



**Health
Information
and Quality
Authority**

An tÚdarás Um Fhaisnéis
agus Cáilíocht Sláinte

**Social Services
Inspectorate**

A
CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL CENTRE
IN THE
HSE Dublin Mid-Leinster Area

Final

INSPECTION REPORT ID NUMBER: 267

Follow up inspection fieldwork dates: 11th November 2008
Publication Date: 16th December 2008
SSI Inspection Period: Year 10
Centre ID Number: 10

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Introduction

The Health Information and Quality Authority Social Services Inspectorate (HIQA/SSI) carried out a one day unannounced follow-up inspection (see inspection ID 251) 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 and co-inspector Bronagh Gibson, visited the centre on 11th November 2008 to follow up on the level of compliance with recommendations made.

Findings

The inspector met with the local health manager, the centre manager, two staff members, a team leader, social worker and all the young people in the centre. Inspectors found a high level of care in the centre. The youngest people told inspectors that they felt very cared for and the staff take a great interest in them. However, inspectors were seriously concerned with the level of anxiety displayed by the young people in relation to aftercare. They told inspectors that they had witnessed the stress of one young person in relation to their aftercare and were fearful that they would be unsupported once they reached eighteen. It is imperative that a comprehensive aftercare policy and practice is developed as a matter of the utmost urgency. Furthermore it is important that supervising social workers reassure young people that they will be subject to a comprehensive aftercare service as outlined in the standards.

Social Services Inspectorate

Action Plan for Inspection No. 251 / 267

Centre ID: 10
HSE Area: HSE Dublin Mid Leinster

Date Action Plan Dispatched: 24th September 2008
Date Action Plan Revised: 16th December 2008

No.	Recommendation	Action to be taken	Person Responsible	Implementation Date	SSI Response
1	The HSE Dublin Mid Leinster should ensure that the young person's wishes are given further consideration without delay.	Following discussion between LHM/SSI Inspector, it was agreed that a member of staff from L/W PCCC visit the young person on weekly basis (for task orientated specific reasons) for a minimum period of 6 weeks. Also a bed would be made available at weekend for the child to visit. Both these arrangements would be subject to review on c10th October 2008. This review is scheduled for w/b 20/10/2008. All arrangements will remain in place (bed at weekends and weekly visits).	B Geraghty A Maguire	Ongoing	Recommendation met in part. The young person had requested ongoing contact with centre staff to assist in aftercare, however this was terminated. However, the young person had ongoing aftercare assistance from the social worker.
2	The HSE Dublin Mid Leinster should ratify on their draft aftercare policy as a matter of priority.	Mr Liam O'Callaghan (LHM Laois/Offaly) and Joseph Ruane (LHM Longford/Westmeath) are currently considering the aftercare policy in the context of the service planning for 2009 and would be anticipating a decision by end October 2008.	J Ruane L O'Callaghan	31 Oct 2008	Recommendation met in part. This needs to be finalised as soon as possible.
3	The HSE Dublin Mid Leinster should review the effectiveness of their complaints policy in response to expressed concerns by young people in their care.	This is currently being reviewed	B Geraghty D Mangan	Ongoing	Recommendation met.