

THE LODGE RE-VISIT

3rd AUGUST 2016

We were met by the manager, who has managed the home for a number of years.

We explained that our re-visit was just to catch up with progress on recommendations that had been made in our earlier reports, made following visits in April 2014 and December 2015.

Recommendations made in April 2014.

- Place mats – it had been noted that these were made of glass, which could be used to harm someone. The manager reported that a number of alternatives had been tried and had been discarded – particularly in relation to hygiene problems. The place mats now in use had been made from laminated pictures and this had proved most cost and safety effective as they could be replaced relatively cheaply.
- Bathrooms – it was noted that we had recommended that these be checked by maintenance on a regular basis to prevent lime scale build-up as well as other minor faults. The appointment of a fulltime maintenance assistance meant that any problems were quickly dealt with.
- Unpleasant odours – whilst this was not discussed specifically, there were no unpleasant smells detected during this follow-up visit.

Recommendations made in December 2015

- Changes to colour schemes to ensure that there is good contrast between walls and door frames – the manager reported that the home owners were most anxious to ensure a home-like atmosphere and felt that a contrasting decorating scheme would not be conducive to this. However, she reported that some progress had been made in changing the environment by the use of murals in some areas.
- Magnetic badges – investigation had proved these too costly to purchase but a badge making machine had been purchased for the home.
- Maintenance – as has been reported above, a full time maintenance assistant is now in post and carries out regular checking of water temperatures etc. as well as minor repairs.
- The resident cat's bed in the laundry – this remained in the laundry but it was reported that the cat actually "belonged" to a neighbour and was not in the home for long periods. Additionally, he only visited residents when accompanied by a member of staff.

- Environmental Health Officer's rating for the kitchen – this had now improved to 3 from 2. However, the manager reported that, in September, the kitchen would be closed for approximately 2 weeks for enlargement and re-fitting in order to meet the recommendations for a home of this size.