

# Unannounced Care Inspection Report 29 September 2016



## Breffni Lodge

**Type of Service: Residential Care Home**  
**Address: 3 Wandsworth Road, Belfast, BT4 3LS**  
**Tel No: 0289065 3335**  
**Inspector: Patricia Galbraith**

[www.rgia.org.uk](http://www.rgia.org.uk)

Assurance, Challenge and Improvement in Health and Social Care

## 1.0 Summary

An unannounced inspection of Breffni Lodge took place on 29 September 2016 from 09.00 to 16.00.

The inspection sought to assess progress with any issues raised during and since the previous inspection and to determine if the home was delivering safe, effective and compassionate care and if the service was well led.

### Is care safe?

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

No requirements or recommendations were made in relation to this domain.

### Is care effective?

There were examples best/good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to care records, audits and reviews, communication between residents, staff and other key stakeholders.

No requirements or recommendations were made in relation to this domain.

### Is care compassionate?

There were examples of good practice found throughout the inspection in relation to the culture and ethos of the home, listening to and valuing residents and taking account of the views of residents.

No requirements or recommendations were made in relation to this domain.

### Is the service well led?

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

One requirement was made in regard to the completion of monthly monitoring reports which had not been completed.

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

## 1.1 Inspection outcome

	Requirements	Recommendations
<b>Total number of requirements and recommendations made at this inspection</b>	1	0

Details of the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) within this report were discussed with Regina Brady registered manger, 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.

## 1.2 Actions/enforcement taken following the most recent type e.g. care inspection

Other than those actions detailed in the previous QIP there were no further actions required to be taken following the last inspection.

## 2.0 Service details

<b>Registered organisation/registered provider:</b> Breffni Lodge	<b>Registered manager:</b> Regina Brady
<b>Person in charge of the home at the time of inspection:</b> Regina Brady	<b>Date manager registered:</b> 16 May 2013
<b>Categories of care:</b> I - Old age not falling within any other category DE – Dementia	<b>Number of registered places:</b> 22

## 3.0 Methods/processes

Prior to inspection we analysed the following records: the returned Quality Improvement Plan, notifications of accidents and incidents submitted to RQIA previous inspection report and complaints returned.

During the inspection the inspector met with 11 residents, and four staff. There were no visitors/representatives present during the period of the inspection.

The following records were examined during the inspection:

- Staff duty rota
- Staff supervision and annual appraisal schedules
- Sample of competency and capability assessments
- Staff training schedule/records
- Staff recruitment file(s)
- Four resident's care files
- Minutes of recent staff meetings
- Complaints and compliments records
- Equipment maintenance / cleaning records
- Accident/incident/notifiable events register
- Minutes of recent residents' meetings / representatives

- Evaluation report from annual service user quality assurance survey
- Monthly monitoring report
- Fire safety risk assessment
- Fire drill records
- Maintenance of fire-fighting equipment, alarm system, emergency lighting, fire doors, etc
- Safe guarding policy and procedure

## 4.0 The inspection

### 4.1 Review of requirements and recommendations from the most recent inspection dated 18 November 2015

The most recent inspection of the home was an unannounced medicines management inspection. The completed QIP was returned and approved by the pharmacy inspector.

### 4.2 Review of requirements and recommendations from the last care inspection dated 29 September 2015

No requirements or recommendations were made as a result of the previous care inspection.

### 4.3 Is care safe?

The registered manager confirmed the staffing levels for the home and that these were subject to regular review to ensure the assessed needs of the residents were met. No concerns were raised regarding staffing levels during discussion with residents, residents' representatives and staff.

Discussion with staff and a review of returned staff views questionnaires confirmed that mandatory training, supervision and appraisal of staff was regularly provided. A schedule for annual staff appraisals and staff supervision was maintained and was available for inspection. The registered 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; records of competency and capability assessments were retained. A sample of staff competency and capability assessments were reviewed.

The registered manager confirmed that there are plans in place to implement the new adult safeguarding procedures relating to the establishment of a safeguarding champion.

Discussion with staff confirmed that they were aware of the new regional adult safeguarding guidance (Adult Safeguarding Prevention and Protection in Partnership, July 2015) and a copy was available for staff within the home. Staff were knowledgeable and had a good understanding of adult safeguarding principles. They were also aware of their obligations in relation to raising concerns about poor practice and whistleblowing.

A review of staff training records confirmed that mandatory adult safeguarding training was provided for all staff.

Discussion with the registered manager, review of accident and incidents notifications, review of care records and review of complaints 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.

The registered manager confirmed that there were risk management procedures in place relating to the safety of individual residents. Discussion with the registered manager identified that the home did not accommodate any individuals whose needs could not be met. Review of care records identified that an individual care needs assessment and risk assessments were obtained prior to admission of residents to the home. Care needs assessment and risk assessments (e.g. manual handling, bedrails, nutrition, falls, where appropriate) were reviewed and updated on a regular basis or as changes occurred.

The registered manager confirmed that areas of restrictive practice were employed within the home, notably keypad entry systems, lap belts, pressure alarm mats, etc. Discussion with the registered manager regarding such restrictions confirmed these were appropriately assessed, documented, minimised and reviewed with the involvement of the multi-professional team, as required.

Inspection of four care records confirmed that there was a system of referral to the multi-disciplinary team when required; it was noted that behaviour management plans were devised by specialist behaviour management teams from the Trust and that the behaviour management plans were regularly reviewed and updated as necessary.

Discussion with the registered manager and examination of accident and incident records confirmed that when individual restraint was employed, the appropriate persons / bodies were informed.

Staff training records confirmed 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 premises confirmed that there were wash hand basins, adequate supplies of liquid soap, alcohol hand gels and disposable towels wherever care was delivered. Observation of staff practice identified that staff adhered to IPC procedures.

Hand hygiene was a priority for the home and efforts were applied to promoting high standards of hand hygiene among residents, staff and visitors. Notices promoting good hand hygiene were displayed throughout the home in both written and in pictorial formats.

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

A general inspection of the home was undertaken to examine the communal lounges and the dining room. One lounge had been redecorated and residents confirmed they had helped pick the colour scheme. The residents' bedrooms were personalised with photographs, pictures and personal items. There had been a number of bedrooms refurbished and decorated and a plan had been put in place for improvements to be made in the home. The home was fresh smelling, clean and appropriately heated.

Inspection of the internal and external environment identified that the home and grounds 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. Discussion with the registered manager confirmed that action plans were in place to reduce the risk where possible.

The registered manager confirmed that the home had an up to date fire risk safety assessment in place. A review of the fire safety risk assessment dated, 7 March 2016, identified that any recommendations arising had been addressed appropriately. Review of staff training records confirmed that staff completed fire safety training twice annually. The most recent fire drill was completed 29 July 2016 and records were retained of 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 weekly and were regularly maintained. Individual residents had a completed Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan (PEEPs) in place.

### Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified in this domain.

<b>Number of requirements</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Number of recommendations:</b>	<b>0</b>
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#### 4.4 Is care effective?

Discussion with the registered manager established that staff in the home responded appropriately to and met the assessed needs of the residents.

A review of four care records confirmed that these were maintained in line with the legislation and standards. They included 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 records were updated regularly to reflect the changing needs of the resident. Residents and/or their representatives were encouraged and enabled to be involved in the assessment and care planning and review process, where appropriate. Discussion with staff confirmed that a person centred approach underpinned practice.

The care records reflected multi-professional input into the service users' health and social care needs. An individual agreement setting out the terms of residency and the agreement was appropriately signed.

The registered manager confirmed that records were stored safely and securely in line with data protection.

The registered manager confirmed that systems were in place to ensure effective communication with residents, their representatives and key stakeholders. These included pre-admission information, multi-professional team reviews, residents meetings, staff meetings and staff shift handovers. Discussion with the registered manager and staff confirmed that management operated an open door policy in regard to communication within the home. The residents and registered manager confirmed the registered manager would meet with individual residents at least weekly to ensure they have been satisfied with their care in the home.

Residents and their representatives spoken with and observation of practice evidenced that staff were able to communicate effectively with residents, representatives and other key stakeholders.

A review of care records and of accident and incident reports confirmed that referral to other healthcare professionals was timely and responsive to the needs of the residents. Minutes of resident and/or their representative meetings were available for inspection.

### Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified in this domain.

<b>Number of requirements</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Number of recommendations:</b>	<b>0</b>
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#### 4.5 Is care compassionate?

The registered manager confirmed that there was a culture/ethos that supported the values of dignity and respect, independence, rights, equality and diversity, choice and consent of residents.

Review of the home's policies and procedures confirmed that appropriate policies were in place. Discussion with staff, residents, representatives confirmed that residents' spiritual and cultural needs, including preferences for end of life care, were met within the home. Discussion with residents confirmed that action was taken to manage pain and discomfort in a timely and appropriate manner.

Discussion with staff, residents, representatives, observation of practice and review of care records 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. Residents had planned a visit to Exploris Aquarium and they had been out for coffee. One resident had frequently been out with her family

The registered manager confirmed that residents were listened to, valued and communicated with in an appropriate manner. Discussion with staff, residents, representatives and observation of practice confirmed that residents' needs were recognised and responded to in a prompt and courteous manner by staff.

The registered manager confirmed that 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.

There were systems in place to ensure that the views and opinions of residents, and or their representatives, were sought and taken into account in all matters affecting them. For example residents meetings and annual care reviews.

Residents and/or their representatives confirmed that their views and opinions were taken into account in all matters affecting them. The comments within the satisfaction questionnaires returned to RQIA evidenced that compassionate care was delivered within the home.

### Areas for improvement

There were no areas for improvement in this domain.

<b>Number of requirements</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Number of recommendations:</b>	<b>0</b>
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#### 4.6 Is the service well led?

The registered manager confirmed that there were management and governance systems in place to meet the needs of residents.

The health and social care 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.

The home had a complaints policy and procedure in place. This was in accordance with the relevant legislation and DHSSPS guidance on complaints handling. Residents and their representatives were made aware of the process of how to make a complaint by way of the Residents Guide, poster / leaflet etc. Discussion with staff confirmed that they were knowledgeable about how to receive and deal with complaints.

Review of the complaints records established that there were clear arrangements for the management of complaints from residents and any other interested parties. Records of complaints included details of the investigation undertaken, all communication with complainants, the result of any investigation, the outcome and the action taken to address the issues raised.

Arrangements were in place to share information about complaints and compliments with staff. An audit of complaints was used to identify trends and to enhance service provision. The registered manager confirmed the home had an accident/incident/notifiable events policy and procedure in place which included reporting arrangements to RQIA. A review of accidents/incidents/notifiable 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 this was available for inspection. Learning from accidents and incidents was disseminated to all relevant parties and action plans developed to improve practice.

The registered manager confirmed that they were aware of the Falls Prevention Toolkit and were using this guidance to improve post falls management within the home.

Monthly monitoring visits had not been undertaken as required under Regulation 29 of The Residential Care Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005. A requirement was made in this regard.

There was a clear organisational structure and all staff were aware of their roles, responsibility and accountability within the overall structure. This was outlined in the home's Statement of Purpose and Residents Guide. The registered manager confirmed that the registered provider was kept informed regarding the day to day running of the home. The registered manager also confirmed the registered provider had been in the home at least once a week and always had been available by phone.

Staff spoken with confirmed that they were familiar with the organisational and management structure and with their lines of professional accountability. Staff were aware of their individual responsibility in relation to raising concerns. Residents were informed of the roles of staff within the home and who to speak with if they wanted advice or had any issues or concerns.



The registered manager confirmed that the home operated in accordance with the regulatory framework. Inspection of the premises confirmed that the home's certificate of registration and employers liability insurance certificate were displayed appropriately.

Review of notifications of accidents and incidents and the returned RQIA Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) confirmed that the registered provider/s responded to regulatory matters in a timely manner. Review of records and discussion with the registered manager confirmed that any adult safeguarding issues were managed appropriately and that reflective learning had taken place.

The registered manager confirmed that there were effective working relationships with internal and external stakeholders. The home had a whistleblowing policy and procedure in place. Discussion with staff established that they were knowledgeable regarding the policy and procedure. The registered manager confirmed that staff could also access line management to raise concerns and to offer support to staff. Discussion with staff confirmed that there were good working relationships and that management were responsive to suggestions and/or concerns raised.

The registered manager confirmed that there were arrangements in place for managing identified lack of competency and poor performance for all staff. There were also open and transparent methods of working and effective working relationships with internal and external stakeholders.

### **Areas for improvement**

One requirement was made in this domain in relation to the completion of monthly monitoring reports not being completed.

<b>Number of requirements</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Number of recommendations:</b>	<b>0</b>
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## 5.0 Quality improvement plan

Any issues identified during this inspection are detailed in the QIP. Details of this QIP were discussed with Regina Brady registered manager as part of the inspection process. The timescales commence from the date of inspection.

The registered provider/manager should note that failure to comply with regulations may lead to further enforcement action including possible prosecution for offences. It is the responsibility of the registered provider to ensure that all requirements and recommendations contained 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 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.

## 5.1 Statutory requirements

This section outlines the actions which must be taken so that the registered provider meets legislative requirements based on The Residential Care Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005.

## 5.2 Recommendations

This section outlines the recommended actions based on research, recognised sources and DHSSPS Residential Care Homes Minimum Standards, August 2011. They promote current good practice and if adopted by the registered provider may enhance service, quality and delivery.

## 5.3 Actions taken by the Registered Provider

The QIP should be completed and detail the actions taken to meet the legislative requirements stated. The registered provider should confirm that these actions have been completed and return completed QIP to [care.team@rqia.org.uk](mailto:care.team@rqia.org.uk) for review by the inspector.

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 registered provider from their responsibility for maintaining compliance with the regulations and standards. It is expected that the requirements and recommendations outlined in this report will provide the registered provider with the necessary information to assist them to fulfil their responsibilities and enhance practice within the service.

## Quality Improvement Plan

### Statutory requirements

#### Requirement 1

Ref: Regulation 29

**Stated:** First time

**To be completed by:**  
29 October 2016

The registered provider shall ensure monthly monitoring reports are completed in line with legislation requirements.

**Response by registered provider detailing the actions taken:**

The responsible person will complete monthly monitoring reports in accordance with R29

*\*Please ensure this document is completed in full and returned to [Care.Team@rqia.org.uk](mailto:Care.Team@rqia.org.uk) from the authorised email address\**



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