

17 July 2024

## **Future of Pine Lodge**

**I'm contacting you to enquire about the future of Pine Lodge in Belmont Road. I'm curious as to why it has been left empty for so long – since autumn 2016 – and why nothing is being done with it.**

**This is a major asset that isn't generating any income for Belfast Health and Social Care Trust but is being left to rot.**

**Surely, it should be reopened for a different clientele or it should be sold? Leaving it permanently vacant is no use to anybody.**

The Encompass Team has occupied the Annex at Pine Lodge since February 2022.

The roll out of the Encompass project is a regional priority and this building provides a hub for the Belfast Trust Team. The remainder of Pine Lodge is unoccupied.

Belfast Trust previously commissioned a feasibility study at Pine Lodge, which confirmed that a significant capital investment would be required for refurbishment.

Options for refurbishment included an intermediate care facility for patients as they transition from acute hospital care.

Given the pressure on acute hospitals and the lack of available development sites within the Belfast area, Pine lodge remains a strategically important site for Belfast Trust.

Refurbishment of Pine lodge is dependent upon the availability of capital funding.