

## Accord Housing Association Limited

# Silver Birches

### Inspection report

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24 February 2021

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### Ratings

Overall rating for this service	Inspected but not rated
Is the service safe?	<b>Inspected but not rated</b>

# Summary of findings

## Overall summary

Silver Birches provides accommodation and personal care to a maximum of 50 people. Some people were living with dementia. At the time of our inspection 35 people lived at the home.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- Different visiting and contact methods had enabled people to see and/or speak with their relatives. A wooden gazebo had been built in the garden and a special visiting pod was nearing completion. Health, social care and maintenance staff followed infection prevention guidelines to be allowed entry to the home.
- Some people lived with dementia and did not understand the need for social distancing. The premises however, were unitised within to provide small living areas. Bedrooms were single occupancy with en-suite bedrooms. These facilities decreased the need for close contact for long durations.
- People wanting to move in had to comply with strict rules. These included a negative COVID-19 test result prior to, and a self-isolation period of no less than 10 days, when admitted to the home.
- Staff worked closely with infection control professionals and had introduced isolation procedures to ensure infection outbreaks were effectively prevented or managed.
- The environment was clean. Staff completed regular touch point cleaning and deep cleans to decrease a possibility of infection outbreak.
- Staff had received a range of Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) training which included donning and doffing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and PPE usage. The provider's IPC policy was up to date and had been implemented within the home.

## 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**

# Silver Birches

## **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 the coronavirus pandemic we are looking at the preparedness of care homes in relation to infection prevention and control. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection control and prevention measures the provider has in place.

This inspection took place on 24 February 2021 and was announced.

# Is the service safe?

## Our findings

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.