



Report of an inspection of a Designated Centre for Disabilities (Adults).

Issued by the Chief Inspector

Name of designated centre:	Larch View
Name of provider:	Talbot Care Unlimited Company
Address of centre:	Meath
Type of inspection:	Unannounced
Date of inspection:	01 December 2022
Centre ID:	OSV-0008031
Fieldwork ID:	MON-0035915

About the designated centre

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

This centre provides residential services for up to five adults with an intellectual disability, autistic spectrum disorder and acquired brain injury. The centre is based in a rural location in the community, and transport is provided for residents to access facilities and services in nearby towns. The aims of the service are to promote residents' independence, and to maximise residents' quality of life through interventions and supports. Residents are supported in the centre by a team including a person in charge and direct support workers. Residents can also access a range of professionals in order to support their health, social and personal needs. In line with their preferences residents are supported to attend day services, or to engage in activities in the centre and in the community.

The centre is homely and comfortable and laid out to meet the individual and collective needs of residents.

The following information outlines some additional data on this centre.

Number of residents on the date of inspection:	5
--	---

This inspection was carried out to assess compliance with the Health Act 2007 (as amended), the Health Act 2007 (Care and Support of Residents in Designated Centres for Persons (Children and Adults) with Disabilities) Regulations 2013, and the Health Act 2007 (Registration of Designated Centres for Persons (Children and Adults) with Disabilities) Regulations 2013 (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
Thursday 1 December 2022	11:15hrs to 15:40hrs	Anna Doyle	Lead

What residents told us and what inspectors observed

This was an unannounced inspection to monitor and inspect the arrangements the provider had in place for the management of infection prevention and control (IPC) in the centre. The inspection was completed over one day and took place in a manner so as to comply with current public health guidelines and minimise potential risk to the residents and staff.

On arrival to the centre, staff members were observed wearing face masks and one staff took the inspectors temperature. The inspector met all of the residents who lived in the centre except one who was attending a day service.

Two of the residents showed the inspector their bedroom, they said they liked their rooms and had decorated them in line with their personal preferences. Some of the residents were observed engaged in their plans for the day, these included, doing laundry, going out shopping and some were sitting watching Christmas movies. One of the residents told the inspector about a Christmas party that was planned for the following week and showed the inspector an outfit they had recently purchased to wear to the party. One resident was a keen photographer and was going to the shop later that day to purchase more photography equipment. At the time of the inspection some residents were exploring options to attend a day service.

The centre was generally very clean, well organised and was well maintained. Each resident had their own bedroom and one of them had an en-suite bathroom.

Residents got to choose the meals they wanted on a weekly basis and some of them were observed enjoying lunch together on the day of the inspection. Residents spoken with all said that they were very happy living in the centre.

Residents meetings were held where they were kept informed about COVID-19. One of the residents spoke to the inspector about COVID-19 and getting vaccinations to protect them. The resident said that they were very happy to get these vaccinations.

There were hand sanitisation points throughout the centre and sinks had a supply of soap and disposable towels. There was a separate utility room and residents laundered their clothes separately. Staff went through the procedures for managing and separating residents' clothes and were aware of the correct temperature of the wash cycle. Staff informed the inspector that they wore gloves and aprons when handling laundry.

The kitchen was clean and there were procedures in place to mitigate the risk of infection when preparing food. For example, chopping boards were colour coded, the temperature of the fridge and freezer were recorded daily and any food cooked in the centre was probed to ensure that it was at the correct temperature before serving it to the residents.

Storage was available in the centre and the provider had identified that this required improvements through their own audits of the centre. On the day of the inspection this was being addressed by maintenance staff.

The following sections of the report will present the findings of the inspection with regard to the capacity and capability of the provider and the quality and safety of the service.

Capacity and capability

Overall, the inspector observed that the governance and management arrangements in the centre in relation to infection prevention and control were to a good standard. Some minor issues were identified in relation to records stored however, the person in charge had updated these prior to the inspection ending.

The provider had policies and procedures in place to guide IPC practice along with general risk assessments. There were also individual risk assessments for residents in relation to IPC and contingency plans for the management of COVID-19 and influenza in the centre. All of the records had recently been updated.

The provider had systems in place to oversee and review IPC measures in the centre which included, audits on IPC, enhanced cleaning schedules and monitoring the premises for wear and tear. The measures appeared to be contributing to positive outcomes as the inspector observed that the centre was very clean and there had been no confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19 in the centre since it opened last year.

There were sufficient staff on duty to support the residents' needs in the centre. The staff spoken with were knowledgeable around the needs of the residents.

Staff had been provided with IPC training which included, hand hygiene, donning and doffing of personal protective equipment (PPE) and standard infection control precautions. They reported that they felt supported in their role and could raise concerns through supervision and at staff meetings.

Quality and safety

Overall, the provider had arrangements in place to ensure that residents were provided with a safe quality service in relation to infection prevention and control. Some minor improvements were required to the records stored however, this was addressed before the end of the inspection.

A sample of records viewed showed that residents had an assessment of need completed and support plans in place to guide practice. The personal plans were also in an easy to read version for residents. One resident had some of their activities displayed in a picture format in their bedroom and explained to the inspector what activities they were doing that day.

Individual risk assessments were also in place to identify the controls in place to manage IPC issues. However, the inspector found that one record in relation to isolating a resident was not specific enough to include, how the resident would be supported if they found isolating in their bedroom difficult. The person in charge reviewed this with the staff team and a specific plan was agreed prior to the inspection ending.

Overall, the premises was very clean and well organised. There was a shed to the side of the property where surplus PPE was stored. As stated the provider had identified that this needed to be organised better to avoid potential cross contamination and this issue was being addressed on the day of the inspection.

The provider had enhanced the cleaning schedules in place in the centre since the COVID-19 pandemic had begun. Records were maintained to verify this and staff were clear about what cleaning was required to reduce the risk of cross-contamination in the centre. For example; staff outlined which colour mop they would use to clean specific areas and how they would manage spills if they occurred in the centre.

The provider also had arrangements in place to clean specific equipment in the centre for example; shower chairs, blood pressure monitors and wheelchairs. All of these items were visibly clean on the day of the inspection.

The provider had systems in place for the management of waste. Pedal bins were provided in all rooms. There was a system to manage general and clinical waste in the centre and staff spoken to were aware of the procedures to follow.

Regulation 27: Protection against infection

The governance and management arrangements in the centre in relation to infection prevention and control were to a good standard. Some minor issues were identified in relation to records stored however, the person in charge had updated these prior to the inspection ending

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 Support of Residents in Designated Centres for Persons (Children and Adults) with Disabilities) Regulations 2013, and the Health Act 2007 (Registration of Designated Centres for Persons (Children and Adults) with Disabilities) Regulations 2013 (as amended) and the regulations considered on this inspection were:

Regulation Title	Judgment
Capacity and capability	
Quality and safety	
Regulation 27: Protection against infection	Compliant