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C/O Unison Office South Tyneside District Hospital South Shields Tyne & Wear NE340PL

Press Statement Monday - 21/05/2018:

## Wednesday May 23 trip - SSTHC taking our fight to Westminster

The Save South Tyneside Hospital Campaign is taking a coach of supporters from South Tyneside and Sunderland to Parliament on Wednesday. We now have 40 booked on the coach, which is being supported by Unison South Tyneside health Branch. We will meet with our MPs and we hope also to meet with Jeremy Corbyn leader of the opposition. Also we will attend Prime Ministers Questions where Emma Lewell-Buck MP for South Shields has been drawn to ask a question on the hospital of the Prime Minister. The campaign coach leaving South Tyneside and Sunderland from 5am and will return late Wednesday.

Roger Nettleship Chair of the Save South Tyneside Hospital Campaign said: "What is becoming very clear is that the government agenda is already reducing safe access to vital health services for whole swathes of the population in the North East and across England and this agenda is being further pursued in the present deconstruction of local District Hospital acute services and the local GP services across England. We know that if the people fight to save their services they can win and certainly recent examples such as at Huddersfield Royal where Secretary of state Jeremy Hunt has been forced to admit that the closure of this hospital is 'not in the best interest of the people of Calderdale and Huddersfield'. As we have said, and the Council joint Scrutiny Committee have said with their referral to the secretary of state the downgrading of our consultant led 24 hour Children's A&E, the downgrading of our full maternity services and the loss of all hospital stroke service are 'not in the best interests of the health service' in South Tyneside and Sunderland. Our aim for this trip is to further take this fight to save our hospitals services to Westminster and demand that these services are protected and guaranteed as everyone has a right to health care and equal access to those services in their towns and cities."

Save South Tyneside Hospital Campaign

website: http://www.savesouthtynesidehospital.org/

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