

Healthcare Homes (LSC) Limited

Sovereign Lodge Care Centre

Inspection report

2 Carew Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 2DW

Date of inspection visit:
14 February 2022

Date of publication:
09 March 2022

Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Inspected but not rated

Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Sovereign Lodge Care Centre is purpose built and provides accommodation over three floors for up to 64 older people with nursing and dementia care needs. At the time of the inspection there were 57 people living at the home.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The provider was following current government guidance with regards to visiting in the home. On arrival visitors were asked to complete a COVID-19 questionnaire and a lateral flow device (LFT) test. People's temperatures were recorded, and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was provided for everyone entering the home.

Visits now took place in people's rooms whenever it was safe to do so. However, people still had the option to use the visiting pod or carry out video calls if they chose to.

Families had been kept updated throughout the pandemic to ensure they were aware of visiting and testing requirements. Relatives had also been informed when an outbreak had occurred at the home. There were safe processes in place for people who chose to go out. People were asked to carry out a LFT on their return and everyone was completing a regular PCR test.

There were dedicated housekeeping staff. The home was seen to be clean and tidy throughout. Cleaning schedules were in place to ensure regular disinfection and cleaning was carried out. Infection Prevention Control (IPC) checks and audits ensured that safe policies and procedures were being maintained.

Staff had received IPC and COVID-19 related training. Staff were observed to be wearing and disposing of PPE appropriately. PPE stations were located around the building to ensure staff had easy access to this equipment.

The registered manager was following safe admission procedures in line with government guidance when new people moved into the home.

A testing regime was in place for all staff in line with government guidance. Results were collated by the registered manager to ensure an audit trail was in place. Staff were aware of the isolation requirements should they test positive.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

Inspected but not rated

Sovereign Lodge Care Centre

Detailed findings

Background to this inspection

We carried out this inspection under Section 60 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 as part of our regulatory functions. This inspection was planned to check whether the provider is meeting the legal requirements and regulations associated with the Health and Social Care Act 2008.

As part of CQC's response to care homes with outbreaks of COVID-19, we are conducting reviews to ensure that the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) practice is safe and that services are compliant with IPC measures. This was a targeted inspection looking at the IPC practices the provider has in place. We also asked the provider about any staffing pressures the service was experiencing and whether this was having an impact on the service.

This inspection took place on 14 February 2022 and was announced. We gave the service two hours' notice of the inspection.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

Staffing

- The provider told us they had measures in place to mitigate the risks associated with COVID-19 related staff pressures

How well are people protected by the prevention and control of infection?

- We were assured that the provider was preventing visitors from catching and spreading infections.
- We were assured that the provider was meeting shielding and social distancing rules.
- We were assured that the provider was admitting people safely to the service.
- We were assured that the provider was using PPE effectively and safely.
- We were assured that the provider was accessing testing for people using the service and staff.
- We were assured that the provider was promoting safety through the layout and hygiene practices of the premises.
- We were assured that the provider was making sure infection outbreaks can be effectively prevented or managed.
- We were assured that the provider's infection prevention and control policy was up to date.

From 11 November 2021 registered persons must make sure all care home workers and other professionals visiting the service are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, unless they have an exemption or there is an emergency.

- The Government has announced its intention to change the legal requirement for vaccination in care homes, but the service was meeting the current requirement to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19.