



# Health Information and Quality Authority

An tÚdarás Um Fhaisnéis  
agus Cáilíocht Sláinte

## **A Follow Up Inspection Report of a Children's Residential Centre in the Health Service Executive Dublin Mid Leinster**

**Inspection Report ID Number: 483**

**Fieldwork Date: 28<sup>th</sup> July 2011**

**Publication Date: 15<sup>th</sup> August 2011**

**Inspection Period: 13**

**Centre ID Number: 359**

## **Introduction**

The Health Information and Quality Authority Social Services Inspectorate (HIQA/SSI) carried out a one day unannounced follow-up inspection (see inspection ID 392) of a community children's residential centre in the HSE Dublin Mid Leinster Local Health Area under Section 69 (2) of the Child Care Act 1991. The inspector, Kieran O'Connor, returned to the centre on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2011, to follow up on the level of compliance with recommendations made. At the time of the follow up inspection there were three young people, all girls, one aged 18 and two aged 16 years respectively living in the unit.

## **Findings**

As Part of this follow up inspection, the inspector met with the centre manager, a member of the staff team and two of the young people living at the centre at the time of this follow up inspection.

The centre was located in a large detached two storey house in an urban setting alongside a similar residential centre. Each house was managed as independent centres.

The centre had a written statement of purpose and function. At the time of the follow up inspection it provided mainstream residential care for up to five young people between 12 and 17 years, of mixed gender. This inspector found that the centre continued to be managed well. The young people who were interviewed said that they were happy living in the centre and could instantly name a member of the staff team if they were worried about anything. They also said that the manager was very approachable and easy to talk to.

The inspector found that eight recommendations were met in full, one was met in part, and one was not met. The inspector is concerned that key recommendations in relation to fire safety have not been met. This inspector requires a written report that these recommendations are met by the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2011.

## Action Plan for Inspection No. 392/483

**Centre ID:** 359  
**HSE Area:** HSE Dublin Mid-Leinster

**Date Action Plan Dispatched:** 23 August 2010  
**Date Action Plan Updated:** 15<sup>th</sup> August 2011

No.	Recommendation	Action to be taken	Person Responsible	Implementation Date	SSI Response
<b>1</b>	The HSE DML should ensure that a training audit is carried out immediately and on at least an annual basis thereafter.	A training audit will be conducted and repeated annually.	Centre Manager	10 <sup>th</sup> September 2010	Recommendation Met. A training audit was now conducted on an annual basis.
<b>2</b>	The HSE DML should ensure the monitoring report is issued without delay and any findings are acted upon.	The current Monitoring Officer is leaving post. The replacement will schedule Monitoring Visits to all Centres and reports on those visits will be forwarded to the SSI on an annual basis.	Local Health Office Manager D.S.C.	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2010	Recommendation Met. The monitoring report was issued and findings were implemented.
<b>3</b>	The HSE DML should ensure that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a.</b> feedback to the children following the team meeting should be recorded in the Children's Meeting Book.</li> <li><b>b.</b> young people's right to access their files is revisited in team meetings and young people's meetings.</li> </ul>	<p>Feedback provided to young people in relation to the points / queries they raised at their meeting which are subsequently discussed at a staff meeting will be recorded in their meeting book.</p> <p>Centre Staff and Resident Young People will be reminded of their right to access care files and of the procedures in place to access case files.</p>	<p>Centre Manager Centre Staff</p> <p>Centre Manager</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> September 2010</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> September 2010</p>	<p>Recommendation Met.</p> <p><b>a.</b> this inspector reviewed the children's meeting book and found that feedback was now being recorded.</p> <p><b>b.</b> staff were aware that of the children's right to access care files and there were procedures in place to access care files.</p>

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4	The HSE DML should ensure that an aftercare plan is drawn up for the young person recently admitted to the centre.	An Aftercare Plan incorporating Preparations for Leaving Care will be drawn up or the young person recently admitted to the Centre.	Social Worker Social Work Team Leader Centre Manager Centre Staff	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2010	Recommendation Met. This inspector reviewed the aftercare plan for this young person and found it comprehensive.
5	The HSE DML should ensure that clear and complete records of all medical and health information are obtained for the care records.	Every effort will be made to secure clear and complete records of all medical and health information are obtained for the care records. In the case of foreign national residents, if retrospective information cannot be secured, evidence of the significant efforts made to do so will be on the young person's case and care files.	Social Worker Social Work Team Leader Centre Manager	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2010	Recommendation Met. Medical records were satisfactory.
6	The HSE DML should give consideration to redecoration of communal areas.	This recommendation will be communicated to the Dublin West Maintenance Department with a view to ensuring that this recommendation can be met.	Centre Manager DSW Maintenance Dept	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2010	Recommendation Met. Communal areas had now being redecorated.

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7	The HSE DML must ensure that the centre and line management devise a plan to implement recommendations of the independent fire safety report with immediate effect.	The DML Fire Safety Officer has committed to ensuring that the recommendations made in the fire safety report he commissioned will be implemented in 2010.	Fire Safety Officer Maintenance Department DSW	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2010	Recommendation Met in Part. The majority of recommendations were met. However these fire safety recommendations needed to be completed immediately.
8	The HSE DML should carry out whatever works are necessary to obtain written confirmation certifying that all statutory requirements relating to fire safety and building control have been complied with in accordance with standard 10.19.	The DML Fire Safety Officer has committed to ensuring that the recommendations made in the fire safety report he commissioned will be implemented in 2010.	Fire Safety Officer Maintenance Department DSW	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2010	Recommendation Not Met. This inspector had serious concerns that this had not been completed and requires that this is completed and a written report confirming its completion is provided to HIQA by 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2011.
9	The HSE DML should ensure the decision to not allow friends in bedrooms is reviewed by managers and thought is given to ways in which friends of young people can be made aware of the fire evacuation procedure.	Subject to ongoing risk assessment relating to their behaviour and the behaviour of resident young people, friends will be permitted (under supervision) to be in bedrooms if sanctioned by the Centre Manager and relevant Social Worker.	Centre Manager Social Worker	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2010	Recommendation Met. This was now occurring.

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10	The HSE DML should ensure that fire drills are carried out regularly in the centre and any young people newly admitted to the centre experience a fire drill.	<p>The new Residential Fire Safety Register for DML will be published shortly and will contain specific instructions on the number and nature of fire drills to be carried out in a Centre each year. It will also instruct that new staff and residents are taken through a fire drill as part of their induction to the centre.</p> <p>In the interim, this Centre will carry out quarterly fire drills (2 x Day and 2 x night) and take new staff and residents through a fire drill as part of their induction to the centre.</p>	<p>H.S.E.D.M.L. Fire Safety Officer</p> <p>Centre Manager Centre Fire Warden</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> October 2010</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> September 2010</p>	Recommendation Met.