

Lifeworks Charity Limited

Sesame

Inspection report

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Date of inspection visit:
02 February 2021

Date of publication:
18 February 2021

Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Inspected but not rated

Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Sesame is a residential care home that provides personal care and support for up to four people living with a learning disability and/or autistic spectrum disorder. Some people also had long-term health conditions and complex communication needs. At the time of this inspection four people were living at the service.

The provider and staff gave us assurance that people were being admitted to the service safely and in accordance with national guidance. It was not evident from one person's admission records what factors had been considered to mitigate the risks of catching or spreading infection to either this person or other people living at the service. Following the inspection, the provider informed us they had introduced a specific risk assessment as part of their new Covid 19 protocol to ensure that risks associated with the transmission of Covid 19 is a primary consideration to all future placements.

We found the following examples of good practice.

There was a clear system in place for visitors to ensure they followed the current guidance on the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and social distancing.

Instructions were easily accessible upon arrival at the service to ensure visitors understood the services infection prevention and control protocols and what they needed to do to keep people and themselves safe.

Staff had received additional training in infection prevention and control and the use of PPE including masks, gloves, aprons and hand sanitiser.

There were enough stocks of PPE available and staff were seen to be wearing PPE appropriately.

Staff took part in regular COVID-19 'whole home' testing and staff who tested positive, followed national guidance and self-isolated for the required amount of time. Due to people's complex care needs they were not taking part in a regular COVID-19 testing programme at the time of the inspection.

Cleaning schedules and procedures had been enhanced to include more frequent cleaning of touch points such as handrails and light switches.

The registered manager had developed specific COVID-19 policies, procedures and risk assessments which had been reviewed and updated where necessary in line with the latest guidance.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

Sesame

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 2 February 2021 and was announced.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

S5□ How well are people protected by the prevention and control of infection?

- We were somewhat assured that the provider was admitting people safely to the service. One person had been admitted into the service in November 2020. The nominated individual and staff gave us assurance that processes were in place to keep all concerned safe from the Covid 19 infection. However, it was not clear from this person's transition plan, what factors had been considered to mitigate any risks from catching and/or spreading infection to either this person or the other people living at the service. Following the inspection, the provider informed us they had introduced a specific risk assessment as part of their new Covid 19 protocol to ensure that risks associated with the transmission of Covid 19 is a primary consideration to all future transitions and/or placements.
- 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 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.

We have also signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach.