



Report of an inspection of a Designated Centre for Older People.

Issued by the Chief Inspector

Name of designated centre:	St Camillus Nursing Centre
Name of provider:	Order of St Camillus
Address of centre:	Killucan, Westmeath
Type of inspection:	Unannounced
Date of inspection:	14 July 2026
Centre ID:	OSV-0000098
Fieldwork ID:	MON-0051054

About the designated centre

The following information has been submitted by the registered provider and describes the service they provide.

St. Camillus Nursing Centre was established in 1976 and is registered for a maximum capacity of 57 residents, providing continuing, convalescent, dementia, respite and palliative care to male and female residents, primarily over 65 years with low to high dependency needs. The centre is located on the outskirts of Killucan in Co. Westmeath, close to where four counties meet. All accommodation and facilities are at ground floor level and are well maintained. A variety of communal facilities for residents' use are available. A number of sitting rooms, a quiet room, a visitor's room and seated areas are available. Two dining rooms are located at the front of the building, with one adjoining the main kitchen. The layout and design of both dining rooms provided good outlooks and views of well-maintained gardens and the main driveway. A smoking room, hairdressing room and laundry facility are included in the facilities within the centre. Residents' bedroom accommodation consists of a mixture of 42 single and eight twin rooms. An end-of-life single room for those sharing a bedroom is included in the layout, and two single bedrooms are dedicated to residents with palliative care needs. Some bedrooms have en-suite facilities, while others share communal bathrooms. The centre is connected by a corridor to a splendid chapel where mass is celebrated daily and where the wider community come to meet residents. The service aims to create a caring, safe, and supportive environment where residents feel secure, have meaningful activity, and are encouraged to live life to the fullest while meeting their needs. Family involvement is supported and encouraged. Staff will have appropriate training and the necessary skills to ensure care is tailored to each individual during their stay and up to the end of life.

The following information outlines some additional data on this centre.

Number of residents on the date of inspection:	50
--	----

How we inspect

This inspection was carried out to assess compliance with the Health Act 2007 (as amended), the Health Act 2007 (Care and Welfare of Residents in Designated Centres for Older People) Regulations 2013 (as amended), and the Health Act 2007 (Registration of Designated Centres for Older People) Regulations 2015 (as amended). To prepare for this inspection the inspector of social services (**hereafter referred to as inspectors**) reviewed all information about this centre. This included any previous inspection findings, registration information, information submitted by the provider or person in charge and other unsolicited information since the last inspection.

As part of our inspection, where possible, we:

- speak with residents and the people who visit them to find out their experience of the service,
- talk with staff and management to find out how they plan, deliver and monitor the care and support services that are provided to people who live in the centre,
- observe practice and daily life to see if it reflects what people tell us,
- review documents to see if appropriate records are kept and that they reflect practice and what people tell us.

In order to summarise our inspection findings and to describe how well a service is doing, we group and report on the regulations under two dimensions of:

1. Capacity and capability of the service:

This section describes the leadership and management of the centre and how effective it is in ensuring that a good quality and safe service is being provided. It outlines how people who work in the centre are recruited and trained and whether there are appropriate systems and processes in place to underpin the safe delivery and oversight of the service.

2. Quality and safety of the service:

This section describes the care and support people receive and if it was of a good quality and ensured people were safe. It includes information about the care and supports available for people and the environment in which they live.

A full list of all regulations and the dimension they are reported under can be seen in Appendix 1.

This inspection was carried out during the following times:

Date	Times of Inspection	Inspector	Role
Tuesday 14 July 2026	07:00hrs to 10:30hrs	Yvonne O'Loughlin	Lead
Tuesday 14 July 2026	07:00hrs to 10:30hrs	Helena Budzicz	Support

What residents told us and what inspectors observed

This was an unannounced inspection by two inspectors who focused on monitoring compliance with infection prevention and control regulations and standards in the context of building works that were ongoing to improve and upgrade the centre. The building works included some of the bedrooms, en-suites and communal areas.

On arrival at the centre, the inspectors met with the person in charge, who facilitated an opening discussion of how the building work was progressing. Following this, the inspectors conducted a tour of the centre to observe the environment, meet with residents and staff, and gain an understanding of residents' lived experience during the construction phases in the centre.

During the walkaround, the inspectors observed that a number of residents were still in bed, either sleeping or enjoying a relaxed start to their morning. Staff were seen providing assistance with personal care and supporting residents with their individual morning routines. Interactions between staff and residents were observed to be respectful, responsive and unhurried.

St Camillus Nursing Centre is situated in a peaceful rural setting on the outskirts of Killucan village and is accessed via a tree-lined avenue surrounded by landscaped grounds. The centre's religious ethos was evident throughout the inspection and was described by residents as an important aspect of daily life within the service. Residents had regular opportunities to participate in religious services, including daily Mass held in the adjoining church, and could also receive pastoral support and Holy Communion.

The centre is registered for a maximum occupancy of 57 residents and had 50 residents in residence on the day of inspection. The provider had made the decision not to admit any new residents while the construction works were ongoing, thereby supporting the safe and effective management of the project and reducing potential disruption within the centre.

The centre presented as warm, comfortable and welcoming, with a calm atmosphere throughout. Residents who spoke with the inspectors expressed a high level of satisfaction with the care and support they received during the building works, and their feedback was consistently positive regarding life in the centre.

The next two sections of this report present the findings of this inspection in relation to the governance and management of infection prevention and control and how these arrangements impacted the effectiveness of the management of the building works in the centre.

Capacity and capability

Overall, the inspectors found that management demonstrated effective oversight of the building works in the centre, responding promptly and effectively to minimise the risk to residents, staff and visitors. High standards of infection prevention and control were also evident, with effective systems in place to monitor and sustain practice. Findings will be discussed in more detail under the relevant regulations.

This was an unannounced inspection. The purpose of the inspection was to monitor regulatory compliance with the Health Act 2007 (Care and Welfare of Residents in Designated Centres for Older People) Regulations 2013 to 2025 (as amended) and specifically focused on infection prevention and control.

The inspectors found that there were clear lines of accountability and responsibility in relation to the governance and management of the building works being undertaken within the centre. The person in charge maintained oversight of the project and ensured that residents' safety, wellbeing and quality of life were prioritised throughout the works. Effective communication processes were in place between the centre's management team, contractors and relevant stakeholders to ensure that risks associated with the refurbishment project were identified, monitored and managed.

The designated centre is operated by the Order of St. Camillus, an unincorporated body represented by a nominated senior member of the religious order. While the provider representative was not present on the day of inspection, the person in charge, who is also a member of the Order of St. Camillus, was available throughout the inspection and facilitated the inspectors in carrying out their regulatory responsibilities. The person in charge demonstrated a good understanding of the service and provided information and documentation as required.

Additional resources had been allocated to support the safe management of the works, including enhanced housekeeping arrangements to address any increased cleaning requirements. Staff spoken with were knowledgeable regarding the measures implemented to minimise the impact of the works on residents and understood their responsibilities in maintaining a safe environment.

The provider had implemented a range of assurance processes to monitor the impact of the building works on residents and the environment. These included risk assessments, regular environmental monitoring, designated contractor access routes, and controls to manage dust, noise and debris. Cleaning schedules and records demonstrated ongoing oversight of environmental hygiene standards throughout the project.

Regular staff meetings and safety briefings were used to provide updates on the progress of the works and to reinforce residents' safety and infection prevention and control measures where required. Staff demonstrated a good awareness of the

arrangements in place, and the inspector observed that the building works were being managed in a manner that minimised disruption to residents while maintaining a safe and comfortable living environment.

Regulation 15: Staffing

Staffing arrangements supported the safe delivery of care and the effective management of the building works. Sufficient staffing resources were available to ensure that residents' care needs continued to be met throughout the project. Additional housekeeping resources were allocated, where required, to support enhanced environmental cleaning and to maintain a clean, safe and comfortable environment for residents during the construction works.

Judgment: Compliant

Regulation 23: Governance and management

The provider had effective governance and oversight arrangements in place to support the safe management of the building works. Regular meetings were held with relevant personnel to monitor progress, review risks and ensure mitigating controls remained effective. The person in charge maintained oversight of the project and ensured that residents continued to receive safe and effective care through ongoing monitoring, risk assessments and quality assurance activities.

Judgment: Compliant

Quality and safety

Overall, the inspectors was assured that appropriate measures were in place to protect and promote the health, safety and wellbeing of residents during the building works in the centre.

The registered provider ensured that the premises were appropriate to the number and needs of residents and were maintained in good condition. Building works were ongoing during the inspection; however, effective measures were in place to minimise the impact on residents. Appropriate infection prevention and control arrangements, including risk assessments, segregation of construction areas, dust

control measures, and ongoing monitoring, were implemented to protect residents and maintain a safe environment throughout the works.

The inspectors reviewed residents' infection control care plans. Overall, the standard of care planning was good and described person-centred and evidence-based interventions to meet the assessed needs of residents. Detailed care plans had been developed to guide the management of all residents during the building works.

Appropriate communication was maintained with residents, families and visitors regarding the building works and the control measures implemented to minimise any associated risks. The provider had designated a single point of contact with responsibility for coordinating and overseeing communication between residents, staff and contractors. This ensured that relevant information regarding the progress of the works, any potential disruption, and mitigation measures was communicated in a timely and consistent manner. Residents and their families were kept informed throughout the project and had opportunities to raise any concerns or queries, which were responded to appropriately.

Regulation 11: Visits

Building works had not adversely impacted on residents' ability to receive visitors. Appropriate arrangements were in place to facilitate visits safely, while ensuring residents' comfort, privacy and dignity were maintained.

Judgment: Compliant

Regulation 17: Premises

The registered provider ensured that the centre's premises were suitable for their intended purpose and met the needs of residents. Building improvement works were ongoing during the inspection and were being appropriately managed by the provider.

Judgment: Compliant

Regulation 27: Infection control

The inspectors found that the planned building works were being managed effectively. Appropriate risk management, environmental and infection prevention

and control measures were in place to protect residents and ensure the continued safe delivery of care throughout the project.

Judgment: Compliant

Appendix 1 - Full list of regulations considered under each dimension

This inspection was carried out to assess compliance with the Health Act 2007 (as amended), the Health Act 2007 (Care and Welfare of Residents in Designated Centres for Older People) Regulations 2013 (as amended), and the Health Act 2007 (Registration of Designated Centres for Older People) Regulations 2015 (as amended) and the regulations considered on this inspection were:

Regulation Title	Judgment
Capacity and capability	
Regulation 15: Staffing	Compliant
Regulation 23: Governance and management	Compliant
Quality and safety	
Regulation 11: Visits	Compliant
Regulation 17: Premises	Compliant
Regulation 27: Infection control	Compliant