

9th October 2025

Agenda Item:

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH

RESPONSE TO PETITION PRESENTED TO FULL COUNCIL – ADULT CARE SERVICES IN MANSFIELD AND NEWARK

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to recommend to the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health the response to the issues raised in the petition presented to the County Council at its meeting on 18th September 2025.

Information

2. An 82–signature petition was presented to Full Council on 18th September 2025 by Councillor Barry Answer on behalf of residents in Mansfield, Newark and other areas in England requesting that the County Council addresses concerns being raised in respect of the closure of day services in Mansfield and Newark.
3. The two day services referenced in the petition - Heather Close in Mansfield and Holly Lodge in Newark - are owned and run by Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. The Trust has taken the decision to close the services.
4. The day services have supported several people with learning disabilities and/or autism for many years; some people have attended for over a decade. However, numbers of people supported there have declined since the Covid pandemic and many new alternatives are available today.
5. The Council realises these decisions can be unsettling for people and their families, but it is confident it can find alternative provision. In terms of the impact of the closure and the transition process for current attendees, the Council has been working with the individuals and their families affected since it was made aware of the Trust's decision to close the services.
6. The Council is involved with eighteen people currently using these services. All of these people have had an in-person review of their needs, which has involved their family. The Council is making good progress in arranging alternative and appropriate care and support for these people. Seven people have a date set to start at an alternative day service setting. Eight people are visiting alternative services on a trial basis. For two people the outcome of the review has been that their needs will be met in a different way – outside of a day service setting. For one individual more time is required to explore alternative options, but a Social

Care Worker is supporting this process. There has been a one month extension at one of the services to enable a smooth transition for individuals affected by the closure.

7. The Council is confident that all the individuals affected by the closures will be well supported and appropriate alternative provision will be found for them.

Proposed actions

8. That the ongoing County Council support being offered to the people using these services and their families be continued and highlighted to the lead petitioner.

Other Options Considered

9. There are no other options to be considered. The Council is responding to the situation caused by the closure of the day services by Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and is supporting individuals affected and their families with the identification of alternative and appropriate support options.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

10. It is a requirement that the Council consider all petitions submitted through the petitions process and respond appropriately.

Statutory and Policy Implications

11. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

12. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from the report.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications and Implications for Residents

13. As set out above the individuals that are affected by the closure of these services are receiving support from the Council to ensure their care and support needs are met appropriately in an alternative setting before the service is closed.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That

- 1) The petition response be approved.
- 2) The lead petitioner be informed of the response.

Guy Van Dichele
Executive Director, Adult Social Care and Health

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (GMG 09/10/25)

14. There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. The closure of the facilities is as a result of the actions of a third party over which the Council has no control. This response falls within the remit of the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care for determination under Section 4, Part 2, paragraph 38 on p.51 of the Council's Constitution.

Financial Comments (PD 15/10/25)

15. The service will need to ensure that costs of alternative provision are met within existing resources and considered within the wider financial position.

16. There are no Local Government Reorganisation implications arising from this decision.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

Mansfield West - Cllr Answer
Mansfield West – Cllr Wheatcroft
Mansfield East - Cllr Barton
Mansfield East – Cllr M Wright
Mansfield South - Cllr Brown
Mansfield South - Cllr Chaudhury
Mansfield North – Cllr Mann
Mansfield North – Cllr D Smith
Newark West - Cllr Girling
Newark East - Cllr S Smith