
- "The manager reminds us when our training needs to be completed."

Staff on the first floor commented that they felt under pressure, at times, due to the dependency needs of the patients. Given that observation of the delivery of care evidenced that patients' needs were met by the number and skill mix of staff on duty and that this had previously been identified as an area for improvement, these comments were relayed to the registered manager to address.

### **Patients**

- "Staff are very helpful."
- "The manager is very nice."
- "Everyone is very nice in here."
- "The manager is my friend."

Two patients commented that they felt the home was short staffed at times. These comments were relayed to the registered manager to address.

# Patients' representatives

- "Staff are fantastic."
- "Staff are very attentive."
- "The manager is very helpful."
- "I would recommend this home to other families."

We also issued ten questionnaires to staff and relatives respectively and eight questionnaires to patients. Two relatives had returned their questionnaires, within the timeframe for inclusion in this report. Outcomes were as follows:

Representatives: one respondent indicated that they were 'very satisfied' that the care in the home was safe, effective and compassionate; and that the home was well-led. The remaining respondent commented that they were 'satisfied' that the care in the home was safe, effective and compassionate; and that the home was well-led. Additional written comments were received and included;

Any comments from patient representatives and staff in returned questionnaires received after the return date will be shared with the manager for their information and action as required.

# Areas of good practice

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to the culture and ethos of the home, dignity and privacy, listening to and valuing patients and their representatives and taking account of the views of patients. Mealtimes and activities were well managed.

# Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified 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.

Discussion with the registered manager and observation of patients evidenced that the home was operating within its' registered categories of care. The registration certificate was up to date and displayed appropriately. A certificate of public liability insurance was current and displayed.

Discussions with the staff confirmed that there were good working relationships and that management were responsive to any suggestions or concerns raised. Staff described how they felt confident that the registered manager would respond positively to any concerns/suggestions raised.

Discussion with the registered manager and staff evidenced that there was a clear organisational structure within the home. There was a system in place to identify the person in charge of the home, in the absence of the manager.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Superb nursing care, staff downstairs are wonderful, I could not ask for more caring nurses" "Staff are so caring; I am treated like one of the 'family'."

<sup>&</sup>quot;The manager is amazing, softly spoken, kind, caring and has a smile for each and every resident (and their families)."

<sup>&</sup>quot;I do feel sometimes there could be more staff on hand."

Discussion with the registered manager and review of the home's complaints record evidenced that complaints were managed in accordance with Regulation 24 of the Nursing Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 and the Care Standards for Nursing Homes 2015. Staff, patients and patients' representatives spoken with confirmed that they were aware of the home's complaints procedure. Patients' representatives confirmed that they were confident that staff/management would manage any concern raised by them appropriately

Discussion with the registered manager and review of records evidenced that systems were in place to monitor and report on the quality of nursing and other services provided. For example, audits were completed in accordance with best practice guidance in relation to falls, wound management, care records, infection prevention and control, environment, complaints, incidents/accidents and bed rails. The results of audits had been analysed and appropriate actions taken to address any shortfalls identified and there was evidence that the necessary improvements had been embedded into practice.

As a further element of its Quality of Life Programme, Four Seasons Healthcare operate a Thematic Resident Care Audit ("TRaCA") which home managers can complete electronically. Information such as home governance, information governance, housekeeping, resident care and health and safety checks are recorded on various TRaCAs on a regular basis. This information was subject to checks by the regional manager once a month.

A review of the patient falls audit evidenced that this was analysed to identify patterns and trends, on a monthly basis. An action plan was in place to address any deficits identified. This information informed the responsible individual's monthly monitoring visit in accordance with regulation 29 of the Nursing Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005.

Review of records pertaining to accidents, incidents and notifications forwarded to RQIA since the previous care inspection, confirmed that these were appropriately managed.

There were systems and processes in place to ensure that urgent communications, safety alerts and notices were reviewed and where appropriate, made available to key staff in a timely manner. These included medication and equipment alerts and alerts regarding staff that had sanctions imposed on their employment by professional bodies.

Discussion with the registered manager and review of records evidenced that quality monitoring visits were completed in accordance with Regulation 29 of the Nursing Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005, and copies of the reports were available for patients, their representatives, staff and trust representatives. An action plan was generated to address any areas for improvement; discussion with the registered manager and a review of relevant records evidenced that all areas identified in the action plan had been addressed.

# Areas of good practice

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

### **Areas for improvement**

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection.

|                                       | Regulations | Standards |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Total number of areas for improvement | 0           | 0         |

# 7.0 Quality improvement plan

Areas for improvement identified during this inspection are detailed in the QIP. Details of the QIP were discussed with Ruth Murphy, Registered Manager, as part of the inspection process. The timescales commence from the date of inspection.

The registered provider/manager should note that if the action outlined in the QIP is not taken to comply with regulations and standards this may lead to further enforcement action including possible prosecution for offences. It is the responsibility of the registered provider to ensure that all areas for improvement identified within the QIP are addressed within the specified timescales.

Matters to be addressed as a result of this inspection are set in the context of the current registration of the nursing home. The registration is not transferable so that in the event of any future application to alter, extend or to sell the premises RQIA would apply standards current at the time of that application.

# 7.1 Areas for improvement

Areas for improvement have been identified where action is required to ensure compliance with The Nursing Home Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 and The Care Standards for Nursing Homes (2015).

# 7.2 Actions to be taken by the service

The QIP should be completed and detail the actions taken to address the areas for improvement identified. The registered provider should confirm that these actions have been completed and return the completed QIP via Web Portal

RQIA will phase out the issue of draft reports via paperlite in the near future. Registered providers should ensure that their services are opted in for the receipt of reports via Web Portal. If you require further information, please visit <a href="www.rqia.org.uk/webportal">www.rqia.org.uk/webportal</a> or contact the web portal team in RQIA on 028 9051 7500.

# **Quality Improvement Plan**

# Action required to ensure compliance with The Care Standards for Nursing Homes (2015)

Area for improvement 1

Ref: Standard 41.1 and

41.6

The registered provider should ensure that the deployment of care staff in the afternoon should be reviewed so as the registered manager is satisfied that the duties undertaken by care assistants do not diminish the time available for direct patient care.

Stated: Second time

Ref: Section 6.2

To be completed by:

31 August 2017

Response by registered person detailing the actions taken: Additional hours are being arranged for housekeeping to attend to the distribution of laundry so that duties undertaken by care assistants do

not diminish the time available for direct patient care.

**Area for improvement 2** 

Ref: Standard 4.2

The registered provider should ensure that greater diligence is afforded by registered nurses regarding the planning and recording of care and ensure care planning is reflective of current assessed need.

Stated: Second time

Ref: Section 6.2

To be completed by:

31 August 2017

Response by registered person detailing the actions taken:

The absence of a care plan for restraint for the patient in question was due to the fact that the patient does not use restraint. On the day of inspection, a care assistant on duty used the lap belt unnecessarily. The lap belt is incorporated into the specialist seating but is not used. Supervision has been carried out with the staff member and other care staff in relation to restraint and the need for appropriate care plans if

restraint is used.

The second patient's care plan has been updated and supervision is being carried out in relation to reviewing assessed needs. Weekly auditing of care records continues as per FSHC company policy.

Area for improvement 3

Ref: Standard 46

The registered person shall ensure that the inappropriate storage of equipment is removed from bathroom and shower facilities in accordance with regional infection prevention and control guidance.

Stated: First time

Ref: Section 6.4

To be completed by:

4 August 2017

Response by registered person detailing the actions taken:

Bathroom and shower rooms are no longer used for storage of moving and handling equipment and a room on the first floor is being reviewed

for storage of this equipment.

<sup>\*</sup>Please ensure this document is completed in full and returned via Web Portal \*





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