

HOME > NEWS > UK NEWS

Elderly couple given 148 carers in 16 months

An elderly house-bound couple have been seen by 148 different carers in just 16 months.

Published: 10:51AM GMT 21 Jan 2010

Allied Healthcare's treatment of the pensioners was condemned as 'appalling' by their local MP Graham Stringer and the company is now having its contract reviewed by council chiefs.

The woman, 72, is bed-ridden, while her husband, 66, suffers from respiratory complaints and cannot walk more than 10 metres without oxygen.

The company sent the pensioners, who live in north Manchester, 15 carers to look after them in the first five days of this year alone.

Related Articles

- Wimbedon 2009: Jamie Murray puts doubles life before love life
- Recovery, what recovery? June nips economic green shoots in the bud
- Peer aims to take a bite out of recession
- Woman has triplets after being told she could never have children
- Dubai beach sex couple land back in Britain

"The staff do their best but some were useless and some were almost dangerous," said the man. "I wouldn't have some of them back in the house. One carer tried to put my wife's hoist (over her bed) on upside down. Another thought it was electric. It's like being told to let any old person off the street into your house."

Allied has already been suspended once over the case and council bosses are now considering whether to act again.

In total, the couple, who asked not to be named, have had 148 carers since September 2008.

They said they were left feeling vulnerable and confused by the sheer number of carers calling at their door and claimed some staff struggled to use equipment needed to keep them mobile.

They said one Allied carer showed them a job sheet listing more than 100 calls he had to make in just three days over a holiday weekend.

Mr Stringer, MP for Manchester, Blackley, said: "The way this couple have been treated is appalling. I'm asking the council to investigate this case with a view to terminating Allied's contract. It is simply unacceptable that the health and safety of constituents is put at risk in this way."

Allied is one of Britain's biggest care companies and has 10,000 staff across

Share | Facebook | Twitter | StumbleUpon

Digg submit

4 retweet

Email | Print

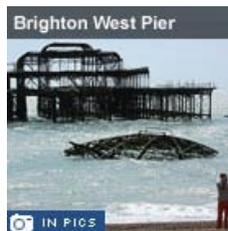
Text Size + -

UK News

News

Elder Health

Health News



LOCAL LISTINGS

Moulds
The Professionals In Accountancy, Company Formations, Self Assessments & ...
Leeds

Halifax Windows & Conservatories
40% Discount On All Windows, Doors Fascias & Soffits, Covering Halifax & Calderdale
Bradford, Halifax & Skipton

Business listings by **Yell.com**

EDITOR'S CHOICE

Arshile Gorky: A Retrospective
The horrors of Arshile Gorky's childhood in Armenia paved the way to greatness in America.

Cat owners can't be that clever - I'm the proof

Food intolerance: the new epidemic?

The Tea Party, Sarah Palin and mutiny

Can Prozac make our brains younger?

NEWS MOST VIEWED

- TODAY PAST WEEK PAST MONTH
- Iran to make 'advanced' attack drones
 - US soldier gives four-year-old daughter 'waterboarding' over alphabet

the country.

It describes itself as "one of the leading providers of independent health and social care" and says that it "prides itself on providing consistently high-quality care".

Robin Sidebottom, operations director, said: "Clearly, it is unacceptable for a client to receive the number of different carers reported in this case and (the couple) did have an unusually high amount of care workers.

"However, this is not typical of the service we deliver and more recently the number of care workers has vastly reduced. A typical care worker can attend as many as 35 visits per day. This is not unusual as many visits are 15 minutes in duration."

Liz Bruce, strategic director for adult services at Manchester council, said: "It is a key priority for the council to ensure vulnerable residents receive the highest quality of care and support and this couple are no exception."

"For them to have 100 carers in this short period is clearly unacceptable. This was brought to our attention and we immediately suspended the company, Allied Healthcare. The council lifted the suspension after they agreed to make improvements. We are now reviewing our contract with Allied Healthcare."



3. Couple told by BT that broadband upgrade would cost &#pound;45,000

4. Prince Charles was a 'gruesome child' says letter from Queen's cousin

5. Vanessa Perroncel 'wants to get back with Wayne Bridge'

SPONSORED FEATURES



Honda Civic Hybrid
Economical, environmental and performance driven. Download the free brochure or book a test drive.



UK Opportunity Grant winners
Congratulations to the 100 companies, each of which has won 12 business class flights from British Airways.



Telegraph ski hire offer
Save up to 40 per cent and have your ski equipment ready on arrival by booking in advance at Skiset.



ADS BY GOOGLE

NHS: Dementia Carers

Visit Carers Direct to learn about the help available for carers.

www.NHS.uk/CarersDirect

Pay Care Home Fees

Unfairly Paying Care Fees? Talk To The Specialists Not Lawyers

www.Cheselden.co.uk

Telecare for dementia

Supporting people with dementia in their own homes

www.justchecking.co.uk

MORE ON

UK News Get feed updates

News Get feed updates

Elder Health Get feed updates

Health News Get feed updates



Venice Carnival 2010



Masked revellers swarm the streets and waterways for the annual Carnival.

Clashes in Jerusalem

Children caught up in clashes between Israeli police and youths.

Winter weather in Europe

Deep snow in Romania, ice in Germany, avalanche in Switzerland.

TELEGRAPH JOBS

H & S Policy Manager

West Midlands, £45000 - £50000

Teaching and Learning Consultant

London, £50000 - £99999

General Manager GM/277/15

South East, £95000

Upload your CV

Career advice

Get job alerts

Advertise a job

TELEGRAPH DATING



Diane1792

These things always sound so facetious easiest way to get to know me is to mail! In general I'm an out going and sociable lady who loves to see new things, enjoy new...

See my profile

Search for more members and join for free

MORE FROM TELEGRAPH.CO.UK



TELEGRAPH JOBS

Latest jobs

Search thousands of job vacancies: accountancy, tax, banking, construction, engineering, education, healthcare, IT, local government, sales, telecoms and more.

[Search now](#)

FINANCE



Saudi Arabia opens to outsiders as it looks to the future

WAR PHOTOGRAPHY



Striking images by Don McCullin, taken from a new exhibition in Manchester

ONLINE DATING



Find someone amazing from over 33,000 members

VALENTINE'S DAY IDEAS



Valentine's Day: say it with flowers

[Back to top](#)

HOT TOPICS | [MPs' Expenses](#) | [Weather Forecast](#) | [Afghanistan](#) | [Greece](#) | [Six Nations 2010](#) | [Football](#) | [Valentine's Day](#) | [Venice Carnival 2010](#)



[News](#)
[UK News](#)
[World News](#)
[Obituaries](#)

[Travel](#)
[Health](#)
[Jobs](#)

[Football](#)
[England](#)
[World Cup 2010](#)
[Live Scores](#)

[Culture](#)
[Motoring](#)
[Dating](#)

[Finance](#)
[Personal Finance](#)
[Markets](#)
[Economics](#)

[Fashion](#)
[Property](#)
[Games](#)

[Comment](#)
[Letters](#)
[My Telegraph](#)
[Blogs](#)

[Technology](#)
[Food and Drink](#)
[Offers](#)

[Contact Us](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)
[Advertising](#)
[A to Z](#)

[Announcements](#)
[Promotions](#)
[Reader Prints](#)

[RSS feeds](#)
 [Widgets](#)
 [Mobile](#)
 [Epaper](#)

[Expat](#)
[Subscribe](#)
[Syndication](#)