

Ms. Colette Moyles,
Mr. Don Cahalane,
Proprietors,
Cahereen Nursing Home,
Codrum,
Macroon,
Co. Cork

14th December, 2006

Inspection Report

Re Inspection of Cahereen Nursing Home under the Health (Nursing Homes) Act, 1990 and the Nursing Homes (Care and Welfare) Regulations, 1993

Dear Mr. Cahalane/Ms. Moyles,

The Health Service Executive Nursing Home Inspection Team visited **Cahereen Nursing Home on the 15th November, 2006**. There were 25 residents on this date. The Nursing Home is currently registered for 27 residents:

No. of Residents:	27
No. of Subvented Patients:	23

Dependency Levels as stated by accompanying nurse

Low Dependency:	2
Medium Dependency:	2
High Dependency:	9
Max Dependency:	14

The integrated checklist in respect of this inspection is attached, herewith, for your information. If you wish to raise any factual issues in this report you should do so within 10 days of receipt of same. Any such correspondence will be considered by the Inspection Team.

YOUR ATTENTION IS REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

WELFARE AND WELL-BEING

Article 5:

- (b) a high standard of nursing care;*

The standard of nursing care was very good on the day of the visit, the patients appeared well cared for. There is a new nurse in charge and the recording system and the policies are being further developed. The importance of a policy on wound care was discussed with the nurse in charge. There is no policy on care of the dementia patient; you are advised to introduce one.

PERSONAL POSSESSIONS

Article 8:

- (a) provision is made for the safe keeping of the personal belongings of a dependent person and a record kept of valuables signed by the person or a person acting on his or her behalf;*

The items in the valuables box were checked against the records. There were discrepancies between the contents and the records. The records must be kept up to date and accurately reflect the contents of the box.

ACCOMMODATION AND FACILITIES

Article 11.2:

- (h) suitable and sufficient lighting and ventilation, with natural lighting and ventilation in rooms which are regularly occupied by dependent persons;*

Ventilation

The cause of the strong foul stale smells in Room 3 and in the en-suite bathrooms of Rooms 3, 4 and 5 shall be investigated and remedied.

The shower drain cover in the bathroom of Room 4 was removed and a very long piece of white cloth had been plugged into the drain as if to prevent the emission of a smell from the drain. The cloth shall be removed and the drain cover re-fitted.

(Please refer to 'exterior of the premises' under state of repair regarding the continued accumulation of a black coloured foul smelling water at the western end of the Nursing Home being a possible source of these foul smells in the above Rooms and Bathrooms).

Ensure the mechanical extract ventilation system in the ground floor Cleaning Sluice Room is repaired so as to adequately remove the stale smell from this room (included in the last integrated report).

Ensure there is sufficient fresh air intake ventilation provided in the basement Sluice Room because there was a stale smell near the drainage sump in that room (included in the last integrated report).

- (i) *over-bed lamps at each bed accessible to the person and permanent night lighting with dimming facilities;*

The missing barbell at the end of the over-bed light in **Room 3** shall be replaced.

Article 12:

- (a) *take precautions against the risk of accidents to any dependent person in the nursing home and in the grounds of the nursing home;*
- The water supply to the hot water taps in all of the wash-hand basins of each room shall be thermostatically controlled to less than or equal to +43 degrees centigrade (°C) so as to prevent the scalding of residents thereon.
 - The temperature of the hot water supply at the wash-hand basins in **Room 1** was +51.2°C, **Room 2** +45.3°C, **Room 5** +44°C, **Room 11** +47°C and +46°C in **Room 12**.
 - Remove the broken clothes hangers from the television rails in **Room 2** and **6**.
 - Towels shall be stored on towel rails and not on shower or toilet grab rails in the bathrooms of **Rooms 4, 5, 9, 12 (*), 13 (*) and 14**.
 - Personal clothing items shall not be stored on shower or toilet grab rails in the bathrooms of Room's 7, 9,
 - (*) Separate towel storage rails (as distinct from a grab rail) shall be provided at the wash-hand basins in the bathrooms of **Room's 12 and 13**.
 - A security lock/code shall be provided on the entrance door to the **small Store Room** located between Rooms 13 and 14.
 - Re-locate the wardrobe and/or of the bathroom light switch in **Room 14** so that the residents have easy access to the bathroom light switch, which is located behind the wardrobe.
 - A record of equipment and maintenance of the equipment was not available on the day of inspection. You are advised to send the list to the inspection team.
- (b) *ensure that handrails are provided in circulation areas and that grab-rails are provided in bath, shower and toilet areas;*
- The position of the rails in the bathrooms may need to be assessed by an occupational therapist. Advised to seek support and advice on this issue.

HYGIENE

Article 14 (a):

- (a) *ensure that the nursing home and its curtilage is maintained in a proper state of repair and in a clean and hygienic condition;*

Cleaning

Clean the base of the patio door and the wall behind the large chair in Room 4 and the floor around Bed A in Room 18.

State of Repair

The loose curtain over the window in Room 1 shall be fully attached to its curtain rail.

Repair the loose cover on the liquid soap dispenser in Room 1.

The stiff hot and cold-water taps at the wash-hand basins in Room's 5, 11, 12, and 15 shall be easy to push down and use.

The stiff hot water tap at the wash-hand basin in Room 3, cold water taps in Rooms 10 and 13 shall easy to push down and use.

The loose hot water tap in Room 14 shall be sufficiently tightened.

A sufficient supply/flow of cold water shall be provided at the wash-hand basin in Room 8 and hot water (less than or equal to +43°C) at the wash- hand basin in Room 13.

The loose handle on the window of the en-suite bathroom of Room 3 shall be tightened.

The base of the ventilation grille in Room 4 shall be properly and permanently affixed to the wall so as to reduce the large draught at this vent. (This was requested in the last three integrated reports).

Seal the holes and re-paint the wall behind the bed in Room 4 and Bed A in Room 15 (see recommendations regarding padding between this bed and the wall).

The loose plastic skirting in the corridor outside the entrance to Room 6 shall be properly affixed to the wall.

Re-paint the frame of Bed A in Room 10.

Replace the missing toilet paper roller in the bathrooms of Room's 13 and 15.

Replace the much worn timber splash back at the rear of the wash-hand basin and varnish the personal toiletries storage shelves in Room 16.

Replace the broken top drawer on the bedside locker at Bed A in Room 17.

Replace the missing stopper in the wash-hand basin of Room 18.

Staff Toilet

Repair and/or replace the section of floor under the entrance door that has become loose and lifted upwards (previously requested in the last integrated nursing home report),

Tighten both the loose hot and cold-water taps of the wash-hand basin and ensure there is a supply of cold water at the shower.

Day Room

Fill in the hole in the ceiling over the television and seal and re-paint the hole in the wall to the right hand side of the press that blocks access to the top of the stairs.

Cleaning Sluice Room on Ground Floor

(The state of repair of this room has deteriorated since the last inspection and many items outlined below are outstanding since that visit on 31st May 2006).

- The cause of the leak in the ceiling shall be remedied and the two large holes in the ceiling shall be filled in, smoothed and painted.
- The mechanical extract fan on the ceiling was not working and thus shall be repaired because the room was very humid.
- Provide hot and cold water taps and an instantaneous supply of hot and cold water at the Sluice Sink.
- Provide a tiled splash back behind the sluice sink.
- Replace the dishwasher so that the bedpans can be adequately disinfected after being emptied.
- Repair the leaking cold-water tap that is behind the toilet.
- Paint the entrance door.

3 Unit Toilet Block *(many of the following items have been identified in previous integrated reports).*

Left Hand Side Toilet Unit

- Tighten the loose hot water tap.
- Replace the missing toilet paper holder

Middle Toilet Unit

- Ensure that hot water flows from the hot water tap and that the hot and cold water taps are differentiated by means of the conventional Blue for Cold and Red for Hot coloured water taps at the wash-hand basin.
- Replace the missing toilet seat and cover.

Right Hand Side Toilet Unit

- Repair the floor that is lifting at the entrance of this toilet.
- Repair the hot and cold water taps so that they are easily pushed down.
- Re-locate the high disposable paper towel holder to an accessible height for the residents.
- Provide a cover on the cistern at the rear of the toilet.
- Replace the missing toilet paper holder.

Visitors Toilet

Seal the hole in the ceiling around the light bulb and the hole/crack that has arisen between the right hand side of the doorframe and the wall. Ensure there is a continuous supply of anti-bactericidal soap at the wash-hand basin.

Sun Room

Exterior

(The two works hereunder are outstanding since the integrated report of the 15th June 2005).

- The damp proof membrane is still directly exposed to the elements at the base of the wall and thus shall be covered.
- The rough and broken sections of the footpath shall be repaired and re-paint the lower sections of the wall outside the exit door.

Basement Corridor/Laundry and Sluice Room

(Many of the works listed hereunder remain outstanding since the last inspection in May 2006).

- The floor tiles and the tiled skirting around the sinks and sump in the Sluice Room shall be properly grouted.
- Replace the missing wall unit that encloses the pipe-work over the sump tank in the basement laundry room.
- The provision of a cover for the sump tank in the sluice room is necessary.
- The exterior wall of the disused stairwell between the dining room and the basement shall be plastered so as to prevent the build-up of dampness on the interior of that wall.

Exterior of the Premises

- Investigate the cause of and remove the very large accumulation of foul smelling water at the basement level at the western end of the nursing home. *(This accumulation is still outstanding since the last integrated report. This accumulation of dirty water may be the source of the foul stale smells in Room 3 and the bathrooms of Room's 3, 4 and 5).*
- Rainwater shall be prevented from flowing down the exterior side of the basement hallway by the provision of suitable gutters and down pipes from the Day Room. The gutter shall drain into a proper gully.
- Ensure that all the drainage chutes are connected directly into the gullies in the front of the Nursing Home.

(b) make adequate arrangements for the prevention of infection, infestation, toxic conditions, or spread of infection and infestation at the nursing home;

Ensure that bleach and all other chemical cleaning agents are stored on high shelves or in a locked cabinet in the ground floor **Sluice Room**. The entrance door to this room shall be fitted with a security lock/code.

- (c) *ensure that there are adequate arrangements for the laundering at regular intervals, and as occasion may require, of linen, clothing and other articles belonging to or used by dependent persons maintained in the nursing home;*

An instantaneous supply of hot and cold water shall be provided at the wash-hand basin and sluice sink installed in the Sluice Room in the basement. *(This requirement included in last integrated report and the absence of running water means that the Sluicing Facilities are inadequate in the nursing home).*

- (a) *maintain a high standard of hygiene in relation to the storage and preparation of food and the disposal of domestic refuse;*

Suitable waste disposal bins (receptacles) shall be provided in the **bathroom of Room 14**.

Recommendations

- Smoothen the rough right hand section of the wardrobe in **Room 10**.
- Provide a larger amount of personal toiletries storage space at the wash-hand basins in **Room's 11, 12, 15, 17 and 18** because the existing shelving is either too small or the toiletries are stored on the cistern of the toilets.
- Wall mounted brush-hanging devices to be provided for the storage of mops/brushes in the ground floor **Sluice Room**.
- Provide suitable low level shelving for the storage of containers off the floor in the **Small Store Room** located between Rooms 13 and 14.
- Increase the wattage of the main room light in **Room 13**, as this room was very dark when this dimming light was fully turned on in the daytime.
- Place sufficient padding on the inside and top of **Bed A in Room 13** so as to prevent the wear and tear of the wall on the inside and top of this bed.
- Provide an extra comfortable chair for the use of the two residents in **Room 18**.

Article 19.1:

- (b) *a record of drugs and medicines administered giving the date of the prescription, dosage, name of the drug or medicine, method of administration, signed and dated by a medical practitioner and the nurse administering the drugs and medicines;*

One instance of a drug being dispensed and not properly recorded by the dispensing nurse was identified. Please ensure that all drugs are properly recorded when they are dispensed.

Article 19.1 (d):

“an adequate nursing record of the person’s health and condition and treatment given, completed on a daily basis and signed and dated by the nurse on duty;”

On the day of the visit one of the clients was ill and awaiting a visit by his GP. A record of fluid balance had not been commenced – You are advised on the importance of this record keeping.

It is the intention of the Nursing Home Inspection Team to register the home with conditions relating to the elimination of foul odours, installation of proper water drainage in the curtilage of the home, provision of adequate sluicing facilities and undertaking repair works to the basement to rectify the problems identified in the above report

The chairperson of the inspection team is to be notified on or before the 8th March 2007 indicating the steps taken by the proprietors to carry out the actions as required under the legislation and detailed above

Your immediate attention to this report is requested.

Signed:

Senior Medical Officer
Chairperson

A. D. Public Health Nurse
Inspection Team Member

Senior E. H. O.
Inspection Team Member