

## **Mater Hospital Services**

“This Council recognises the role played by healthcare staff in the Mater Hospital, on the front line of the pandemic. While working hard to battle COVID at a local level, these staff saw their normal workday overhauled and many worked multiple redeployments. The Council thanks the staff at the Mater Hospital for their efforts.

The Council notes that the Mater Hospital is an incredibly important asset for North Belfast, both as an employer and in terms of services provision. Further notes the concerns that no timeline has been provided for the return of Mater Hospital services which were removed to facilitate COVID operations; including general surgery, ICU, day procedures, mental health services, births, and more.

Along with Unison, the Council agrees that all services which were removed during the pandemic should be returned to the Mater as soon as is reasonably possible, and that staff and trade unions should be provided with a working timeline for this to take place.

Therefore, the Council will seek a cross party meeting with Cathy Jack and a representative from the Department of Health to discuss plans for the future of the Mater, after COVID.”

Proposer: Councillor Ferguson

Seconder: Councillor Matt Collins

**(To be debated by the Council)**