

30 July 2026

Spend on Top Up Contributions and Cost of Delayed Discharge

- 1) How much did the BHSCT spend from April 24 to April 25 on third party top up contributions to care homes. Either part, or full payments

Accommodation Type	2024-2025
Nursing Homes	
Trust	£2,035,725
Third Party	£956,112
Total	£2,991,837

Accommodation Type	2024-2025
Residential Homes	
Trust	£998,589
Third Party	£463,989
Total	£1,462,578

Accommodation Type	2024-2025
Combined	
Trust	£3,034,314
Third Party	£1,420,101
Total	£4,454,415

- 2) What was the financial cost of delayed discharges in all Belfast Trust hospitals from April 24 to April 25

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07/07/2026: Requestor clarified this is related to overall cost of hospital delays

Only NI average figures (rather than at individual Trust level) are available for general use from the Patient Level Information and Costing System (PLICS). The Northern Ireland average cost of a General Medicine bed day for 2024/25 is £408. It is important in giving the answer that we stress that caution should be exercised when applying this average rate to the bed day delay figures to come up with a theoretical total, for numerous reasons including:-

- this represents a marginal patient-facing cost, comprising nursing and medical costs only
- this represents an NI average and will not necessarily equate to BHSCCT costs
- the bed day delays may not have taken place in General Medicine beds
- the PLICS system is very recently adopted, with the accuracy of its output still in development, including in light of its interaction with the Encompass information system
- it is not reasonable to assume that all these costs would have been saved had the delayed bed stay not occurred

However, recognising the above, taking the 45,155 delay bed days figure advised on the attached, application of this £408 rate would equate to £18.4m.