



**Health  
Information  
and Quality  
Authority**

An tÚdarás Um Fhaisnéis  
agus Cáilíocht Sláinte

**Social Services  
Inspectorate**

**A**

**CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL CENTRE**

**IN THE**

**HSE DUBLIN MID LEINSTER**

*Follow up Inspection Report: 352*

**Follow up inspection fieldwork date 31<sup>st</sup> July 2009:**  
**Publication Date: 10<sup>th</sup> August 2009**  
**SSI Inspection Period: Year 11**  
**Centre ID Number: 10**

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## **Introduction**

The Health Information and Quality Authority Social Services Inspectorate (HIQA/SSI) carried out a one day follow-up inspection (see inspection ID 296) of a children's residential centre in the HSE Dublin Mid Leinster, under Section 69 (2) of the Child Care Act 1991. The lead inspector, Kieran O'Connor, returned to the centre on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2009 to follow up on the level of compliance with recommendations made. The inspector met with the centre manager, one staff member and one young person.

## **Findings**

Overall, there was a high level of compliance with recommendations of the last inspection. There were five children and young people residing in the centre. The centre continued to be well managed and provided a high level of care to young people. There was also evidence of enthusiasm among the manager and staff team and an openness to try new approaches to working with the young people and staff sought out and consulted with specialist agencies in the interests of the young people. They also continually reflect on practices with each other. The centre had an atmosphere that was relaxed and homely. Most of the young people were out involved in family contacts or a constructive leisure activity. Formal staff supervision had been comprehensively addressed. One young person interviewed by this inspector said that they felt safe and liked living in the centre. The staff team had prepared him for an interview for a career of his choice during the last inspection and he told this inspector that he had recently been informed that he was successful. He said getting this news was one of the happiest moments of his life. This is a commendable result and an excellent outcome for the young person and the staff team.

The outstanding requirements of a recent health and safety audit had been met in full.

However, this inspector was concerned to find that a recommendation made in relation to the provision of a letter of compliance with fire safety regulations had not been met and this needs to be addressed as a matter of priority.

## Social Services Inspectorate

### Action Plan for Inspection No. 296 / 352

Centre ID: 10  
HSE Area: HSE Dublin Mid Leinster

Date Action Plan Dispatched: 19<sup>th</sup> May 2009  
Date Action Plan Updated: 10<sup>th</sup> August 2009

No.	Recommendation	Action to be taken	Person Responsible	Implementation Date	SSI Response
1	The HSE DML should ensure that all care staff receive regular formal supervision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A roster is in place for staff supervision</li> <li>All social care leaders have commenced supervising.</li> <li>Residential manager supervising social care manager on 4-6 week basis.</li> </ul>	Services Manager And Residential Manager	Complete	<b>Recommendation met</b>
2	The HSE DML should ensure that the outstanding garda clearance is obtained immediately. In future three references are obtained prior to the commencement of employment in the centre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff files being reviewed to insure required 3 references on file.</li> <li>Outstanding garda clearance has been requested.</li> </ul>	Services Manager And Residential Manager	End of July 2009	<b>Recommendation met</b>
3	The HSE DML should conduct an audit of internal systems in order to identify roadblocks that hinder compliance with this standard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All staff files have been checked and all have garda clearance (with above exception).</li> <li>The recruitment department to respond query to identify systems that are now in place to prevent a similar situation again.</li> </ul>	HSE recruitment section and Services Manager	End of July 2009.	<b>Recommendation met</b>

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4	The HSE DML should ensure that decisions from care plan review meetings are integrated into the care plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The minutes of reviews are the updated care plan and named as such.</li> </ul>	Reviewing Officer	Complete	<b>Recommendation met.</b>
5	The HSE DML should ensure that all of the monitoring officer's remaining recommendations are implemented.		Services Manager And Residential Manager	Complete	<b>Recommendation met</b>
6	The HSE DML should ensure that their draft aftercare policy is ratified as soon as possible and the centre's aftercare policy is modified to reflect positive centre practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft policy to be ratified by LHM</li> </ul>	LHM		<b>Recommendation met in part.</b>  Policy needs to be ratified.

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8	<p>The HSE DML should ensure that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recording of prescribed medicine on the medication records is clear as per best practice.</li> <li>Medicine that was out of date is returned to the pharmacy for safe disposal.</li> <li>There needed to be a system in place for the routine checks of medication and first aid kits.</li> <li>A medical history of each young person is kept on file</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A staff member has been identified as the person responsible for the medicine cabinet and to ensure that a medical history is on each young person's file.</li> <li>Where there are gaps in medical histories, the social workers have been requested to get the information.</li> </ul>	Residential Manager and Young Peoples, Social Workers	End of August 2009.	<b>Recommendation met in part</b> The manager is awaiting a response from two social workers.
9	<p>The HSE DML should ensure that the remaining recommendations of the health and safety audit are completed as soon as possible.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Costings for some of the works to be submitted by Maintenance Manager to Services Manager.</li> </ul>	Services Manager	End of August 2009.	<b>Recommendation met in part.</b>

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10.	<p>The HSE DML should ensure that <i>External premises requirements</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the garden is cleared of old building material, old furniture and a general upkeep of the ground should be carried out on a regular basis,</li> <li>the oil tanker is screened off for safety and</li> <li>new seating is required for the games room.</li> </ul> <p><i>Internal centre requirements</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the centre is repainted</li> <li>the sinks in the young people bedrooms are repaired or replaced</li> <li>bedroom mattresses replaced.</li> </ul>	<p><i>External</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Done</li> <li>To be done by maintenance dept.</li> <li>Costings sought to comply with procurement requirements.</li> </ul> <p><i>Internal</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Costing awaited from maintenance dept.</li> <li>Costing awaited from maintenance dept.</li> <li>Done.</li> </ul>	Services Manager and Residential Manager	End of August 2009.	<p><b>Recommendation met in part.</b></p> <p>The HSE had done major work in the garden and it looked really well. The centre needed to be repainted. The play room needed new seating as a matter of urgency.</p>

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11.	The HSE DML should ensure that the centre had written confirmation from a certified engineer or a qualified architect that all statutory requirements relating to fire safety and building control have been complied with and relevant the document is forwarded to the inspectorate.	Technical Services Department to get required confirmation.	Estate Manager	End of August 2009.	<b>Recommendation not met.</b>  The centre had not written confirmation from a certified engineer or a qualified architect that all statutory requirements relating to fire safety and building control have been complied with and relevant the document is forwarded to the inspectorate