

SaveSouthTyneSideHospital



@SaveSTHospital



# Update on the work of SSTHC in 2024



People continue to be angry with the crisis in the NHS. Successive governments have downgraded hospitals, closed acute & emergency services and closed mental health beds and lately even wrecked the NHS dental services. They have deliberately driven doctors and nurses into the ground, driving down their pay and they have failed to recruit and train enough doctors and nurses. Instead, they and their friends increasingly profit from the wrecking of our NHS through privatisation. Whilst the hated Conservative government has been defeated in the July election what will happen next depends on us and how we speak out for the future of our health services. This shows that it's vital to continue to build our own organisations to stand up for our hospital services in every community and also to support the health workers and their unions, so that they can provide the service they want to.

Find us on social media! Join our email list to receive regular updates.  
Our regular meetings are open to everyone.

<https://www.facebook.com/SaveSouthTyneSideHospital>

## OUR WORK SO FAR

The fight to save our hospital services started in 2016. We've presented a petition - signed by 44,000 people - to parliament in June 2021. We took the fight to the high court with a judicial review.

We have organised public meetings and demonstrations. During the Phase 1 of the "Path to Excellence" we lost access at our hospital to our full maternity services, special care baby unit, consultant-led children's A&E and stroke rehab unit. We did help retain vital services, including our A&E.

## SURVEY

In 2022, we conducted a survey on the future of health services in South Tyneside. People overwhelmingly oppose privatisation of our health service, want to re-instate full maternity services at our hospital, paediatric A&E and retain trauma A&E related acute as well as lessening the need travel to Sunderland where we have huge concerns of accessibility for people now for many routine hospital treatments.

## PRESENT FOCUS & PHASE-2

On January 19<sup>th</sup> we received better news that South Tyneside and Sunderland Foundation Trust (STSFT) would **no longer proceed with Phase 2** of the "Path to Excellence" as it "currently stands".

With the present closure of the midwife-led birthing centre at South District Hospital we have continued to fight for vital services to be restored at our hospital including full maternity and hospital and community stroke rehab services. This year we have also started to meet with the Integrated Care Board for the North East North Cumbria and STSFT to discuss our concerns.

## 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](http://www.savesouthtynesidehospital.org)

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