

SC035499

East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is run by a local authority and provides medium- to long-term residential care for up to six children. At the time of the visit one child was living at the home.

The registered manager's post is vacant. The area manager is undertaking day-to-day interim management of the home.

Inspection date: 14 September 2022

This monitoring visit

On 3 May 2022, a full inspection identified significant and widespread failings in the leadership and management arrangements at the home. These had an impact on the safety, protection and well-being of the children living at the home. As a result of the identified shortfalls, the home was judged as inadequate in all areas.

A notice restricting accommodation was issued to prevent other children moving into the home. Ofsted also issued five compliance notices under regulation 12 (the protection of children standard), regulation 13 (the leadership and management standard), regulation 14 (the care planning standard), regulation 35 (behaviour management policies and records) and regulation 40 (notification of a serious event).

The notice to restrict accommodation was issued on 11 May 2022, running until 3 August 2022 inclusively. This was subsequently extended to run until 16 October 2022 inclusively.

On 14 June 2022, a monitoring visit took place to review progress in addressing the identified shortfalls. Ofsted found that improvements had been made to address three of the five compliance notices. However, there were still shortfalls in respect of behaviour management policies and records, and notifications of serious events

were still not being sent to Ofsted in a timely way. Compliance notices were issued again for regulations 35 and 40.

On 29 June 2022, another monitoring visit took place to further review progress. No further progress had been made in meeting the remaining two compliance notices.

At a full inspection on 18 July 2022, serious and widespread concerns were again identified. Staff were not keeping children safe and managers did not provide good leadership.

As a result, compliance notices were issued relating to regulation 12 (the protection of children standard), regulation 13 (the leadership and management standard), regulation 14 (the care planning standard) and regulation 35 (behaviour management policies and records).

The purpose of this monitoring visit was to monitor the progress made to meet the compliance notices and whether enough progress had been made to lift the restriction of accommodation. At the time of the visit one child was living at the home.

When a physical intervention has taken place, support is now provided to all staff and the child. Senior staff have made consistent efforts to understand why it is sometimes necessary to hold the child for their own safety, and records have improved.

Although there has been some improvement in discreet areas of practice, the provider has failed to fully address all the shortfalls previously identified. This is particularly in relation to keeping the child safe both in the home and in the community. The provider does not have the resources and ability to reduce the risk of harm to the child living at the home. This frequently places the child at significant risk of serious harm.

Despite some changes made to the premises, they are not sufficiently secure. This means that the child is able to leave easily and go into the community, despite staff's efforts to prevent this. This leaves the child vulnerable for those periods when they are not under the supervision of staff. The child has repeatedly been able to leave the home and has consequently been exposed to harmful situations. The child has regularly had access to things that can be used to harm themselves and others. This is despite high staffing levels.

The home is without a registered manager and this has been the case since the beginning of the year. The acting manager in post at the last inspection has been moved elsewhere and new arrangements are temporary. This does not provide strong leadership or stability for the staff or child.

Due to the risk of serious harm that the child has been exposed to on multiple occasions, Ofsted has taken the decision to suspend the home's registration from the

date of the visit. This new enforcement action supersedes the restriction of accommodation that was in place until 16 October 2022.

Requirements made at the last full inspection have not been considered during this monitoring visit and will be reviewed at a later date.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
18/07/2022	Full	Inadequate
03/05/2022	Full	Inadequate
25/01/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good
19/10/2021	Full	Inadequate

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person(s) must take to meet the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards'. The registered person(s) must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
In meeting the quality standards, the registered person must, and must ensure that staff— if the registered person considers, or staff consider, a placing authority's or a relevant person's performance or response to be inadequate in relation to their role, challenge the placing authority or the relevant person to seek to ensure that each child's needs are met in accordance with the child's relevant plans. (Regulation 5 (c)) This refers to escalating concerns when the actions of other agencies may compromise a child's safety.	23 October 2022
The quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who— understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed and furnished so as to— meet the needs of each child; and enable each child to participate in the daily life of the home. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c)(i)(ii)) This refers to maintaining the home to a level where children feel that they are valued.	23 October 2022

The children's views, wishes and feelings standard is that children receive care from staff who— develop positive relationships with them; engage with them; and take their views, wishes and feelings into account in relation to matters affecting the children's care and welfare and their lives. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that staff— ascertain and consider each child's views, wishes and feelings, and balance these against what they judge to be in the child's best interests when making decisions about the child's care and welfare; help each child to prepare for any review of the child's relevant plans and to make the child's views, wishes and feelings known for the purposes of that review; and ensure that the views of each relevant person are taken into account, so far as reasonably practicable, before making a decision about the care or welfare of a child. (Regulation 7 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(i)(vi)(e)) This refers to ensuring the process of reviews is not disrupted during transitions, and that this forum is used to ascertain children's views before decisions are taken.	23 October 2022
The positive relationships standard is that children are helped to develop, and to benefit from, relationships based on— mutual respect and trust; an understanding about acceptable behaviour; and positive responses to other children and adults. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff—	23 October 2022

de-escalate confrontations with or between children, or potentially violent behaviour by children; understand and communicate to children that bullying is unacceptable; and have the skills to recognise incidents or indications of bullying and how to deal with them. (Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(xi)(xii)(xiii)) This refers to implementing effective strategies to prevent children hurting each other.	
* The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that the home’s day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each child safe and to protect each child effectively from harm. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(b))	23 October 2022
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children’s home; and have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the home. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that the child’s placing authority is contacted, and a review of that child’s relevant plans is requested, if— the registered person considers that the child is at risk of harm or has concerns that the care provided for the child is inadequate to meet the child’s needs; the child is, or has been, persistently absent from the home without permission; or the child requests a review of the child’s relevant plans. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b) (2)(e)(i)(ii)(iii))	23 October 2022

This refers to taking effective action when it is identified that the care provided is inadequate to meet the child's needs.	
The registered provider must appoint a person to manage the children's home if— there is no registered manager in respect of the home; and the registered provider— is an organisation or a partnership; does not satisfy regulation 28; or is not, or does not intend to be, in day-to-day charge of the home. If the registered provider appoints a person to manage the home, the registered provider must, without delay, give HMCI notice of— the name of the person so appointed; and the date on which the appointment takes effect. (Regulation 27 (1)(a)(b)(i)(ii)(iii) (2)(a)(b))	23 October 2022
The registered person must maintain records ("case records") for each child which— include the information and documents listed in Schedule 3 in relation to each child; are kept up to date. (Regulation 36 (1)(a)(b))	23 October 2022

*These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the children's home since its last Ofsted inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC035499

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Registered provider address: County Hall, Cross Street, Beverley HU17 9BA

Responsible individual: Eoin Rush

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspectors

Rachel Ruth, Social Care Inspector

Ruth Jackson, Social Care Inspector

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