Mr. Noel Marley & Ms. Pauline Mulroy,
Pilgrim’s Rest Nursing Home,
Barley Hill,
Westport,
County Mayo.

Nursing Homes (Care & Welfare) Regulations, 1993.

Dear Mr. Marley & Ms. Mulroy,

I visited Pilgrim’s Rest Nursing Home, on 16th November 2006 and carried out an inspection under the above legislation. There were 34 residents accommodated in the home at the time of my visit. The nursing home is currently registered for up to 35 residents, with a restriction that the room converted to an additional bedroom remain unoccupied until such time as the appropriate amended fire certification is in place.

The nursing home was generally found to be in compliance with the Health (Nursing Homes) Act, 1990 and subsequent Regulations at the time of inspection from an environmental health perspective although the following matters were noted as requiring your attention.

Article 12. (a) The registered proprietor and the person in charge of the nursing home shall:- take precautions against the risk of accidents to any dependent person in the nursing home.

Breach: The door to the service corridor, though fitted with a coded lock as advised previously, was seen to be propped open to facilitate staff movement.

Required Action: The practice of propping this door open must cease. The lock itself needs to be changed to a type that will catch on closing to the strike plate. The “deadbolt” unit in place requires staff to turn the catch to both open and close the door.

Article 27.(a) The registered proprietor and the person in charge shall:- take adequate precautions against the risk of fire,...and make adequate arrangements for detecting, containing and extinguishing fire....and for the maintenance of fire fighting equipment.

Breaches: Fire doors to the service corridor, laundry, hot-press and sluice were all propped open.

Cont...
The plug serving a television in one double room was noted to be incorrectly wired and was supporting the weight of a signal box hanging from it.

**Required actions:**
Fire doors, where not governed by electro-magnetic release, especially to high fire risk areas such as the hot-press and laundry, must remain closed at all times.

Ensure all plugs serving electrical equipment are correctly wired and fitted with fuses appropriate to the equipment served. Electrical cable should never support anything but its own weight.

*Article 11.2 (f)*  In every nursing home there shall be provided... suitable and sufficient equipment and facilities...

**Breach:**
A toilet near the main lobby, designated for general day use by residents was missing the seat and lid.

**Required action:**
Immediately supply and fit an appropriate seat and lid to the toilet.

*Article 14 (b)*  The registered proprietor and the person in charge shall:- make adequate arrangements for the prevention of... infestation at the nursing home.

**Breach:**
The window in the laundry is open continuously.

**Required action:**
Pest proofing is required at this window opening to prevent entry of rodents or other pests.

**Further Observations/Recommendations:**

The process of replacing carpets in the home with non-absorbent floor covering is ongoing. One particular room in the rear wing as discussed, should be next on the schedule for replacement.

Yours sincerely,