

SaveSouthTynesideHospital



@SaveSTHospital



Fight to Save Vital Services Goes On...

SAVE SOUTH TYNESIDE HOSPITAL
CAMPAIGN

Save South Tyneside Hospital
Campaign
OUR HOSPITAL
OUR WORKPLACE
OUR NHS!

Oppose further downgrading of vital hospital services in phase-2, which the CCG is planning to consult on this year. We call on you to help build our campaign. Government plans, known locally as the “*Path to Excellence*”, aim to turn South Tyneside Hospital into a “*cold site*” without the vital acute and emergency services that it presently provides; moving those services to Sunderland, which is one of a smaller number of “*hot sites*” with increasingly overcrowded services that are further away from home.

Certainly not a “*Path to Excellence*”

This crisis of access to health services in South Tyneside and Sunderland - with instances of no beds to admit seriously ill patients to Sunderland Royal - has made services less safe, even before they downgrade services further in phase-2.

Share your experiences to help us build a picture of the human cost of service cuts and closures:

www.savesouthtynesidehospital.org/stories/

Attend one of our bi-weekly meetings:

www.savesouthtynesidehospital.org/events/

OUR WORK SO FAR:

Entering our 4th year of fighting to save hospital and other services, we have over 43,000 signatures on our petition. The people of South Tyneside and Sunderland have held six demonstrations, regular public meetings, and large public discussions - such as in July 2019 with Professor Allyson Pollock.

In May 2018 phase-1 of hospital service closures - affecting 24/7 children's A&E, full maternity, our Special Care Baby Unit, and stroke services - was referred to the Secretary of State by the Joint South Tyneside and Sunderland Health Scrutiny Committee who stated that the plans were *“not in the best interests of the people of South Tyneside”*. This referral was rejected by the government.

We have been unsuccessful so far in challenging the legality of the phase-1 consultation at both a Judicial Review and an appeal to the High Court. The CCG had pre-empted the consultation process by not consulting on the possibility of safeguarding the present consultant-led services, but instead ruled them out as *“not an option”*.

PRESENT FOCUS : PHASE-2

The CCG said a consultation would be launched in 2019 on proposals to further downgrade our hospital. We opposed the CCG's and Trust's request for South Tyneside (ST) and Sunderland Council to arrange loans (£35 & £15 million) to fund the downgrading of our services. So ST-Council voted to *“protect and improve”* these services. The CCG say the phase-2 consultation has been delayed until this year. We are also fighting with others to reinstate the inpatient end-of-life palliative service in our community.

OUR POSITION:

- Health care is a right!
- We demand locally accessible district hospitals with a wide range of properly funded acute, community and mental health services.
- We demand that vital services are retained in South Tyneside and Sunderland.
- We demand an end to the marketisation and privatisation of the NHS.

www.savesouthtynesidehospital.org

**Access to health care is a right of all in a modern society;
We demand that it be guaranteed.**