

SaveSouthTynesideHospital



@SaveSTHospital



Closure of Vital Hospital Services is Not in Our Name

SAVE SOUTH TYNESIDE HOSPITAL
CAMPAIGN

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

On June 9th a deputation of people from South Tyneside & Sunderland is going to Parliament to hand in the petition signed by 43-thousand against downgrading & privatisation of our hospital services. Get involved! Attend one of our online meetings. Contact us to receive regular updates:

www.savesouthtynesidehospital.org/events/

Those in power are using the present crisis to further downgrade and privatise our NHS. In South Tyneside they plan to downgrade our children's A&E from a consultant-led service by August 2021. This is alongside existing plans to downgrade our A&E. Children and adults will be put at further risk. We will have to travel to Sunderland for *all emergency surgery!* Next year they plan to move all other acute services away from South Tyneside as well. How good is a “wonderful” Surgery Centre if the 150-thousand+ people of South Tyneside cannot access vital emergency services locally? Our A&E will be downgraded to an “Urgent Care Centre” and privatised. The CCG has indicated that the contract will go to Vocare, a subsidiary of Totally PLC.

OUR WORK SO FAR:

We're entering the 5th year of our fight to save vital hospital services. We have 43,000 signatures on our petition, to be delivered in June, with a deputation to Parliament and with the support of our MPs. The people of South Tyneside and Sunderland have held six large demonstrations, and several large public meetings of more than 100, such as the meeting in July 2019 with Professor Allyson Pollock. We have continued to meet fortnightly online throughout the pandemic.

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 continued the fight and challenged the legality of the phase-1 Consultation at both a Judicial Review and an appeal to the High Court.

PRESENT FOCUS : PHASE-2

Opposing plans to downgrade our A&E, including our children's A&E. Everyone will be at greater risk as we are forced to travel further for emergency surgery. The Trust plan to move all other acute services out of South Tyneside. This is not a "path to excellence". Access to healthcare will become harder for people in one of the most deprived communities in the North East. It will impact on Sunderland, where in 2019 there were too few beds to admit patients. We're also working with others to reinstate palliative care services in South Tyneside.

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.**