

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, the home's registration was suspended and there were no children living there.

The registered manager's post has been recruited to, but the applicant has not yet started in post. The area manager has been undertaking day-to-day interim management of the home.

Inspection date: 24 October 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.

At a full inspection on 18 July 2022, serious and widespread concerns were again identified. Staff were failing to keep children safe, and managers were not providing good leadership. As a result, compliance notices were issued in relation 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). A notice restricting accommodation was also issued.

At a monitoring visit on 14 September 2022, further serious and widespread failings were found in relation to helping and protecting children. As a result, an emergency suspension notice was served. A compliance notice under regulation 12 regarding failures in safeguarding practices was also reissued.

The purpose of this visit was to monitor progress towards addressing the compliance notice under regulation 12.

Following the monitoring visit on 14 September 2022, when the home's registration was suspended, one child was living in the home. The child moved from the home on 21 September 2022 following a serious incident which resulted in them being admitted to hospital. Following this, the child was formally discharged from the home and moved into unregistered accommodation owned by the provider.

After the child moved out of the home, the provider took action to address the steps in the compliance notice under regulation 12. This included simplifying information provided to staff to keep children safe. New processes were also established which related to the knowledge and practice of visitors to the premises. These measures have not yet been tested as there are no children currently living in the home. However, there is sufficient evidence about changes to procedures which has assured Ofsted that the compliance notice is met.

The current emergency suspension notice remains in place until December 2022. The provider is seeking to make improvements during this time and the premises are currently undergoing a programme of works. Additional support is being provided to staff to build their resilience and skills. The provider has also successfully recruited to the manager's post and there has been a change of personnel at senior leadership level.

Requirements raised at an earlier inspection on 18 July 2022 were not considered during this visit and will be reviewed in due course.

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 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 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.	6 November 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.	6 November 2022
The children's views, wishes and feelings standard is that children receive care from staff who—	6 November 2022

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 that the process of reviews is not disrupted during transitions and that this forum is used to ascertain children's views before decisions are made.	
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—	6 November 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 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))	6 November 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))	6 November 2022

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

Inspector

Rachel Ruth, Social Care Inspector

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