

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR FULL COUNCIL

See [Part D of the Council's Constitution – Council Procedure Rules](#) – for the rules on motions

Title of Motion:	Adult Social Services: Resource to be returned to Newark Hospital
Date of Council meeting:	19 May 2026
Proposer of Motion: (Name, and signature if hard copy submitted)	Councillor Linda Dales
Seconder of Motion: (Name, and signature if hard copy submitted)	Councillor Susan Crosby

Background/supporting information (maximum 300 words):

Pre-Covid, an Adult Social Services Team was based at Newark Hospital.

Having them on site is proven to deliver timelier discharges for patients who are medically safe for transfer but delayed leaving hospital because they await care packages, assessment by a social worker or other pre-discharge arrangements.

The hardest areas in which to achieve timely P1 and P2 discharges are across the Newark rural patches. It is a postcode lottery, leading to significant health inequalities. For Newark patients the Trust struggles to keep a tight grip on progress with the most complex patients and consequently Newark patients getting a poorer deal! One patient from a rural Newark postcode has been waiting for a Package Of Care for 26 days!

Waiting for over 14 days for a POC for a person living in rural Newark is not unusual! This is distressing for those patients and their families, and it ties up much-needed beds across the Trust's three sites causing patients in the Kings Mill Emergency Department to be delayed there whilst awaiting a bed.

In December 2025 at Newark Hospital alone 10 beds were tied up on Sconce Ward, 11 on Castle Ward, so 21 beds over 31 days at a cost of £350 per bed per night. That's just one month. Circa £227K of wasted capacity which could have been better utilised decongesting King's Mill Hospital site and allowing patients to exit the Emergency Dept in a timely manner. That's the financial cost. The real cost of this is felt across the Trust, starting in ED at Kings Mill with patients stuck on trolleys awaiting beds.

Please would this Full Council agree to writing to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care at Notts County Council formally requesting that 1 Full Time Adult Social Services resource be returned to Newark Hospital.

Motion to be proposed (active section):

This Motion seeks the support of this Council in writing to NCC's Adult Social Services in support of Sherwood Forest Hospital Trust, asking that an Adult Social Service resource be returned to Newark Hospital in order to address the complex discharge delays that are caused by its absence.

Date and time received:
(for completion by Democratic Services)

10.05.26 - 08:35