

Unannounced Care Inspection Report 10 January 2017



Karuna

Type of service: Residential care home
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Tel no: 028 9336 0665
Inspector: Ruth Greer

www.rqia.org.uk

Assurance, Challenge and Improvement in Health and Social Care

1.0 Summary

An unannounced inspection of Karuna Residential Home took place on 10 January 2017 from 10 00 to 14 00.

The inspection sought to assess progress with any issues raised since the last care inspection and to determine if the residential 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 recruitment, induction, training, supervision and appraisal, 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 of 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 governance arrangements, management of complaints and incidents, quality improvement and maintaining good working relationships.

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

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
Total number of requirements and recommendations made at this inspection	0	0

This inspection resulted in no requirements or recommendations being made. Findings of the inspection were discussed with Heather Wright, registered manager as part of the inspection process and can be found in the main body of the report.

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

1.2 Actions/enforcement taken following the most recent care inspection

There were no further actions required to be taken following the most recent inspection.

2.0 Service details

Registered organisation/registered person: Ms Eileen Marian Thomson	Registered manager: Mrs Heather Denise Wright
Person in charge of the home at the time of inspection: Initially Patricia Gordon, practice leader Heather Wright, manager, later joined the inspection	Date manager registered: 1 April 2005
Categories of care: LD - Learning Disability LD (E) – Learning disability – over 65 years	Number of registered places: 10

3.0 Methods/processes

Prior to inspection we analysed the following records: the previous inspection report and notification of accidents/incidents to RQIA since that date.

During the inspection the inspector met with seven residents, two care staff, one domestic staff and one resident's relative.

The following records were examined during the inspection:

- Staff duty rota
- Staff training schedule/records
- Three resident's care files
- The home's Statement of Purpose and Residents' Guide
- Minutes of recent staff meetings
- Complaints and compliments records
- Equipment maintenance / cleaning records
- Accident/incident/notifiable events register
- Minutes of recent residents' meetings / representatives' / other
- Monthly monitoring report
- Fire safety risk assessment
- Fire drill records

- Programme of activities
- Policies and procedures manual

4.0 The inspection

4.1 Review of requirements and recommendations from the most recent inspection dated 20/04/16

There most recent inspection of the home was a care inspection.

4.2 Review of requirements and recommendations from the last care inspection dated 20/04/16

There were no requirements of recommendations made as a result of the last 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.

A review of the duty roster confirmed that it accurately reflected the staff working within the home.

Review of completed induction records and discussion with the registered manager and staff evidenced that an induction programme was in place for all staff, relevant to their specific roles and responsibilities.

Discussion with staff confirmed that mandatory training, supervision and appraisal of staff was regularly provided. A schedule for mandatory training, annual staff appraisals and staff supervision was maintained and was reviewed during the 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. These records were reviewed at the last inspection and were not examined on this occasion.

Discussion with the registered manager confirmed that staff were recruited in line with Regulation 21 (1) (b), Schedule 2 of The Residential Care Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 and that records were retained at the organisation's personnel department. Copies of the documents are held in the home within the staff member's personal file.

Enhanced AccessNI disclosures were viewed by the registered manager for all staff prior to the commencement of employment. Personnel records reviewed confirmed that AccessNI information was managed in line with best practice.

Arrangements were in place to monitor the registration status of staff with their professional body.

The adult safeguarding policy and procedure in place was consistent with the current regional guidance and 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.

Discussion with staff confirmed that they were aware of the new regional 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, care records and complaints records confirmed that any suspected, alleged or actual incidents of abuse would be fully and promptly referred to the relevant persons and agencies for investigation in accordance with procedures and legislation; written records would be retained.

The registered manager confirmed 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 assessed needs could not be met. Review of care records identified that individual care needs assessments and risk assessments were obtained prior to admission.

A review of policy and procedure on restrictive practice/behaviours which challenge confirmed that this 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 registered manager confirmed there were restrictive practices employed within the home, notably keypad entry system, bed rails, and a monitor alert for a resident. 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.

A review of the statement of purpose and residents guide identified that restrictions were adequately described.

Inspection of care records confirmed there was a system of referral to the multi-professional team when required. Behaviour management plans were devised by specialist behaviour management teams from the trust and noted to be regularly updated and reviewed as necessary.

The registered manager confirmed there were risk management policy and procedures in place. Discussion with the registered manager and review of the home's policy and procedures relating to safe and healthy working practices confirmed that these were appropriately maintained and reviewed regularly.

The registered manager confirmed that equipment and medical devices in use in the home were well maintained and regularly serviced.

Review of the infection prevention and control (IPC) policy and procedure confirmed that this was in line with regional guidelines. Staff training records confirmed that all staff had received training in IPC in line with their roles and responsibilities. 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. 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.

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 and the organisation's 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 and the residents' bedrooms were found to be personalised with photographs, memorabilia and personal items. The home was fresh smelling, clean and appropriately heated. Much internal redecoration and refurbishment had been undertaken since the last inspection and the result looks very well.

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 risk assessments and action plans were in place to reduce risk where possible.

The home had an up to date fire risk assessment in place dated 26 May 2016 and all recommendations were noted to be appropriately addressed.

Review of staff training records confirmed that staff completed fire safety training twice annually. Fire drills were completed most recently on 5 January 2017. 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.

Comments received from residents, staff and one relative included:

- "I know (resident) is safe here where there are always staff about"(relative)
- "A lot of us have worked here for years and we know the residents really well" (staff)

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection in relation to this domain.

Number of requirements	0	Number of recommendations	0
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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 three care records confirmed that these 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 (e.g. manual handling, bedrails, nutrition, falls,) were reviewed and updated on a regular basis or as changes occurred.

The 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 reviewed were observed to be signed by the resident and/or their representative. Discussion with staff confirmed that a person centred approach underpinned practice. Observation of the daily activities showed that these were targeted to meet individual needs of residents' needs and preferences.

An individual agreement setting out the terms of residency was in place and appropriately signed. Records were stored safely and securely in line with data protection.

The registered manager confirmed 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, complaints, environment, catering were available for inspection and evidenced that any actions identified for improvement were incorporated into practice. Care plans are evaluated every three months by the primary worker for the resident and these are counter audited and signed by the registered manager. Further evidence of audit was contained within the monthly monitoring visits reports these were most recently completed on 28 November 2016 and 22 December 2016.

The registered manager confirmed that systems were in place to ensure effective communication with residents, their representatives and other key stakeholders. Family meetings are held every six months, most recently on 8 December 2016. These included pre-admission information, multi-professional team reviews, residents' meetings, staff meetings and staff shift handovers. The registered manager and staff confirmed that management operated an open door policy in regard to communication within the home.

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

A review 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. The registered manager confirmed that arrangements were in place, in line with the legislation, to support and advocate for residents.

Comments received from residents, one relative and staff included:

- “I’m still happy here; you get a laugh with the staff” (resident)
- “Residents here are well cared for and we get a lot of training to help us” (staff)

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection in relation to this domain.

Number of requirements	0	Number of recommendations	0
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4.5 Is care compassionate?

The registered manager confirmed 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.

A range of policies and procedures were in place which supported the delivery of compassionate care. Discussion with staff, residents and one relative confirmed that residents’ spiritual and cultural needs, including preferences for end of life care, were met within the home. There had been one death of a resident since the last inspection. Staff spoke caringly about the circumstances and were very aware of the impact of the loss on residents and themselves. Discussion with residents, their representatives and staff confirmed that action was taken to manage any pain and discomfort in a timely and appropriate manner.

The registered manager, residents and one relative confirmed that consent was sought in relation to care and treatment. Discussion with residents, their representatives and staff along with observation of care practice and social interactions demonstrated that residents were treated with dignity and respect. Staff confirmed their awareness of promoting residents’ rights, independence and dignity and were able to demonstrate how residents’ confidentiality was protected.

The registered manager and staff confirmed that residents were listened to, valued and communicated with in an appropriate manner. Residents and one relative confirmed that their views and opinions were taken into account in all matters affecting them.

Discussion with staff, residents, one relative and observation of practice confirmed that residents’ needs were recognised and responded to in a prompt and courteous manner by staff.

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 reviews. There are ten or less residents accommodated at any time and staff on duty have time to spend with residents informally either as individuals or in small groups.

Residents are consulted with, at least annually, about the quality of care and environment. The findings from the consultation were collated by the manager and forwarded to the organisation in control to be presented in a summary report which will be made available for residents and other interested parties to read. The report will cover the events and progress of the home in 2016

Discussion with staff, residents, one relative, observation of practice and review of care records confirmed that residents were enabled and supported to engage and participate in meaningful activities. Activities are organised on a daily basis and the home employs an activity coordinator. Arrangements were in place for residents to maintain links with their friends, families and wider community.

Comments received from residents, one relative and staff included:

- “I know that (resident) will be well cared for when I am not here any longer” (relative)
- “We just can’t get over (resident)s death it’s just like losing a member of your family”(staff)
- “I really like my room it’s the best”(resident)

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection in relation to this domain.

Number of requirements	0	Number of recommendations	0
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4.6 Is the service well led?

The registered manager outlined the management arrangements and governance systems in place within the home. These were found to be in line with good practice. 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. Policies and procedures were systematically reviewed every three years or more frequently as changes occurred.

There was a complaints policy and procedure in place which 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 Residents Guide and Posters in pictorial form. Discussion with staff confirmed that they were knowledgeable about how to receive and deal with complaints.

Review of the complaints records confirmed that arrangements were in place to effectively manage complaints from residents, their representatives or any other interested party. One complaint had been recorded in the past year. The record 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 at staff meetings and supervision sessions.

There was 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 was reviewed as part of the inspection process.

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.

There were quality assurance systems in place to drive quality improvement which included regular audits and satisfaction surveys.

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

Discussion with the registered 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 relevant to any specific needs of the residents. Training for staff since the last inspection has included -:

- Moving and handling on 18 October 2016
- Safeguarding vulnerable adults on 17 November 2016
- Epilepsy awareness on 9 November 2016
- Managing challenging behaviours and restrictive practice on 29 November 2016
- Principles of whistle blowing on 10 October 2016
- Food hygiene refresher on 28 September 2016
- First aid at work in September 2016

A monthly monitoring visit 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, trust representatives and RQIA to read.

There was evidence of managerial staff being provided with additional training in governance and leadership. The manager has recently completed a course in Developing Leadership Skills. Learning from complaints, incidents and feedback was integrated into practice and fed into a cycle of continuous improvement.

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 registered manager identified that she had understanding of her role and responsibilities under the legislation. The registered manager confirmed that the registered provider was kept informed regarding the day to day running of the home by telephone, email and regular meetings with other service managers.

The registered manager confirmed that the management and control of operations within the home was in accordance with the regulatory framework. Inspection of the premises confirmed that the RQIA certificate of registration and employers’ liability insurance certificate were displayed.

Review of governance arrangements within the home and the evidence provided within the returned RQIA Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) confirmed that the registered provider/s respond to regulatory matters in a timely manner.

Review of records and discussion with the registered manager and staff 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 and discussion with staff established that they were knowledgeable regarding this. The registered manager confirmed that staff could also access line management to raise concerns they will offer support to staff.

Discussion with staff confirmed that there were good working relationships within the home 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.

Comments received from residents, one relative and staff included:

- “This is a well-run home I would have no hesitation in approaching the manager if I was concerned about anything” (relative)
- “I can tell Heather (manager) or any of the staff if I’m worried about something” (resident)

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection in relation to this domain.

Number of requirements	0	Number of recommendations	0
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5.0 Quality improvement plan

There were no issues identified during this inspection, and a QIP is neither required, nor included, as part of this inspection report.

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.



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