



Report of an inspection of a Designated Centre for Disabilities (Adults).

Issued by the Chief Inspector

Name of designated centre:	DCL-03
Name of provider:	Dara Residential Services
Address of centre:	Kildare
Type of inspection:	Announced
Date of inspection:	10 November 2021
Centre ID:	OSV-0005866
Fieldwork ID:	MON-0026983

About the designated centre

The following information has been submitted by the registered provider and describes the service they provide.

DCL-03 is a community based home which can provide residential care for a maximum of five residents both male and female aged 18 years or older. Currently there are no vacancies in the centre. The aim of the provider is to support residents to achieve a good quality of life, develop and maintain social roles and relationships and realise their goals to live the life of their choice. Residents with an intellectual disability and low to medium support needs can be supported in the centre. The designated centre is based in a large town in Co. Kildare close to a variety of local amenities. There are good public transport links and residents also have access to the centre's vehicle should they require it. The premises consists of six bedrooms, a sitting room, a kitchen come dining room, bathroom facilities and back garden. Residents are supported by a team of support workers, led by the Person In Charge. Staffing is arranged based on residents' needs and individual support hours are allocated to people as required.

The following information outlines some additional data on this centre.

Number of residents on the date of inspection:	5
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This inspection was carried out to assess compliance with the Health Act 2007 (as amended), the Health Act 2007 (Care and Support of Residents in Designated Centres for Persons (Children and Adults) with Disabilities) Regulations 2013, and the Health Act 2007 (Registration of Designated Centres for Persons (Children and Adults with Disabilities) Regulations 2013 - 2015 as amended. To prepare for this inspection the inspector of social services (**hereafter referred to as inspectors**) reviewed all information about this centre. This included any previous inspection findings, registration information, information submitted by the provider or person in charge and other unsolicited information since the last inspection.

As part of our inspection, where possible, we:

- speak with residents and the people who visit them to find out their experience of the service,
- talk with staff and management to find out how they plan, deliver and monitor the care and support services that are provided to people who live in the centre,
- observe practice and daily life to see if it reflects what people tell us,
- review documents to see if appropriate records are kept and that they reflect practice and what people tell us.

In order to summarise our inspection findings and to describe how well a service is doing, we group and report on the regulations under two dimensions of:

1. Capacity and capability of the service:

This section describes the leadership and management of the centre and how effective it is in ensuring that a good quality and safe service is being provided. It outlines how people who work in the centre are recruited and trained and whether there are appropriate systems and processes in place to underpin the safe delivery and oversight of the service.

2. Quality and safety of the service:

This section describes the care and support people receive and if it was of a good quality and ensured people were safe. It includes information about the care and supports available for people and the environment in which they live.

A full list of all regulations and the dimension they are reported under can be seen in Appendix 1.

This inspection was carried out during the following times:

Date	Times of Inspection	Inspector	Role
Wednesday 10 November 2021	10:00hrs to 17:00hrs	Maureen Burns Rees	Lead

What residents told us and what inspectors observed

From what the inspector observed, there was evidence that the five residents living in the centre received quality care in which their independence was promoted. Appropriate governance and management systems were in place which ensured that appropriate monitoring of the services provided was completed in line with the requirements of the regulations.

The centre comprised of a two storey, five bed-roomed house and separate studio apartment for one resident. It was located on the outskirts of a town in Kildare and within walking distance of a range of local amenities. The centre was registered to accommodate five adult residents and there were no vacancies at the time of inspection. The inspector met with four of the five residents living in the centre. These resident indicated to the inspector that they were happy living in the centre and that the staff team were kind to them. Warm interactions between the residents and staff caring for them was observed. Two of the residents were engaged in a day service programme whilst the remaining residents chose not to engage in a day service programme but were engaged in activities from the centre.

Conversations between the inspector and the residents took place from a two metre distance, with the inspector wearing a surgical face mask and social distancing. Overall, it was reported that the residents had coped well with the COVID- 19 restrictions on community activities and had started to resume in various activities within the community. One of the residents had chosen not to re engage with their day service programme when it re-opened which it was felt was the best decision for this specific resident.

The centre was found to be comfortable, homely and overall in a good state of repair. The upstairs bathroom had been refurbished earlier in the year. Each of the residents had their own bedroom which had been personalised to the individual resident's tastes and was a suitable size and layout for the resident's individual needs. This promoted the resident's independence and dignity, and recognised their individuality and personal preferences. One of the residents bedrooms was adorned with pictures of their golfing idols and they had a range of model train sets. Other residents had pictures of family and friends and other memorabilia in their rooms, such as 80's music. Framed art work completed by one of the residents was on display in a number of areas. The resident in the studio apartment proudly showed the inspector their Christmas decorations which they had started to put up. There was a garden to the rear of the centre. This included a patio area with dining table and barbeque for outdoor dining, numerous potted plants and a raised herb bed. There was also an outdoor room which had been purchased by one of the residents and was used to house this resident's golfing equipment and a full sized model train set which was on display.

There was evidence that the residents and their representatives were consulted and communicated with, about decisions regarding the running of the centre. The

inspector did not have an opportunity to meet with the relatives of any of the residents but it was reported that they were happy with the care and support that the residents received. The provider had completed a survey with relatives as part of their annual review which indicated that relatives were happy with the care and support being provided for their loved one. Residents with the support of staff had completed an office of the chief inspector questionnaire in advance of this inspection. These questionnaires indicated that the residents were very happy living in their home.

There was an atmosphere of friendliness in the centre. Staff were observed to chat and joke with residents. One of the residents had recently celebrated their birthday in a local restaurant with some family members, the other residents in the centre and some staff members which it was reported was greatly enjoyed by all. Celebratory cards were on display. The provider had a Rights coordinator within the service and information on residents rights were on display on the notice board in the Kitchen.

Residents were supported to engage in meaningful activities on an individual basis. Although a small number of the residents were reluctant to engage in many pursuits within the community, they were encouraged to engage in activities and chores within the centre. On the day of inspection two of the residents attended their day service whilst another resident went for a days outing with staff to train spot and to have lunch. One of the residents was a member of a local golf club and was planning a golfing holiday abroad. In line with national guidance regarding COVID-19, the centre had implemented restrictions impacting the resident's access to some activities in the community. However, with the lifting of restrictions there was evidence that residents were re-engaging in a range of activities. Examples of activities that residents engaged in included, walks to local scenic areas, gardening, listening to music, shopping, arts and crafts, outdoor cinema and concerts, golf, drives, pampering manicures and dining out. The centre had its own car which was used by staff to drive residents to various activities and outings. One of the residents independently used public transport to visit family and attend their day service programme. The provider had commenced a 'meaningful day' programme of activities for residents across the service during the pandemic. A number of these activities were still being provided on a weekly basis which residents in the centre could access as they chose. It was reported that a number of music concerts booked pre COVID-19, had been rescheduled and it was proposed that residents would attend in 2022.

The full complement of staff were in place at the time of inspection. The majority of the staff team had been working in the centre for a prolonged period. This meant that there was consistency of care for each of the residents and enabled relationships between the residents and staff to be maintained. The inspector noted that the resident's needs and preferences were well known to staff met with, and the person in charge on the day of this inspection.

The next two sections of this report present the inspection findings in relation to governance and management in the centre, and how governance and management

affects the quality and safety of the service being delivered.

Capacity and capability

There were management systems and processes in place to promote the service provided to be safe, consistent and appropriate to each resident's needs.

The centre was managed by a suitably qualified and experienced person. She had a good knowledge of the assessed needs and support requirements for each resident. The person in charge held a degree in social studies and a certificate in management and leadership. She had more than three years management experience. She was in a full time position and was not responsible for any other centre. The person in charge reported that she felt supported in her role and had regular formal and informal contact with her manager.

There was a clearly defined management structure in place that identified lines of accountability and responsibility. This meant that all staff were aware of their responsibilities and who they were accountable to. The person in charge completed some shifts within the centre but also had protected management hours. She reported to the director of administration who in turn reported to the chief executive officer. The person in charge and director of administration held formal meetings on a regular basis.

The provider had completed an annual review of the quality and safety of the service and unannounced visits to review the quality and safety of care on a six monthly basis as required by the regulations. A number of other audits and checks were also completed on a regular basis. Examples of these included, health and safety checks, fire safety and finance. There was evidence that actions were taken to address issues identified in these audits and checks. There were regular staff meetings and separately management meetings with evidence of communication of shared learning at these meetings.

The staff team were found to have the right skills and experience to meet the assessed needs of each residents. At the time of inspection, the full complement of staff were in place. This provided consistency of care for each of the residents. The actual and planned duty rosters were found to be maintained to a satisfactory level.

Training had been provided to staff to support them in their role. There was a staff training and development policy. A training programme was in place and coordinated centrally. There were no volunteers working in the centre at the time of inspection. Suitable staff supervision arrangements were in place.

Regulation 14: Persons in charge

The person in charge was found to be competent, with appropriate qualifications and management experience to manage the centre and to ensure it met its stated purpose, aims and objectives.

Judgment: Compliant

Regulation 15: Staffing

The staff team were found to have the right skills, qualifications and experience to meet the assessed needs of residents. At the time of inspection the full complement of staff were in place.

Judgment: Compliant

Regulation 16: Training and staff development

Training had been provided to staff to support them in their role and to improve outcomes for residents. Staff had attended all mandatory training. Suitable staff supervision arrangements were in place.

Judgment: Compliant

Regulation 23: Governance and management

There were suitable governance and management arrangements in place. The provider had completed an annual review of the quality and safety of the service and unannounced visits to review the quality and safety of care on a six monthly basis as required by the regulations.

Judgment: Compliant

Regulation 24: Admissions and contract for the provision of services

There was a contract of care in place which detailed the services to be provided. However, all of the fixed costs payable by the resident were not listed in the contract as per the requirements of the regulations, i.e. rent payable.

Judgment: Substantially compliant

Regulation 31: Notification of incidents

Notifications of incidents were reported to the office of the chief inspector in line with the requirements of the regulations.

Judgment: Compliant

Quality and safety

The residents appeared to receive care and support which was of a good quality, person centred and promoted their rights. However, compatibility issues on occasion were difficult for staff to manage in a group living environment.

The residents' well-being, protection and welfare was maintained by a good standard of evidence-based care and support. A personal support plan 'All about me and how to support me' document, reflected the assessed needs of the individual residents and outlined the support required to maximise their personal development in accordance with their individual health, personal and social care needs and choices. An annual personal plan review had been completed in the last 12 months in line with the requirements of the regulations. There had also been a review of the valued social roles plan.

The health and safety of residents, visitors and staff were promoted and protected. There was a risk management policy and environmental and individual risk assessments and individual safety assessments for residents. These outlined appropriate measures in place to control and manage the risks identified. Health and safety audits were undertaken on a regular basis with appropriate actions taken to address issues identified. There were arrangements in place for investigating and learning from incidents and adverse events involving residents. This promoted opportunities for learning to improve services and prevent incidences.

Suitable precautions were in place against the risk of fire. There was documentary evidence that the fire fighting equipment and the fire alarm system were serviced at regular intervals by an external company and checked regularly as part of internal checks. There were adequate means of escape and a fire assembly point was identified to an area to the front of the house. A procedure for the safe evacuation of the residents was prominently displayed. Personal emergency evacuation plans which adequately accounted for the mobility and cognitive understanding of individual residents were in place. Fire drills involving each resident had been undertaken at regular intervals and it was noted that the centre was evacuated in a

timely manner.

There were procedures in place for the prevention and control of infection. All areas appeared clean and in overall were in a good state of repair. The provider had completed risk assessments and put a COVID-19 contingency plan in place which was in line with the national guidance. A cleaning schedule was in place which was overseen by the person in charge. Sufficient facilities and posters for hand hygiene were observed. There were adequate arrangements in place for the disposal of waste. Specific training in relation to COVID-19, proper use of personal protective equipment and effective hand hygiene had been provided for staff. Temperature checks for staff and residents were undertaken at regular intervals. Disposable surgical face masks were being used by staff whilst in close contact with residents, in line with national guidance.

Regulation 17: Premises

The centre comprised of a two storey house and separate studio apartment, which was found to be homely, suitably decorated and overall in a good state of repair. The house and studio apartment were found to be a suitable size and layout for the residents. Each of the residents had their own bedroom which they had personalised according to their individual tastes and preferences.

Judgment: Compliant

Regulation 26: Risk management procedures

The health and safety of residents, visitors and staff were promoted and protected. Environmental and individual risk assessments and safety assessments were on file which had been recently reviewed. There were arrangements in place for investigating and learning from incidents and adverse events involving the residents.

Judgment: Compliant

Regulation 27: Protection against infection

There were procedures in place for the prevention and control of infection. All areas in the centre appeared clean and there was an appropriate cleaning schedule in place. Overall the centre was in a good state of repair. A COVID-19 contingency plan was in place and it was subject to regular review.

Judgment: Compliant

Regulation 28: Fire precautions

Suitable precautions had been put in place against the risk of fire. Self closing devices had been installed on doors. Fire fighting equipment, emergency lighting and the fire alarm system were serviced at regular intervals by an external company. There were adequate means of escape and a procedure for the safe evacuation of a residents, in the event of fire was prominently displayed.

Judgment: Compliant

Regulation 5: Individual assessment and personal plan

Each resident's well-being and welfare was maintained by a good standard of evidence-based care and support. Personal support plans reflected the assessed needs of the individual residents and outlined the support required to maximise their quality of life in accordance with their individual health, personal and social care needs and choices.

Judgment: Compliant

Regulation 6: Health care

Each resident's healthcare needs appeared to be met by the care provided in the centre. Health plans were in place for residents identified to require same. Each of the residents had their own GP who they visited as required. A healthy diet and lifestyle was being promoted for the residents. An emergency transfer sheet was in place with pertinent information on residents should a resident require unexpected transfer to hospital.

Judgment: Compliant

Regulation 7: Positive behavioural support

Residents appeared to be provided with appropriate emotional and behavioural support. Behaviour support plans were in place for residents identified to require same. It was noted that compatibility issues were at times, difficult to manage in a

group living environment. However there had been a significant decrease in this behaviour in the preceding period and incidents were overall being managed well by the staff team. There was a restrictive practices register in place which was subject to regular review.

Judgment: Compliant

Regulation 8: Protection

There were measures in place to protect the residents from being harmed or suffering from abuse. However, as referred to above compatibility issues on occasion were difficult for staff to manage in a group living environment. This had, at times, a negative impact on residents living in the centre. The provider had a safeguarding policy and safeguarding plans in place for the residents identified to require same.

Judgment: Substantially compliant

Regulation 9: Residents' rights

The residents' rights were promoted by the care and support provided in the centre. The residents had access to the national advocacy service and information about same was available for residents in the residents guide and on the notice board in the kitchen. One of the residents was engaged with an independent advocate of her choosing. There was evidence of active consultations with each resident and their families regarding their care and the running of the centre. The provider had a rights coordinator in place and their contact details were available for residents.

Judgment: Compliant

Appendix 1 - Full list of regulations considered under each dimension

This inspection was carried out to assess compliance with the Health Act 2007 (as amended), the Health Act 2007 (Care and Support of Residents in Designated Centres for Persons (Children and Adults) with Disabilities) Regulations 2013, and the Health Act 2007 (Registration of Designated Centres for Persons (Children and Adults with Disabilities) Regulations 2013 - 2015 as amended and the regulations considered on this inspection were:

Regulation Title	Judgment
Capacity and capability	
Regulation 14: Persons in charge	Compliant
Regulation 15: Staffing	Compliant
Regulation 16: Training and staff development	Compliant
Regulation 23: Governance and management	Compliant
Regulation 24: Admissions and contract for the provision of services	Substantially compliant
Regulation 31: Notification of incidents	Compliant
Quality and safety	
Regulation 17: Premises	Compliant
Regulation 26: Risk management procedures	Compliant
Regulation 27: Protection against infection	Compliant
Regulation 28: Fire precautions	Compliant
Regulation 5: Individual assessment and personal plan	Compliant
Regulation 6: Health care	Compliant
Regulation 7: Positive behavioural support	Compliant
Regulation 8: Protection	Substantially compliant
Regulation 9: Residents' rights	Compliant

Compliance Plan for DCL-03 OSV-0005866

Inspection ID: MON-0026983

Date of inspection: 10/11/2021

Introduction and instruction

This document sets out the regulations where it has been assessed that the provider or person in charge are not compliant with the Health Act 2007 (Care and Support of Residents in Designated Centres for Persons (Children And Adults) With Disabilities) Regulations 2013, Health Act 2007 (Registration of 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 document is divided into two sections:

Section 1 is the compliance plan. It outlines which regulations the provider or person in charge must take action on to comply. In this section the provider or person in charge must consider the overall regulation when responding and not just the individual non compliances as listed section 2.

Section 2 is the list of all regulations where it has been assessed the provider or person in charge is not compliant. Each regulation is risk assessed as to the impact of the non-compliance on the safety, health and welfare of residents using the service.

A finding of:

- **Substantially compliant** - A judgment of substantially compliant means that the provider or person in charge has generally met the requirements of the regulation but some action is required to be fully compliant. This finding will have a risk rating of yellow which is low risk.
- **Not compliant** - A judgment of not compliant means the provider or person in charge has not complied with a regulation and considerable action is required to come into compliance. Continued non-compliance or where the non-compliance poses a significant risk to the safety, health and welfare of residents using the service will be risk rated red (high risk) and the inspector have identified the date by which the provider must comply. Where the non-compliance does not pose a risk to the safety, health and welfare of residents using the service it is risk rated orange (moderate risk) and the provider must take action *within a reasonable timeframe* to come into compliance.

Section 1

The provider and or the person in charge is required to set out what action they have taken or intend to take to comply with the regulation in order to bring the centre back into compliance. The plan should be **SMART** in nature. **S**pecific to that regulation, **M**easurable so that they can monitor progress, **A**chievable and **R**ealistic, and **T**ime bound. The response must consider the details and risk rating of each regulation set out in section 2 when making the response. It is the provider’s responsibility to ensure they implement the actions within the timeframe.

Compliance plan provider’s response:

Regulation Heading	Judgment
Regulation 24: Admissions and contract for the provision of services	Substantially Compliant
Outline how you are going to come into compliance with Regulation 24: Admissions and contract for the provision of services: Each person’s Contract of Care and Terms and Conditions will be updated with rent amount to be paid. This will be completed by end of January 2022.	
Regulation 8: Protection	Substantially Compliant
Outline how you are going to come into compliance with Regulation 8: Protection: The Disability Support Application Management Tool will be updated and forwarded to the HSE disability manager by end of January 2022 to address the peer to peer safeguarding concerns in DCL-03. Additional staffing resources and multidisciplinary support will continue to be provided in DCL03 in response to peer to peer safeguarding concerns	

Section 2:

Regulations to be complied with

The provider or person in charge must consider the details and risk rating of the following regulations when completing the compliance plan in section 1. Where a regulation has been risk rated red (high risk) the inspector has set out the date by which the provider or person in charge must comply. Where a regulation has been risk rated yellow (low risk) or orange (moderate risk) the provider must include a date (DD Month YY) of when they will be compliant.

The registered provider or person in charge has failed to comply with the following regulation(s).

Regulation	Regulatory requirement	Judgment	Risk rating	Date to be complied with
Regulation 24(4)(a)	The agreement referred to in paragraph (3) shall include the support, care and welfare of the resident in the designated centre and details of the services to be provided for that resident and, where appropriate, the fees to be charged.	Substantially Compliant	Yellow	31/01/2022
Regulation 08(2)	The registered provider shall protect residents from all forms of abuse.	Substantially Compliant	Yellow	31/01/2022