3rd January 2007

Board of Directors
St Luke’s Home,
Castle Road,
Mahon,
Cork


Dear Board of Directors,

The Health Service Executive Nursing Homes Inspection Team inspected St. Luke’s Nursing Home, Castle Road, Mahon, Cork on the 14th November 2006 from 9.45 am to 5 pm, 16th November 2006 from 9.30 am to 1 pm. and 21st November 2006 from 9.50 to 4.30 pm, 2006. These inspections were unannounced.

The Nursing Home is currently registered with conditions for 121 residents.

Issues identified in previous inspection report dated 30th May 2006,
Have been satisfactorily addressed, Article 29(a)
Have been partially addressed Article 18.1, Article 8, Article 7.2
Have not been satisfactorily addressed Article17, Article 11.2 (j)
Current Inspection

Unit A
No. of Residents:  31
No. of beds:  31
Dependency levels of residents as stated by the nursing home
  Low Dependency:  3
  Medium Dependency:  9
  High Dependency:  7
  Max. Dependency:  12

Unit B
No. of Residents:  28
No. of beds:  30
Dependency levels of residents as stated by the nursing home
  Low Dependency:  0
  Medium Dependency:  3
  High Dependency:  4
  Max. Dependency:  21

Unit C
No. of Residents:  30
No. of beds:  30
Dependency levels of residents as stated by the nursing home
  Low Dependency:  0
  Medium Dependency:  2
  High Dependency:  3
  Max. Dependency:  25

Unit D
No. of Residents:  30
No. of beds:  30
One resident was being transferred at the time of inspection
Dependency levels of residents as stated by the nursing home

- Low Dependency: 0
- Medium Dependency: 0
- High Dependency: 0
- Max. Dependency: 30

YOUR ATTENTION IS REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

WELFARE AND WELL-BEING

Article 5:
The registered proprietor and the person in charge shall ensure that there is provided for dependent persons maintained in a nursing home:

(a) suitable and sufficient care to maintain the person’s welfare and well-being, having regard to the nature and extent of the person’s dependency;

(b) A good standard of Nursing Care appeared to prevail in the Nursing Home.

Patients were clean, well dressed, neat and tidy. Patients were happy with their care and surroundings. Relatives questioned were happy with the staff and levels of care given to relatives. Meals were stated as good and enjoyable and menu was varied and offered a choice daily.

CONTRACT OF CARE

Article 7.2:
In the year following the commencement of the Act, the registered proprietor or person in charge shall execute a contract with a dependent person and/or a person acting on his or her behalf within two months of admission of that dependent person to the nursing home.

The contract of care is being updated at present, there were no contracts of care available for inspection. Please ensure that a valid contract of care exists for each resident, which includes the services to be provided and the fees to be charged.

PERSONAL POSSESSIONS

Article 8:
The registered proprietor and person in charge of the nursing home shall ensure that:

(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;

Personal possessions.
On Unit A, residents’ money was kept in envelopes in a locked cupboard. The records did not match the contents of the envelopes. Please ensure that the records are kept up to date and match the contents.

(b) adequate space is provided for a reasonable number of personal possessions;

There was insufficient storage space for personal toiletries in a number of the en-suite bathrooms in the 4-bedded rooms, en-suites in Unit A and en-suites Unit D, extra shelving should be provided in these ensuites.

ACCOMMODATION AND FACILITIES

Article 11.2:
In every nursing home there shall be provided suitable and sufficient accommodation which meets the minimum standards as follows:

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

Unit D
Room 417
The main light was not operating.

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

Unit A
Room 228
• The bed had been moved to a new position. The overbed light must be relocated so that it is located over the bed.

Unit C
Room 616
• The overbed light was not working.
Room 631
• The overbed light was not working.

Unit D
Room 401
• The overbed light must be relocated.
Room 405
• The dimmer switch was broken.

The over bed lights must be accessible at each bed.

(j) emergency call facilities are provided at each bed;

Unit A
Room 211
- The call bell cord was missing from bed D.

**Unit B**
Room 310
- One call bell was missing.
Room 325
- The en suite bell was not working.

**Unit D**
Call bells are not currently provided in this unit as all the residents suffer from dementia. A call bell system must be provided along the lines of those discussed with the Manager Mr. David O’Brien at our concluding meeting. These must be provided in accordance with legislation.

**DESIGN**

**Article 12:**
*The registered proprietor and the person in charge of the nursing home shall:*

(a) take precautions against the risk of accidents to any dependent person in the nursing home and in the grounds of the nursing home;

**Unit A**
Room 204
- The en suite call bell was not working.
Room 215
- The bed table was located in the en suite at the time of our visit.

**Unit B**
Linen Cupboard
- The loose socket must be properly secured to the wall and the light fitting must be provided with a shatterproof diffuser.
Staff Toilet
- The light fitting must be provided with a shatterproof diffuser.
Dining Room
- At the time of our visit a chair was obstructing the fire exit door. Also the call bell was not working.

**Unit C**
Room 630
- The window tilt mechanism was in need of repair.

**Unit D**
Room 407
- The lead from the fan which was stored on the high level T.V stand should be secured so that it does not pose a hazard.
Room 414
- A towel was stored on the grab rail.

(b) ensure that handrails are provided in circulation areas and that grab-rails are provided in bath, shower and toilet areas;
Rooms 209 & 210
- No towel rails were provided in the en suites.

**HYGIENE**

**Article 14:**

*The registered proprietor and the person in charge of the nursing home shall:*

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

**Unit A**

Room 216
- The ceiling was stained over the bed.

Room 230
- The radiator is in need of re-decoration and the coving is coming away from the wall beneath the radiator.
- There was no towel rail in the en suite.

**Unit B**

Room 306
- The en suite wall area where the paper towel dispenser had been located is in need of re-decoration.

Room 309
- No towel rail was provided in the en suite. Also the edge of the dressing table was in need of re-decoration.

Room 310
- There was no towel rail in the en suite.

Room 311
- No towel rail was provided in the en suite.

**Unit C**

Room Containing Beds Number 601 and 602
- The walls of this room were in need of re-decoration.

Room 609
- The entrance hallway to the room is in need of re-decoration.

**Staff Toilet**
- The extract fan was not working at the time of our visit.

The four bedded room containing beds No 610 – 613
- Some repainting is needed in this room.

**Unit D**

Room 407

The cotside protector was in need of cleaning.

(b) make adequate arrangements for the prevention of infection, infestation, toxic conditions, or spread of infection, and infestation at the nursing home;
Unit A
Bathrooms 1 & 2
• No paper towels were provided in bathroom 1
Room 211
• No paper towels were provided at the wash hand basin in the ward.

Unit B
Storeroom
• As previously advised food should not be stored in the general storeroom. Perhaps a section of this storeroom can be sectioned off for the sole use of food as an interim measure.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE NURSING HOME
Article 17:
The registered proprietor and the person in charge of the nursing home shall have a brochure available with information about the nursing home, including the name and address of the home, the name of the registered proprietor, the admissions policy.
Brochure
A brochure exists for the home.
Please include the name of the registered proprietor as required by legislation.

REGISTER AND RECORDS
Article 18.1:
In every nursing home there shall be kept in a safe place a bound register of all dependent persons resident in the home, which shall include the following particulars in respect of each person:
(a) the first name, surname, address, date of birth, martial status and religious denomination of the person;
(b) the name, address and telephone number, if any, of the person’s relative or other person nominated to act on the person’s behalf as a person to be notified in the event of a change in the person’s health or circumstances;
(c) the name, address and telephone number of the person’s medical practitioner;
(d) the date on which the person was last admitted to the nursing home;
(e) where the person has left the nursing home, the date on which he or she left and a forwarding address;
(f) where the person is admitted to hospital, the date of and reasons for the admission and the name of the hospital;
(g) where the person dies in the nursing home, the date, time and the certified cause of death.

Bound register.
A new preprinted bound register has been introduced since the last inspection. The hand writing in the register was difficult to read. The spaces for recording date and cause of death were being used to record GMS numbers. This practice should cease. There were omissions of details such as the GP’s name, address, and telephone number, contact numbers and phone numbers for the next of kin in some entries.
Please ensure that all the required details are completed. All current residents should be entered into the new register so that the old registers can be put into storage. The use of abbreviations for the place of transfer should cease. The place, time and cause of death should be clearly documented.

**Article 19.1:**
In every nursing home the following particulars shall be kept in a safe place in respect of each dependent person:

(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;

It was noted that two patients in Unit B, who had recently lost weight were not given Supplementary Nutritious Drinks. The fluid balanced charts were not recorded. The Dietician had been consulted but no record of same were seen. The provision of a new “wheelchair friendly” weighing scales is to be commended.

(g) a record of any accident or fall involving a dependent person;

A falls assessment chart was not provided for one patient in Unit A, who was admitted due to falls at home, the Health and Safety aspect was discussed with staff.

(h) a record of any occasion on which physical or chemical restraint is used, the nature of the restraint and its duration;

Restraint
There was no signature for consent for restraint on one patient. It is recommended that consent is obtained, in line with good practice.

**FIRE RECORDS**

**Article 28.1:**
In every nursing home there shall be kept in a safe place a record of:

(a) all fire practices which take place at the home;

The fire drill records indicate that a further fire drill is now due.

(b) all fire alarm tests carried out at the home together with the result of any such test and the action taken to remedy defects;

(c) the number, type and maintenance record of fire-fighting equipment.

The records indicating the date of the last fire alarm and fire extinguisher service/inspection were found to be satisfactory.
The Chairperson of the Inspection Team is to be notified in writing on or before the 28th February 2007 of the steps taken by the nursing home to carry out the actions as required.

SIGNED:

_____________________   _______________________      _____________________
Senior Medical Officer     A/ Director Public Health Nurse     Senior E.H.O.
Chairperson.                Inspection Team Member.            Inspection Team Member.