

Inspection report

Grahamston House Care Home Service

Mandela Avenue
Bainsford FK2 7BD

Inspected by: Catriona Maplesden
(Care Commission Officer)

Type of inspection: Unannounced

Inspection completed on: 30 March 2006

Service Number

CS2003011555

Service name

Grahamston House

Service addressMandela Avenue
Bainsford FK2 7BD**Provider Number**

SP2004006884

Provider Name

Falkirk Council

Inspected ByCatriona Maplesden
Care Commission Officer**Inspection Type**

Unannounced

Inspection Completed

30 March 2006

Period since last inspection

4 months

Local Office AddressSpringfield House
Laurelhill Business Park
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FK7 9JQ
Tel: 01786 406363

Introduction

Grahamston House is situated near Falkirk town centre. The service offers a high quality of care and support to older people with dementia. The service supports up to 32 service users on a long term basis and also provides respite care for up to four service users. At present the service is providing support to service users from Cunningham House while it is being refurbished. All of the service users were able to be accommodated within the same unit and members of staff transferred over with them. The refurbishment of Cunningham House was due to be completed by the end of March though this timescale has been extended as the work is not fully complete. The people using the respite care facility currently share the day care facility, which is close to the central lounge area. The service has a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere and a committed, experienced staff team who strive to meet the individual needs of service users.

Basis of Report

This report is based on an afternoon unannounced visit to the service and focuses on the respite care arrangements. The manager and assistant unit manager were consulted and two nurses from the Community Mental Health Team were present at the time of inspection having been involved in meeting with the staff team to offer advice and support.

The report focuses on The Regulation of Care (Requirements as to Care Services) (Scotland) Regulations 2002. Statutory Instrument 114. The report is based on the following National Care Standards -:

National Care Standard 1 : Short breaks and respite care standards for adults. Informing and deciding.

National Care Standard 6 : Short breaks and respite care standards for adults. Individual agreements.

Action taken on requirements in last Inspection Report

The service has been in consultation with the Falkirk Council's Fire Safety Officer and there is a nominated Fire Safety person within the care home. Work has been carried out with the Training Officer and the fire fighter seconded to Falkirk Council. Staff training with regard to fire safety is due to commence in June 2006. The following requirement remains unmet though consultation with the Service Provisions Manager confirmed that the draft restraint policy is due to be finalised in the near future:-

A Restraint Policy must be developed and all staff must receive training in relation to what constitutes restraint and their 'duty of care'

SSI 114 Regulation 4(a) Welfare of Users

Comments on Self-Evaluation

Not Applicable

View of Service Users

The service users using the respite facilities were engaged in activities within the care home and were not consulted in person at this inspection.

View of Carers

No relatives were available for consultation at the time of inspection.

Regulations / Principles

National Care Standards

National Care Standard Number 1: Short Breaks and Respite Care Services for Adults - Informing and Deciding

Strengths

The respite care breaks are arranged through the area office short breaks bureau. The service uses the single shared assessment system which involves a variety of professionals including primary care teams and community mental health professionals. Where possible prospective users of the service can visit the service with their carers or relatives, though for emergency admissions this is not possible. The manager continues to liaise with the responsible social worker to ensure that adequate information about people's health care and social needs is available before accepting any admissions. The service is in the process of developing a new pre-admission activity form which covers a wide range of areas. This includes full contact details, physical and mental health assessment, dietary requirements, nutritional assessments and personal preferences.

Areas for Development

The service should continue to update the information available to prospective service users so that the information is specific to the short break and respite service at Grahamston House. The information should be provided in line with National Care Standard 1. Informing and Deciding.

National Care Standard Number 6: Short Breaks and Respite Care Services for Adults - Individual Agreement

Strengths

The service has a full range of information about people's needs and the care plans inspected were reviewed regularly. The dates for the respite care service are sent out and arranged centrally through the short breaks and respite bureau after consultation with the care service. Where possible a keyworker is arranged prior to someone being admitted for a short break and a care plan is formulated. The care plans contain valuable information about a people's overall care needs.

Areas for Development

At present people using the respite service do not have individual agreements though a lot of information is detailed in the care plans. This needs developed at unit level to ensure that people have a full individual agreement. Service users and their carers should be issued with these agreements once agreed between the service and the prospective service user.

Enforcement

Other Information

The service is due to carry out a dependency levels assessment once the service users and staff from Cunningham House are able to return there. The service is in the process of a variation to the registration which will increase the numbers of service users at the main care home to 36. This is to account for the short break and respite care beds.

Requirements

The service must have a policy on restraint and staff must receive appropriate training once implemented

SSI 114 Regulation 4 Welfare of Users¹.

Timescale: within 2 months upon receipt of this report.

You must evidence a robust system of staff recruitment and selection to ensure all staff are fit to be employed. This system must include appropriate checks that confirm suitability including:

- application and note of interview date
- references (one of which must come from the last employer)
- completed health assessment
- Enhanced Disclosure Scotland check on all staff.

SSI 2002/114 Reg 9

Timescale: within 1 month upon receipt of this report.

Recommendations

To continue to develop information on the short breaks and respite service specific to the individual service.

National care standard 1. Informing and Deciding.

It is recommended that the service develops an individual agreement for each person using the short breaks and respite service. Where a service user is unable to understand the agreement, the relative, representative or carer should sign on their behalf.

National Care Standards for Adults. Short breaks and respite services. Standard 6 Individual agreement.

Catriona Maplesden
Care Commission Officer