

Complaints Procedure for Service Users

1. Introduction

We always aim to provide a high standard of care in all our services.

Our Service Users' views are important to us and help to ensure our services are consistently meeting people's needs. If you are unhappy with any of our services, it is important that you let us know.

If a complaint alerts us to possible abuse or neglect, we will tell the Council's Adult Safeguarding Team. The Safeguarding Team will decide how to investigate and monitor outcomes.

2. Making a Suggestion

Often people feel more comfortable suggesting improvements rather than complaining formally. Suggestions can be made by anyone receiving services, or their friends/family. To make a suggestion you can:

- Speak to the Manager or their Deputy
- Utilise available comments or suggestion boxes
- Write to:

Registered Manager
ExemplaCare Ltd
UNIT 7,
West Well Farm,
Tingewick,
MK18 4BD
P: 01280 821860
info@exemplacare.co.uk
Company No: 10723188
CQC Registration No: CRT1-10497106849

3. Making a Complaint

We aim to handle complaints quickly, effectively and in a fair and honest way. We take all complaints seriously and the information from investigating to help us improve the service we provide. We treat all complaints in confidence. ExemplaCare Ltd assures Service Users and their families that it will not withdraw or reduce services because someone makes a complaint in good faith.

4. Who Can Complain

A client affected by the way ExemplaCare Ltd provides services can make a complaint. An agreed representative can also make a complaint for the affected person if they:

- Have died
- Cannot make a complaint themselves, or
- Have given consent for the representative to act on their behalf

If you are not happy about making a complaint yourself and you do not know someone who can talk or write to us on your behalf, we will be happy to find someone from an independent organisation, to act as an advocate for you.

5. How You Can Make a Complaint

You can complain:

- In person
- By telephone
- Through a member of our staff
- Through an advocate or representative
- Online
- Where someone complains verbally, we will make a written record and provide a copy of it within 3 working days
- By letter
- By email

6. Anonymous Complaints

We deal with anonymous complaints under the same procedure. However, it should be noted, if you provide contact details, we can update you on the outcome of our investigation.

7. Responsibility

Company No. 10723188
CQC Registration No. CRTI-10497106849

The Registered Manager has overall responsibility for dealing with all complaints made about their service.

We will provide as far as is reasonably practical:

Any help you need to understand the complaints procedure
Advice on where you may get that help
Information about making a complaint in a way you can understand

8. How We Handle Complaints

The Registered Manager of ExemplaCare Ltd will investigate the complaint.

We will acknowledge a complaint within 3 working days and give you the name and contact details of the person investigating it.

We will keep you informed about the progress of the investigation.

We aim to have all complaints finished within 28 working days unless we agree a different time scale with you.

When we have finished investigating, we will arrange to meet with you to discuss the outcome, and write to you with:

- Details of the findings
- Any action we have taken
- Our proposals to resolve your complaint

If it is not possible to meet in person, the client be written to with the outcome of the investigation.

9. Time Limits

You should complain as soon as you can after the date on which the event occurred or came to your notice and no later than 60 days from the start of the incident.

However, we will consider whether you had a good reason for not making the complaint sooner and whether, despite the delay, it is still possible to investigate the complaint effectively and fairly.

10. Further Steps

At any stage during the process, if you are not happy with the way the service is dealing with your complaint, you can contact the Registered Manager at:

Registered Manager
ExemplaCare Ltd
UNIT 7,
West Well Farm,
Barton Road,
Tingewick,
MK18 4BD
P: 01280 474269
info@exemplacare.co.uk
Company No: 10723188
CQC Registration No: No. CRT1-10497106849

Once we have dealt with your complaint, if you are not happy with the outcome you can refer your complaint to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman and ask for it to be reviewed. The Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman provides a free independent service.

You can contact them at:

The Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman
PO Box 4771,
Coventry CV4 0EH,
Tel: 0845 602 1983 or 024 7682 1960
Fax: 024 7682 0001
advice@lgo.org.uk

NB: The Ombudsman will not normally investigate a complaint until the provider has had an opportunity to respond and resolve matters.

ExemplaCare Ltd services are registered with and regulated by the Care Quality Commission. The CQC cannot get involved in individual complaints about providers but is happy to receive information about services at any time.

You can contact the CQC at:

Care Quality Commission National Correspondence
Citygate, Gallowgate
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4PA Tel: 03000 616161
Fax: 03000 616171 Website: www.cqc.org.uk

*We can provide this policy in other languages or in other formats on request

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