

5 May 2022

Dear Residents and Representatives,

Please find an update below to in relation to the COVID-19 situation at Meath Care and our recent reaccreditation site audit at the Michael Lee Centre.

#### **Dr Mary Surveyor Centre, Kingsley**

I can confirm that following the PCR screening on Shenton and Darch undertaken yesterday, **all residents tested returned negative results**. This is encouraging, but Clinipath will return to undertake PCR screening to Shenton and Darch on Saturday 7 May.

With no new cases being identified, we remain at **1 active resident case at the Centre**.

#### **Michael Lee Centre, Como**

Clinipath attended today and undertook PCR screening for residents on Tuart/Karri, Sheoak/Tyalla, and Jarrah/Sandalwood. All these areas were screened due to exposure from recently reported staff or visitor cases who attended while potentially infectious.

#### **Winter dose booster vaccines**

Some of the winter booster vaccines have been administered at the Dr Mary Surveyor Centre, but so far this is only to around a third of residents. Provision for the other residents to receive this dose will be made but it will be dependent on when their health practitioner is scheduling to do so.

Residents at the Michael Lee Centre are yet to have booster doses available at the Centre due to the 3<sup>rd</sup> dose clinic only being held 3 months ago. Arrangements will be made for health practitioners to schedule these in the coming weeks.

#### **Influenza vaccinations**

Just a brief reminder that **from 31 May 2022**, all visitors to our residential care centres will need to have evidence of 2022 influenza vaccination or a valid exemption. Once you have this evidence, please provide it to our reception staff.

#### **Reaccreditation site audit, Michael Lee Centre**

After a busy 3 days, the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission assessors concluded their site audit visit yesterday. I would like to extend my thanks to those residents and relatives who took the time to provide candid feedback to the Commission – either during the site audit or prior to the site audit using the survey link.

Overall, most of the feedback received was very positive and confirmed my belief that not only are we striving to do the right things at Meath Care, but most of the time we are. There was also a small amount of balanced feedback provided on where we can do better, which we accept and take on board to improve.

Irrespective of whether feedback is positive or not, as our service provides responses to human needs, **feedback is essential**. Needs change and although we have internal systems that identify opportunities for improvement, feedback from consumers is extremely valuable. Consumer feedback comes from a perspective that we may not have considered, so please continue to provide feedback.

We are completely open to receiving negative feedback when something could have been done better or we have erred in some way (although please note that it is preferred in a constructive, respectful, and collaborative manner). This provides us with 2 opportunities: one to improve and make a positive difference, the other to re-engage and provide confidence to the person providing the feedback.

Lastly, it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the excellent work that our team have done at the Michael Lee Centre in the reaccreditation process while continuing to manage in challenging times. The praise expressed by the residents and relatives is well-deserved. I should receive the final report towards the end of May and will communicate the outcome once it is confirmed.

With the community caseload of COVID continuing to be high since the decrease in public health measures last week, I thank everyone for supporting our safety through wearing a mask while on site and undertaking good hand hygiene. This assists us hugely in trying to limit the exposure of COVID in our Centres.

With best wishes,



**Chris Roberts**  
Chief Executive Officer

## Conditions of visiting, from 15 April 2022

### Dr Mary Surveyor Centre, Kingsley

#### Shenton (first floor)

- This area is closed to Visitors (except Partners in Care / Essential Visitors); and
- Partners in Care and Essential Visitors will undertake **Rapid Antigen Testing** on entry.

#### Darch (second floor) and Perry (third floor)

- All visitors must **wear a mask at all times** within the Centre;
- All visitors must be **fully vaccinated** against COVID-19 or have a valid exemption;
- Visitors must declare that they have undertaken **Rapid Antigen Testing** in the **previous 4 hours** and have a **negative** result (NB - daily visitors - in the previous 72 hours);
- A **maximum of 2 visitors** at any time, and a **maximum of 2 visitors** per day;
- Visits must either occur in the **resident's room** or in **outside areas**;
- Visitors must practise social distancing, hand hygiene, and cough etiquette;
- Visitors must not visit if they are **unwell**, been in **contact with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case**, or visited a **potential COVID-19 exposure site**; and
- Visitors who have been **overseas in the preceding 7 days** need to **inform us of their overseas travel on entry**.

### Michael Lee Centre, Como

- All visitors must **wear a mask at all times** within the Centre;
- All visitors must be **fully vaccinated** against COVID-19 or have a valid exemption;
- Visitors must declare that they have undertaken **Rapid Antigen Testing** in the **previous 4 hours** and have a **negative** result (NB - daily visitors - in the previous 72 hours);
- A **maximum of 2 visitors** at any time, and a **maximum of 2 visitors** per day;
- Visits must either occur in the **resident's room** or in **outside areas**;
- Visitors must practise social distancing, hand hygiene, and cough etiquette;
- Visitors must not visit if they are **unwell**, been in **contact with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case**, or visited a **potential COVID-19 exposure site**; and
- Visitors who have been **overseas in the preceding 7 days** need to **inform us of their overseas travel on entry**.