

RNID Harkness Gardens, Derry, Northern Ireland

Team for visit:

Liam O'Dwyer

Dates of visits:

11th February 2009

Contacts at facility:

Brian Simington RNID Belfast, Northern Ireland
Michael Adamson RNID London

Description of services provided at the facility:

Residential care for 6 Deaf adults with additional disabilities

Description of the facility itself:

The facility is situated in a small purpose built housing estate specifically designed for independent living for people with disabilities as well as the general public. The facility comprises two houses operating as one unit with eight individual bedrooms, two living rooms, kitchen, laundry and office

Exterior:

The exterior is in old world brick with a very attractive wooden window finish. The exterior is surrounded by paving and shrubs and other similar accommodation. There is no through traffic

Interior:

Bright rooms, light colours, wooden floors. Individual bedrooms with no en-suites. Common rooms being the laundry, sitting room, bathrooms, kitchen and living rooms

Environment:

Protected housing estate environment with the houses being located at the end of a cul de sac

Lessons for Village Project:

Independent living accommodation with private rooms and with shared kitchen, laundry and living facilities is appropriate with the residents being encouraged to care for themselves and each other.

All staff sign and each resident has a developmental programme which is intended to enable them move to more independent living over a period of time.

Positives for inclusion:

The building of accommodation that is not institutional

The intention to enable residents to take care of themselves

To encourage residents to participate in community activities outside the care centre for integration purposes

Negatives to be avoided:

En-suite facilities are a must

Summary:

The modal of housing and the type of supportive care provided is what CIDP needs to aim for. Very clear focus on the development of the resident to enable them move to greater independence. The importance of individual up to date care plans that were agreed with the resident and their family was emphasised