



Health Information and Quality Authority

An tÚdarás Um Fhaisnéis
agus Cáilíocht Sláinte

A Follow Up Inspection Report of a Children's Residential Centre in Health Service Executive Dublin North East

**Inspection Report ID Number: 515
Fieldwork Date: 12th January 2012
Publication Date: 24th January 2012
Inspection Period: 14
Centre ID Number: 445**

Introduction

The Health Information and Quality Authority Social Services Inspectorate (HIQA/SSI) carried out a one day follow-up inspection (see inspection ID 469) of a children's residential centre in the HSE Dublin Mid Leinster Local Health Area under Section 69 (2) of the Child Care Act 1991. Kieran O'Connor, Inspector Manager returned to the centre on 12th January 2012 to conduct a follow up on the level of compliance with recommendations made. The inspector met with the Acting Deputy Centre Manager, two staff members and one young person.

Findings

The centre's purpose and function was to provide a residential based support service for young mothers and their babies. The centre was located in an attractive house in an estate.

Overall, the inspector found that the centre continued to be managed well. There were now two young mothers both aged 17 years. One young person was in the late stages of pregnancy and the other young person was minding her six month old baby in the centre. One young person told the inspector that the staff team were very approachable and helpful and she would discuss any worries she had with her Key worker. There were two child protection concerns since the last full inspection. These were dealt with appropriately. The young people were regularly visited by their social workers, had up-to-date care plans and regular reviews.

There were six recommendations made. Four of the recommendations were met, and two were met in part. While this report outlines some recommendations that needed to be completed, the inspector would like to commend the management and staff for the high quality of care provided to the young people and their children in this centre.

Action Plan for Inspection No. 469/515

Centre ID: 445
HSE Area: North East Area

Date Action Plan Dispatched: 3rd August 2011
Date Action Plan Updated: 12th January 2012

| No. | Recommendation | Action to be taken | Person Responsible | Implementation Date | SSI Response |
|----------|--|---|---|---------------------|--|
| 1 | <p>The HSE DNE should ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the statement of purpose and function is signed, dated and refers to the policies within which it operates. • the function of the centre is reviewed and the statement and centre practices are amended to reflect this. | <p>The statement of purpose and function is being reviewed at present and will be signed and dated as per recommendation.</p> <p>The function of the centre is being reviewed and this will be reflected in the statement of purpose.</p> | <p>Social Care Manager Acting Deputy Manager Alternative Care Manager</p> | <p>Sept 2011</p> | <p>Recommendation Met The statement of purpose and function has now been amended and signed off by the HSE DNE.</p> |
| 2 | <p>The HSE DNE should ensure that supervision is provided in accordance with the centre's policy and that the acting deputy manager receives HSE supervision training.</p> | <p>Supervision contracts and dates are in place for staff and will be carried out in line with HSE policy. Manager has liaised with the training department to source supervision training for acting deputy manager will be inform of next available date.</p> | <p>Centre Manager Deputy Manager Training Department</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>Recommendation Met The Acting Deputy manager had now received training in staff supervision and there was a schedule of supervision in place in the centre.</p> |

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| 3 | <p>The HSE DNE should ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all young people in the centre have appropriate and timely access to their files • the children of young people in care have independent advocates • the National Office for Children and Family Services provides guidance to this and other centres on the rights of young mothers in care and their children. | <p>All young people now have access to their logs if requested. This is also being incorporated into each girls weekly keyworking sessions.</p> <p>Manager to liaise with other professionals i.e. EPIC in relation to this recommendation.</p> <p>A National Working Group has being set up and at present in the process of drawing up guidelines in relation to this recommendation.</p> | <p>Keyworkers, SCW, Manager, Acting Deputy Manager</p> <p>Manager, Deputy Manager,</p> <p>National Director</p> | <p>July 2011</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>Recommendation Met In Part</p> <p>All young people were now aware that they could access their files. EPIC were made aware of new placements, and a HSE National Steering Group were in the process of drawing up guidelines on the rights of young mothers in care and their children.</p> |

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| 4 | <p>The HSE DNE should ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the case of one young person's baby is reviewed in accordance with the Foster Care Regulations • the centre works in partnership with the young people living there to explore ways in which additional emotional support can be provided by the centre to young people in care who have children • all records generated by the centre are informed, recorded, maintained and archived in accordance with HSE policy. | <p>Child in Care review to take place in relation to baby of young person who has been placed in Foster Care.</p> <p>Centre will work in partnership with the young people living in the centre by agreeing a weekly plan of supports that the young person feels they need for implementation. This will be under taken in keyworking sessions. This will be reviewed on a monthly basis at the team meeting and with the young people.</p> <p>All records in relation to the young people and their babies will be archived in accordance with HSE policy.</p> | <p>Social Worker Unit Manager Acting Deputy Manager</p> <p>Social Care Team, Manager Acting Deputy Manager</p> <p>Social care team, Manager Acting Deputy Manager</p> | <p>Sept 2011</p> <p>Aug 2011</p> <p>Aug 2011</p> | <p>Recommendation Met</p> <p>One young person's baby was reviewed in accordance with the foster care regulations. The centre now works in partnership with the young people at individual level to ensure additional emotional supports are made available if required and there is now a monthly meeting between the staff team and the young people. All records in relation to young people and their children are now well recorded and archived in accordance with HSE policy.</p> |

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| 5 | <p>The HSE DNE should ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the centre reviews how it manages behaviour and how it responds locally to these behaviours • the centre's policies and practices related to young people and their children attending their G. P., and the storage, administration and recording of the administration of medication is in accordance with HSE policy, and is safe practice. | <p>A structure has been put in place to address young people's behaviour through LSI (life space interview) in an effort to explore ways of changing behaviour with young people. This will be reviewed regularly.</p> <p>Manager liaising with other professionals i.e. EPIC in relation to this recommendation.</p> <p>A Working Group has being set up and at present in the process of drawing up national guidelines in relation to this recommendation.</p> | <p>Acting Deputy Manager, Manager, Social care team</p> <p>Social Care Manager, Working Group Acting Deputy Manager</p> <p>National Director</p> | <p>July 2011 & Ongoing</p> <p>Oct 2011</p> <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>Recommendation Met</p> <p>Young people's challenging behaviour is now addressed locally. There was a clear policy in relation to young people and children attending their GPs. The recording and storage of medicine has now been addressed.</p> |

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| 6 | <p>The HSE DNE should ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintenance and repairs to the centre are addressed by the HSE and the landlord • the centre reviews the health and safety audit to include any risk attached to the location of the medication cabinet • fire doors throughout the centre are kept closed and that fire drills are carried out after a new admission to the centre. | <p>The landlord has engaged an engineer to compile a report outlining the repairs.</p> <p>Medication cabinet to be relocated</p> <p>Work will be undertaken with the young people living in the centre re fire safety.</p> <p>Fire drills will be carried out in compliance with policies relating to new admissions to the centre.</p> | <p>Maintenance Dep, Manager, Acting Deputy Manager</p> <p>Maintenance Dep, Manager, Acting Deputy Manager</p> <p>Keyworkers, Social Care Workers Manager, Deputy Manager</p> | <p>Aug 2011 & ongoing</p> <p>Aug 2011</p> <p>Aug 2011 & ongoing</p> | <p>Recommendation Met in Part</p> <p>Maintenance and repairs are now completed in a timely manner. The medication cabinet is now located in the staff room. Fire doors are now kept closed. Fire drills had occurred. However it did not take place for a month after a new admission. Fire drills need to occur shortly after each new admission.</p> |