

22 April 2020

Mr P Warren-Gray  
Responsible Individual  
VALLEY NURSING HOME (MPS) LIMITED  
No. 6 & 7 Key Point Office Village  
Nix's Hill  
Alfreton  
Derbyshire  
United Kingdom  
DE55 7FQ

Dear Mr Warren-Gray

**Update on SHSCT Position Re: Sanction on New Admissions**

Mr Brian Beattie, Interim Director for Older Peoples Services, has advised me that you have recently discussed with him the possibility of making available empty beds to support pandemic capacity planning.

As you are aware an adult protection investigation has been ongoing from 5 July 2019 following serious concerns raised by RQIA in relation to care provision within the Valley Nursing Home. These concerns resulted in 7 Failure to Comply notices and later a Notice of Decision to deregister the registered individual. The Trust also issued you with a Performance Notice on 30 October 2019 due to continued performance deficiencies.

We are aware that RQIA lifted its Notice of Decision to allow you to voluntarily apply to deregister and to facilitate an application by Healthcare Ireland to become the registered individual. We are aware that HCI are now operationally responsible for the management of the home.

Due to the seriousness of the concerns raised a protection plan was agreed and reviewed at the strategy discussions. One element of this included the decision to suspend new business. The protection plan is reviewed on a regular basis and to date based on the work completed information has been communicated to the manager of the home to enable elements of relevant internal processes to proceed. We are now nearing the completion of the full adult protection investigation and hope to schedule a final case conference week beginning 27th April. At this point individual families will have had feedback where this is relevant. The final case

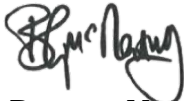
conference will provide a mechanism for the Valley to respond to the findings and recommendations of the report and to share evidence of the progress made in the key areas of concern, most of which are reflected in the QIP for 16th and 17th December RQIA Inspection.

The case conference will provide an opportunity to review the protection plan including the suspension to new business. A decision to lift the suspension would be subject to verification of the progress report and the Trust therefore would seek to re-audit a sample of resident's care within an agreed timescale.

The Trust also acknowledges the action plan provided to address the issues noted within the Performance Notice and the many changes put in place to ensure ongoing sustainability. There are however a couple of issues the Trust would seek further assurance on which will also impact on its decision to lift the current suspension these are in relation to:

- Recruitment and Retention of Staff – assurance that currently there is sufficient staff with the appropriate skill mix and training to manage complex residents now and into the future if the empty beds are utilised to full capacity.
- Provision of an update on the current and proposed position with regards to the ownership/commercial agreement with Healthcare Ireland regarding the Valley Nursing Home.

Yours sincerely



**Barney McNeany**

**Director of Mental Health and Disability Services**

Cc Mr B Beattie, Interim Director of Older Peoples Services  
Mrs M McAlister, Assistant Director of Older Peoples Services  
Mr J McEntee, Assistant Director of Disability Services  
Mr A Corrigan, Assistant Director of Mental Health (acting)  
Mrs D Livingstone, Head of Contracts  
Mr A Rafferty, Complex Placement Lead  
Mrs S Donnelly, Team Leader, PD Team A&D  
Mrs LA Murdock, Head of Financial Assessments  
Mrs A Mulligan, Head of Care Home Support Team