

**Health Information and Quality Authority
Regulation Directorate**

**Compliance Monitoring Inspection report
Designated Centres under Health Act 2007,
as amended**



Centre name:	A designated centre for people with disabilities operated by Nua Healthcare
Centre ID:	ORG-0011275
Centre county:	Kildare
Email address:	l.flynn@nuahealthcare.ie
Type of centre:	Health Act 2004 Section 39 Assistance
Registered provider:	Nua Healthcare
Provider Nominee:	Noel Dunne
Person in charge:	Lisa Flynn
Lead inspector:	Sheila Doyle
Support inspector(s):	None
Type of inspection	Unannounced
Number of residents on the date of inspection:	5
Number of vacancies on the date of inspection:	0

About monitoring of compliance

The purpose of regulation in relation to designated centres is to safeguard vulnerable people of any age who are receiving residential care services. Regulation provides assurance to the public that people living in a designated centre are receiving a service that meets the requirements of quality standards which are underpinned by regulations. This process also seeks to ensure that the health, wellbeing and quality of life of people in residential care is promoted and protected. Regulation also has an important role in driving continuous improvement so that residents have better, safer lives.

The Health Information and Quality Authority has, among its functions under law, responsibility to regulate the quality of service provided in designated centres for children, dependent people and people with disabilities.

Regulation has two aspects:

- Registration: under Section 46(1) of the Health Act 2007 any person carrying on the business of a designated centre can only do so if the centre is registered under this Act and the person is its registered provider.
- Monitoring of compliance: the purpose of monitoring is to gather evidence on which to make judgments about the ongoing fitness of the registered provider and the provider's compliance with the requirements and conditions of his/her registration.

Monitoring inspections take place to assess continuing compliance with the regulations and standards. They can be announced or unannounced, at any time of day or night, and take place:

- to monitor compliance with regulations and standards
- following a change in circumstances; for example, following a notification to the Health Information and Quality Authority's Regulation Directorate that a provider has appointed a new person in charge
- arising from a number of events including information affecting the safety or well-being of residents

The findings of all monitoring inspections are set out under a maximum of 18 outcome statements. The outcomes inspected against are dependent on the purpose of the inspection. Where a monitoring inspection is to inform a decision to register or to renew the registration of a designated centre, all 18 outcomes are inspected.

Compliance with the Health Act 2007 (Care and Support of Residents in Designated Centres for Persons (Children and Adults) with Disabilities) Regulations 2013 and the National Standards for Residential Services for Children and Adults with Disabilities.

This inspection report sets out the findings of a monitoring inspection, the purpose of which was to monitor ongoing regulatory compliance. This monitoring inspection was un-announced and took place over 1 day(s).

The inspection took place over the following dates and times

From: 06 May 2014 10:30 To: 06 May 2014 18:00

The table below sets out the outcomes that were inspected against on this inspection.

Outcome 05: Social Care Needs
Outcome 07: Health and Safety and Risk Management
Outcome 08: Safeguarding and Safety
Outcome 11. Healthcare Needs
Outcome 12. Medication Management
Outcome 14: Governance and Management
Outcome 17: Workforce

Summary of findings from this inspection

This was the first monitoring inspection in this centre. The inspector met with the person in charge, residents and staff, observed practices and reviewed documentation such as personal care plans and records. The inspector had previously met with the Director of Services and the Director of Operations at the provider's head office reviewing policies and procedures, staff records and collecting other information required to inform the inspection in other centres in the organisation.

The inspector found that residents received a good person centred quality service. There was a committed team of staff who spoke fondly of the residents in their care. Staff supported residents to maximise their independence and encouraged them to make decisions and choices about their lives. Residents' social and health needs were regularly reviewed and plans put in place to address them. There was a robust recruitment procedure and appropriate training was provided to staff.

Although there was evidence of good practice around health and safety the inspector was not satisfied that all risks had been identified. This is discussed further in the report and included in the action plan at the end.

Section 41(1)(c) of the Health Act 2007. Compliance with the Health Act 2007 (Care and Support of Residents in Designated Centres for Persons (Children And Adults) With Disabilities) Regulations 2013 and the National Standards for Residential Services for Children and Adults with Disabilities.

Outcome 05: Social Care Needs

Each resident's wellbeing and welfare is maintained by a high standard of evidence-based care and support. Each resident has opportunities to participate in meaningful activities, appropriate to his or her interests and preferences. The arrangements to meet each resident's assessed needs are set out in an individualised personal plan that reflects his /her needs, interests and capacities. Personal plans are drawn up with the maximum participation of each resident. Residents are supported in transition between services and between childhood and adulthood.

Theme:

Effective Services

Judgement:

Compliant

Outstanding requirement(s) from previous inspection:

No actions were required from the previous inspection.

Findings:

The inspector was satisfied that the care and support currently provided to residents sufficiently reflected their assessed needs and wishes.

The inspector reviewed a sample of personal plans and found that the resident's care needs were identified and plans were put in place with the residents to address those needs. The personal plans contained important information about the residents' life, their likes and dislikes, their interests, details of family members and other people who are important in their lives. Daily records were also maintained of the how the residents spent their day. Key workers were assigned and the inspector saw evidence that goals were described and plans put in place to meet those.

There was evidence that residents were supported in transition between services. A document called 'my hospital passport' had been developed for each resident. This contained useful information such as personal details about the resident, aids and assistive devices used, communication needs including how the resident would express pain etc.

There was an extensive range of activities available to the residents both in the centre and out in the community. Transport was available within the centre. A daily plan was devised for each resident and the inspector saw that this included trips to the shops, community activities, life skills training, swimming and cycling. Staff confirmed that although a plan was in place this changed depending on the wishes of the residents on any given day.

Outcome 07: Health and Safety and Risk Management

The health and safety of residents, visitors and staff is promoted and protected.

Theme:

Effective Services

Judgement:

Non Compliant - Moderate

Outstanding requirement(s) from previous inspection:

No actions were required from the previous inspection.

Findings:

The inspector was not satisfied that the health and safety of residents, visitors and staff was sufficiently promoted.

There was an active health and safety committee and a weekly health and safety audit of the premises was carried out. The assessments were being updated regularly as risks were identified or changed. Risk assessments were also carried out on the vehicles used to transport residents.

However, the inspector saw where a resident had put a ladder down an open ditch area which was a stream bed, and had climbed down to collect some branches. The ladder was resting on a mucky area in the stream bed. The area was covered in nettles and the resident showed the inspector where he had been stung. This had not been identified as a possible hazard and there were no controls in place to manage this risk. This was discussed with the person in charge and was being addressed prior to the end of inspection.

The inspector read the emergency plan and saw it had recently been updated and provided sufficient detail to sufficiently guide staff in the procedure to follow in the event of an emergency. In addition possible alternative accommodation for residents was specified should evacuation be required.

The inspector found that adequate fire precautions had been put in place. There were regular fire drills and all staff had received training and staff spoken with were knowledgeable. The inspector viewed evidence that fire equipment was serviced regularly, as were fire alarms and emergency lighting.

All staff had attended training in the moving and handling and a matrix was maintained by the organisation's head office to identify when additional training was required.

Outcome 08: Safeguarding and Safety

Measures to protect residents being harmed or suffering abuse are in place and appropriate action is taken in response to allegations, disclosures or suspected abuse. Residents are assisted and supported to develop the knowledge, self-awareness, understanding and skills needed for self-care and protection. Residents are provided with emotional, behavioural and therapeutic support that promotes a positive approach to behaviour that challenges. A restraint-free environment is promoted.

Theme:

Safe Services

Judgement:

Compliant

Outstanding requirement(s) from previous inspection:

No actions were required from the previous inspection.

Findings:

The inspector was satisfied that measures were in place to protect residents being harmed or suffering abuse.

There was a policy in place on the prevention, detection and response to abuse and staff had received training. An eLearning programme had been developed to ensure that all staff had access to this training. Staff spoken with and the person in charge outlined the procedures they would follow should there be an allegation of abuse.

The inspector was satisfied that residents were assisted and supported to develop the knowledge, self-awareness, understanding and skills needed for self-care and protection. The inspector saw where issues were discussed at residents' meetings and reminders in pictorial format were on display in areas throughout the centre. Topics were also included in each meeting with their key worker.

The inspector saw that residents were provided with emotional, behavioural and therapeutic support that promoted a positive approach to behaviour that challenges. The inspector observed staff interacting with residents in a respectful, warm and caring manner and residents and staff communicated freely between each other. There was a policy in place guiding the management of behaviours that challenge and there were good systems in place for the management of these behaviours. This included access to the behaviour specialists, psychotherapists, psychologists, a neuropsychiatrist and psychiatrists. Residents had detailed positive behaviour support plans in place where necessary. The inspector found that they were based on multi-disciplinary input and were of good quality. Staff members were aware of the content of these plans and were aware of the need to update them as residents' needs changed. The inspector noted that each episode was analysed including the use of a scatter plot and plans put in place to prevent reoccurrence.

A restraint free environment was promoted and no resident was using either bedrails or lapbelts at the time of inspection.

Outcome 11. Healthcare Needs

Residents are supported on an individual basis to achieve and enjoy the best possible health.

Theme:

Health and Development

Judgement:

Compliant

Outstanding requirement(s) from previous inspection:

No actions were required from the previous inspection.

Findings:

The inspector was satisfied that residents' health needs were regularly reviewed with appropriate input from multidisciplinary practitioners where required.

Resident's health needs were regularly reviewed with appropriate input from multidisciplinary practitioners where required, with reports evidenced in files. The inspector reviewed some care plans and medical notes and saw that they had access to a general practitioner (GP), to an out of hours GP service and to a range of allied health professionals such as physiotherapists, speech and language therapists (SALT) dieticians, chiropodists, opticians and dental services and those specialists previously mentioned under Outcome 8.

The inspector was satisfied that residents' nutritional needs were met to an acceptable standard. Weights were recorded if residents had lost or gained weight. The menu choices were on display. The menu choices for the week were discussed and agreed at the residents' weekly meeting although choices were also provided for residents who did not like the main option. Staff volunteered more appropriate choices when healthy eating was encouraged. The inspector saw that mealtimes were flexible and fitted around residents' social and work life. There was an adequate supply of food to make sandwiches or hot meals for lunch although most of the residents were out and about at that time. The inspector saw that those that were in the centre joined the staff for the meal. The inspector also saw that residents were supported in preparing and cooking the meals and in the cleaning up afterwards.

Outcome 12. Medication Management

Each resident is protected by the designated centres policies and procedures for medication management.

Theme:

Health and Development

Judgement:

Compliant

Outstanding requirement(s) from previous inspection:

No actions were required from the previous inspection.

Findings:

The inspector was satisfied that each resident was protected by the centre's policies and procedures for medication management.

All medications were administered by a social care worker. Detailed descriptions of each medication were available to assist staff. Each resident's medication was supplied in a blister pack and these were stored in a locked press. One resident was self medicating. A risk assessment had been completed and a detailed medication plan was in place.

The staff spoken with were very clear of their role and responsibility as regards medication management and confirmed that they had undertaken training in this area. There was a comprehensive policy in place which had recently been reviewed and there was evidence of regular reviews by the medical team.

Outcome 14: Governance and Management

The quality of care and experience of the residents are monitored and developed on an ongoing basis. Effective management systems are in place that support and promote the delivery of safe, quality care services. There is a clearly defined management structure that identifies the lines of authority and accountability. The centre is managed by a suitably qualified, skilled and experienced person with authority, accountability and responsibility for the provision of the service.

Theme:

Leadership, Governance and Management

Judgement:

Compliant

Outstanding requirement(s) from previous inspection:

No actions were required from the previous inspection.

Findings:

The inspector was satisfied that the quality of care and experience of the residents was

monitored and developed on an ongoing basis and that effective management systems are in place that support and promote the delivery of safe, quality care services.

The inspector recently met with the Director of Services and the Director of Operations for the organisation. They outlined the on-going development work to ensure compliance with the Regulations. A working group had been established and a gap analysis completed to benchmark the service against the Regulations and the Standards. A computerised auditing system had been introduced and there was an auditor employed by the provider as part of their quality assurance programme. A structured plan was in place to audit each centre within the company against the Regulations on a quarterly basis while also undertaking the annual review of services.

The team leader and staff spoken with confirmed that resident satisfaction surveys were completed on a yearly basis. In addition a weekly residents' meeting was held. The inspector saw where items discussed included planning menus for the week and the type of activities the residents would like to do in the coming week. The inspector saw where improvements were brought about as a result of these meetings. For example shopping for the centre was changed from midweek to the weekend as some residents wanted to assist with this but were busy at activities and part time jobs during the week.

There was a clearly defined management structure that identified the lines of authority and accountability. The centre is managed by a suitably qualified, skilled and experienced person in charge with authority, accountability and responsibility for the provision of the service. She also had responsibility for four other centres in the locality. She was knowledgeable about the requirements of the Regulations and Standards, and had a very good overview of the health and support needs and personal plans of all the residents. She was clear about her role and responsibilities and about the management and the reporting structure in place in the organisation. The provider had established formal management meetings but line managers could also be contacted by phone or email at any time. There was also a robust on call rota to ensure back up assistance was available should the centre require assistance out of office hours.

Outcome 17: Workforce

There are appropriate staff numbers and skill mix to meet the assessed needs of residents and the safe delivery of services. Residents receive continuity of care. Staff have up-to-date mandatory training and access to education and training to meet the needs of residents. All staff and volunteers are supervised on an appropriate basis, and recruited, selected and vetted in accordance with best recruitment practice.

Theme:

Responsive Workforce

Judgement:

Compliant

Outstanding requirement(s) from previous inspection:

No actions were required from the previous inspection.

Findings:

The inspector was satisfied that there were appropriate staff numbers and skill mix to meet the assessed needs of residents and the safe delivery of services and that all staff were supervised on an appropriate basis, and recruited, selected and vetted in accordance with best recruitment practice.

The person in charge and team leader told the inspector that the staffing levels were based on the assessed needs of the residents. Staff spoken with confirmed there was adequate staff on duty. The inspector noted that to ensure continuity of care a relief panel was available from which absences were covered.

The inspector reviewed a sample of staff files and saw that they met the requirements of the Regulations. A checking system had been introduced by the Human Resource department to ensure that required information was in place.

The inspector was satisfied that staff had access to up-to-date mandatory training and access to education and training to meet the needs of residents. A training plan was in place and the inspector confirmed that all staff had attended the mandatory training. Team meetings were used to provide additional training. Additional training provided included medication management, first aid and the management of behaviour that challenges. Certificates of attendance were in the staff files. A large number of eLearning programmes had been developed to ensure that all staff had access to on-going training. Staff spoken with confirmed that there was a range of training available to them.

Closing the Visit

At the close of the inspection a feedback meeting was held to report on the inspection findings, which highlighted both good practice and where improvements were required.

Acknowledgements

The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation and assistance of the residents, relatives, and staff during the inspection.

Report Compiled by:

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Health Information and Quality Authority Regulation Directorate

Action Plan



Provider's response to inspection report¹

Centre name:	A designated centre for people with disabilities operated by Nua Healthcare
Centre ID:	ORG-0011275
Date of Inspection:	06 May 2014
Date of response:	26 May 2014

Requirements

This section sets out the actions that must be taken by the provider or person in charge to ensure Compliance with the Health Act 2007 (Care and Support of Residents in Designated Centres for Persons (Children and Adults) with Disabilities) Regulations 2013 and the National Standards for Residential Services for Children and Adults with Disabilities.

Outcome 07: Health and Safety and Risk Management

Theme: Effective Services

The Registered Provider is failing to comply with a regulatory requirement in the following respect:

There was no risk assessment completed or controls in place to manage an area of risk in the garden.

Action Required:

Under Regulation 26 (1) (a) you are required to: Ensure that the risk management policy includes hazard identification and assessment of risks throughout the designated centre.

Please state the actions you have taken or are planning to take:

This risk was brought to the weekly operation meeting where immediate action was taken. The maintenance department have been informed of the area of risk in the

¹ The Authority reserves the right to edit responses received for reasons including: clarity; completeness; and, compliance with legal norms.

garden and will complete works that have been assessed as a risk.

A risk assessment has been completed in relation to the garden area for all service users that live in the designated centre.

The specific service user was spoken to by both the house manager and the person in charge in relation to safety concerns and the risk he had put himself in on the day of the inspection.

The person in charge is currently seeking a safety awareness course through our e training system for any resident that requires it in the designated centre.

Proposed Timescale: 26/06/2014