

Prime Life Limited

The Fieldings

Inspection report

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22 August 2016

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Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Requires Improvement ●

Is the service safe?

Requires Improvement ●

Summary of findings

Overall summary

This unannounced focused inspection took place on 22 August 2016. The Fieldings is situated in Sutton in Ashfield in Nottinghamshire and is registered to provide accommodation for up to 47 people. The focus of the service is to allow people to receive care and support in regard to their mental health needs. On the day of our inspection 24 people were using the service.

We carried out an unannounced comprehensive inspection of this service on 24 and 25 May 2016. Breaches of legal requirements were found. We issued a warning notice in relation to one of these breaches.

We undertook this focused inspection to confirm that the provider had met the requirements of the warning notice. This report only covers our findings in relation to those requirements. You can read the report from our last comprehensive inspection, by selecting the 'all reports' link for The Fieldings on our website at www.cqc.org.uk.

The service had a registered manager in place at the time of our inspection. A registered manager is a person who has registered with the Care Quality Commission to manage the service. Like registered providers, they are 'registered persons.' Registered persons have legal responsibility for meeting the requirements in the Health and Social Care Act and associated Regulations about how the service is run.

At our last inspection on 24 and 25 May 2016, we asked the provider to take action to ensure that people were provided with safe care and treatment through the proper and safe management of medicines.

During this inspection, we found that the required action had been taken by the provider to ensure that medicines were managed safely.

We could not improve the rating for effective from requires improvement because to do so requires consistent good practice over time. We will check this during or next planned comprehensive inspection.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

We found that action had been taken to improve people's safety.

Improvements had been made to ensure that medicines were administered and managed safely.

We could not improve the rating for effective from requires improvement because to do so requires consistent good practice over time. We will check this during or next planned comprehensive inspection.

Requires Improvement ●

The Fieldings

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.

The inspection took place on 22 August 2016 and was unannounced. The inspection was carried out to check that improvements had been made to meet legal requirements following our comprehensive inspection on 24 and 25 May 2016. We inspected the service against one of the five questions we ask about services: Is the service safe? This is because The Fieldings was not meeting some legal requirements and we had taken enforcement action which required the service to improve.

The inspection was undertaken by one inspector. During the inspection we spoke with three people who used the service. We also spoke with the registered manager and two care workers. We looked at the medicines administration records of six people who lived at the service as well as staff training records and audits.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

At our last inspection on 24 and 25 May 2016, we asked the provider to take action to ensure that people were provided with safe care and treatment through the proper and safe management of medicines. This was because safe procedures for the administration and storage of medicines were not followed. During this inspection, we found that improvements had been made to ensure that procedures were followed and the risk of harm to people was reduced.

People told us that they were supported to take their medicines. One person told us, "I ask staff to check I have taken my tablets and they do this." The person confirmed that staff ensured that their medicines were available to them when they were needed. Another person told us, "I get my tablets when I need them." People received their medicines as prescribed. We observed medicines being administered by staff and saw that safe practices were followed. We found that people's medicine administration records (MARs) were completed and contained appropriate information to aid the safe administration of medicines such as a photo of the person, a record of any allergies and how the person preferred to take their medicine.

Staff told us they had received training in the safe handling and administration of medicines and had their competency assessed. Records we viewed confirmed this to be the case. We spoke with two staff who were responsible for administering medicines in the service who were knowledgeable about safe administration practices and what action they would need to take in the event an error was made.

Medicines were stored safely and managed in a way to ensure effectiveness. The temperature of the room and fridge used to store medicines was being monitored on a daily basis. Temperatures on the day of our inspection were within recommended ranges. The registered manager told us they were aware of some discrepancies with temperature recording and would be ensuring that the thermometer was being reset appropriately to ensure accurate recording. In addition, medicines with a short expiry date had been dated when opened to ensure their effectiveness.

Medicines were stored safely in locked cupboards and trolleys within locked rooms.

Some people living at the service administered their own medicines. Guidance was available to staff as to what support people required to do so safely, such as prompting. The registered manager told us that weekly checks were carried out to ensure that people were taking and storing their medicines safely and a form had been produced so that checks could be documented. Guidance was also available to staff for people who were prescribed medicines to be given when required (known as PRN), such as when the medicine should be administered and what the maximum dosage was.

Daily checks and monthly medicines audits were being undertaken and were effective in identifying issues and recorded action taken.