



**Health  
Information  
and Quality  
Authority**

An tÚdarás Um Fhaisnéis  
agus Cáilíocht Sláinte

**Social Services  
Inspectorate**

**A**

**CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL CENTRE  
IN THE  
HSE DUBLIN NORTH EAST AREA**

***FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION REPORT***

***ID NUMBER: 369***

**Follow-up Inspection Date: 15<sup>th</sup> June 2009**

**Publication Date: 15<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

**SSI Inspection Period: 11**

**Centre ID Number: 116**

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## **Introduction**

The Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA), Social Services Inspectorate (SSI) carried out an announced follow-up inspection of a Health Service Executive (HSE) residential care unit in the Dublin North East Local Health Area (DNE) under section 69 (2) of the Child Care Act 1991. This inspection was carried out by Bronagh Gibson, inspector, on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2009. The purpose of this inspection was to assess the HSE action plan in terms of compliance with the recommendations made in the last inspection (*see inspection ID 290*).

There were five young people living in the centre and there had been no new admissions or discharges since the last inspection.

## **Findings.**

The inspector found that six of the 10 recommendations were met, three were ongoing, and one was not met. Two of the recommendations that were ongoing were in relation to the maintenance of the building and work that was required to bring the centre up to a good standard of accommodation. A schedule of works had been submitted to the HSE and this work was due to begin when costs were identified. Another recommendation that was ongoing was in relation to care plans. Two young people's care plans were not updated and these were being forwarded by social workers to the centre. The centre had not been successful in obtaining written confirmation from an architect or engineer stating that the centre complied with standard 10.19.

*See attached action plan*

# Social Services Inspectorate

## Action Plan for Inspection No. 290 / 369

**Centre ID:** 116  
**HSE Area:** HSE Dublin North East

**Date Action Plan Dispatched:** 24<sup>th</sup> April 2009  
**Date Action Plan Updated:** 10<sup>th</sup> July 2009

No.	Recommendation	Action to be taken	Person Responsible	Implementation Date	SSI Response
1	The HSE EA should ensure the centre policy on supervision is adhered to and external managers monitor compliance.	Supervision within the centre will be organized in a structured and consistent manner and will occur once every eight to ten weeks as now reflected in our policy document.	Project Leader	Immediately	<b>RECOMMENDATION MET</b>
2	The HSE EA should ensure centre staff receive training in the use of fire extinguishers as a matter of urgency.	Training in the use of fire extinguishers has been organized through Aiden O'Connor, Fire Officer and sourced through B&M Fire Ltd to include all available staff and provisional date has been set for Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May, 2009	Project Leader	7 <sup>th</sup> May 2009	<b>RECOMMENDATION MET</b>
3	The HSE EA should ensure that the administrative files in the centre are reviewed, structured and organised to facilitate effective management and accountability.	The administrative filing system has now been reviewed since the Inspectors found it cumbersome and difficult to access. A new system is being put in place to facilitate more effective management and accountability.	Project Leader	June 2009	<b>RECOMMENDATION MET</b>

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4	The HSE EA should ensure monitoring reports in writing are completed on the centre on a regular basis as required under standard 3.3.	Monitor visited the unit in February. Draft report completed	Monitor	Immediate	<b>RECOMMENDATION MET</b>
5	The HSE EA should ensure the policy of responding to complaints and access to information are reviewed, practices formulated to meet these standards and these practices are monitored externally to the centre.	Policy and procedures in relation to complaints are in the process of being reviewed and updated in the Policies and Procedures for Children's Residential Centre, DNE draft manual 2009. This will provide greater clarity in the framework for responding to complaints and child protection issues and also to ensure that outcomes are reached and recorded and that stakeholders are fully informed of the outcomes.	Project Leader	Immediately	<b>RECOMMENDATION MET</b>
6	The HSE EA should ensure statutory care plans, statutory care plan reviews, supervision and visiting of young people are adhered to for all young people in the centre.	Social Work Team in conjunction with Centre will liaise to ensure this is happening on an ongoing basis.	Principal Social Worker	Ongoing	<b>ONGOING [TO BE CHECKED DURING NEXT INSPECTION]</b>

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7	The HSE EA should review child protection practices and policies in the centre and satisfy itself that any current child protection matters outstanding are managed appropriately and monitored by external management.	Unit Manager, Social Workers have reviewed child protection policies and practices. The monitor has designed a new reporting procedure in conjunction with Child Care Management to notify all child protection concerns.	Alternative Care Manager Unit Manager Principal Social Worker	Immediate	<b>RECOMMENDATION MET</b>
8	The HSE EA should ensure adequate and suitable accommodation is provided having regard to the number of children residing in the centre and in particular that sufficient lavatories baths and showers are provided.	A statement will be included in our purpose and function that non sibling children will not share a bedroom. In all future referrals and admissions an assessment will be undertaken of the appropriateness o sibling children sharing bedrooms on a case by case basis. An architectural survey will be conducted to survey the bathroom, shower and lavatory facilities in order to ascertain their suitability and appropriateness.	Project Leader	June 2009	<b>ONGOING [TO BE CHECKED DURING NEXT INSPECTION]</b>
9	The HSE EA should ensure the building in maintained at an acceptable standard and a schedule of works should be prioritised for the centre.	A schedule of works which would improve the physical environment within the unit and bring it up to an acceptable standard has bee submitted to administration for consideration.	Alternative Care Manager	June 2009.	<b>ONGOING [TO BE CHECKED DURING NEXT INSPECTION]</b>

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10	The HSE EA should ensure the centre had written confirmation on fire safety and building control as required in standard 10.19.	Fire Officer intends to have this undertaken –when finance is available.	Fire Officer		<b>RECOMMENDATION NOT MET</b>