

## The Path to Excellence

# Public Consultation

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views!**



5<sup>th</sup> July – 15<sup>th</sup> October 2017  
[www.pathtoexcellence.org.uk](http://www.pathtoexcellence.org.uk)

**Easy Read consultation document**

# Introduction



The South Tyneside and Sunderland Hospital services are looking at ways to provide even better services for people. This booklet will explain how we are doing this and how you can have your say.



There are some hard words in this report. If the words are **coloured blue** you can find out what they mean by looking at the easy word guide at the end of the report.

We have made a big plan called **The Path to Excellence** which looks at improving these services:



**Acute stroke hospital services**



**Maternity services and women's healthcare (gynaecology)**



**Children and young people's urgent and emergency healthcare (paediatric) services**

## Finding out what you think



We want to hear about what you think about our ideas. This will help us to decide what changes will make better services.

## These are some of the reasons why services need to change:



New treatments are being developed.



At the moment it is hard to get the right staff.



People are living longer and needing more hospital support.



We need to make sure services open seven days a week.



We need to make **specialist units in hospitals** where people can get excellent care from special teams of highly skilled hospital staff.



We need to make sure our hospital services are as good as they can be.

## Improving acute stroke hospital services

### Option 1



All the care for the most ill acute stroke patients who need the most urgent medical care will be provided at Sunderland Royal Hospital.



This includes support after people's most urgent care to help them recover from their stroke such as support with talking and support with walking.



When they are well enough patients will go back to their local area where they will get **support in the community.**

## The changes we think option 1 will make



People will get better medical care in a **specialist stroke unit**.



There would be more highly skilled medical staff to support people to recover from a stroke.



Medical staff are more likely to want to work in a **specialist stroke unit**.



We will be able to save money which can then be used to improve services.

## Option 2

Everything is the same as option 1 apart from:



After **seven days** patients who live in South Tyneside can be moved to South Tyneside District Hospital for more medical care until they are well enough to go home and get **support in the community**.

## Option 3

Everything is the same as option 1 apart from:



After **three days** patients who live in South Tyneside can be moved to South Tyneside District Hospital for more medical care until they are well enough to go home and get **support in the community**.

The changes we think option 2 and 3 will make



Staff, including **specialist stroke doctors**, will be less likely to want to work in stroke services in the hospitals.



Medical staff liked option 1 the best because they said people will get the best treatment possible, with the most skilled staff all working together in a **specialist stroke unit**.

## Maternity and women's health services



We are looking at how we can improve maternity and women's healthcare services at South Tyneside and Sunderland hospitals.



We are also looking at the best way to provide a **Special Care Baby Unit**.



We want to share services across South Tyneside and Sunderland to make sure services are the best they can be for the future.

## Option 1

### Services provided at Sunderland Royal Hospital:



Full **maternity services** with a team of specialist staff that can support **high and low risk births**.



**Full gynaecology services** where people can have big operations and stay in the hospital overnight or small operations where people just visit for the day and then go home.



There will be a **Special Care Baby Unit**.

### Services provided at South Tyneside District Hospital:



The maternity services will be led by midwives and support low risk births.

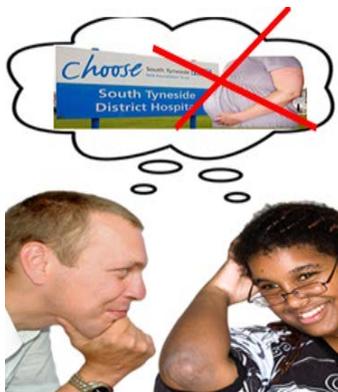


There will only be more **minor surgery** where people can come and go in a day without staying in the hospital overnight.

**There will be home births and midwife led care in South Tyneside and midwife and doctor led support for low risk births. Complex births surgery will happen at the Sunderland Royal Hospital.**

## Option 2

Option 2 will be exactly the same as option 1 apart from:



There will be no service to support women to give birth at the hospital in South Tyneside. This support will all be given at the Sunderland Royal Hospital. There will be support for women who choose to have their baby at home in South Tyneside.

**There will be home births in South Tyneside and midwife and doctor led support for **low risk** and **high risk** births in Sunderland. Complex births surgery and low risk births will happen at the Sunderland Royal Hospital.**

**The changes we think option 1 and 2 will make**



Before and after women have given birth at the hospital they will get **support in the community.**



Smaller surgery that can happen in a day will still take place at both hospitals.



For people in South Tyneside and Sunderland the more complicated births and more complicated operations will happen at Sunderland in a **specialist unit** with specialist staff.



The big decision is whether or not South Tyneside Hospital should support the delivery of any babies or it should all happen at the Sunderland Hospital?

## Children and young people's services



There are lots of services that look after children and young people. We are looking at the best way to provide more specialised **children and young people's hospital and outpatient care** in South Tyneside and Sunderland.

### Option 1



Provide emergency support for young people at South Tyneside Hospital seven days a week for twelve hours a day (8am to 8pm).



Sunderland Royal Hospital will provide 24 hour emergency care for children and young people.

## Option 2



Develop a minor injury or illness service between 8am and 8pm at South Tyneside District Hospital that will be led by specialist nurses that care for children and young people.



Sunderland Royal Hospital will provide 24 hour emergency care for children and young people.

## Both options would



Make sure that both Sunderland and South Tyneside Hospital could look after children at the busiest times, every day of the week.



Make the Sunderland Royal Hospital a place of excellence that cared for the most seriously ill children and young people.



It would mean more travelling for the families of South Tyneside patients needing more specialist care or urgent treatment while they are in hospital.



It would make sure there was good care day or night and any day of the week.



Lead to more specialist staff and resources who could deal with really complex cases.



Treat children and young people in a quicker way which helps to reduce their pain and how long they have to stay in hospital.

The plan called the **Path to Excellence** looks at travelling to hospital



It will take about 6 minutes to 25 minutes longer to get to Sunderland Hospital for people who live in South Tyneside.

The time it will take people to get to Sunderland Hospital will depend on where they live in South Tyneside.

We want to help people to get to the hospitals. We know:



Just over 1 in 3 families in South Tyneside do not have a car.

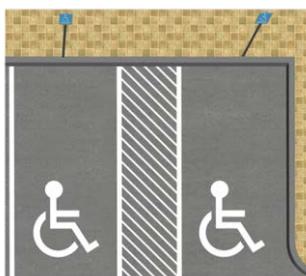


Both Sunderland Royal Hospital and South Tyneside District Hospital are quite close to a Metro Station.

**This is what we think will make travelling to the hospitals easier for people**



Making sure people have better information about all the ways people can travel to the hospitals.



Making sure people have good information about parking in the hospitals.



Making sure patients know about any support that is available to help with the cost of travelling to the hospitals.



Making sure that peoples appointments are at times that make travelling easier.



Looking at how we can make bus services to the two hospitals sites better.

## How to get involved

If you want to have your say about the ideas in this booklet you can:



Attend a meeting to share your views. You can call us for the date of a meeting near to you to talk about the things that you are most interested in.



Complete a survey. You can find this on our website.



Send your views to us in a letter or email.

## How to contact us



Website: [www.pathtoexcellence.org.uk](http://www.pathtoexcellence.org.uk)

Email us: [nhs.excellence@nhs.net](mailto:nhs.excellence@nhs.net)

Call us on: 0191 217 2670

Write to us (no stamp required):

The Path to Excellence  
South Tyneside and Sunderland  
Consultation  
Freepost RTUS–LYHZ–BRLE  
North of England Commissioning  
Support  
Riverside House, Goldcrest Way  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE15 8NY

## The next steps



We will finish asking people what they think about changes to the hospitals.



People who don't work for the NHS will look at everybody's views to find out the most important things people want to happen.



A final report will be written and it will be decided what changes will be made to the two hospitals in early 2018.

## Word guide



### **Acute stroke services**

A stroke is a serious illness that stops your brain working properly. It can affect how people look, talk, walk or use other parts of their body. All strokes are serious and Acute Strokes need the most urgent treatment. An Acute Stroke service helps people when they need urgent treatment to help them to recover.



### **Maternity and women's healthcare (gynaecology)**

Maternity services support women to have their baby. A gynaecological service supports women with those parts of the body that support having a child. Things like a vagina, a womb and other parts that men do not have.



### **Children and young people's healthcare (urgent and emergency paediatric) services**

Emergency paediatric services deals with infants, children and adolescents up to the age of sixteen who need emergency treatments for something serious like a serious accident.



### **Specialist unit**

A specialist unit is a clinic where expert health staff come together to provide the very best care and treatment for patients around one type of condition like a heart attack. The staff become real experts.



### **Specialist stroke unit**

A specialist stroke unit is a hospital clinic where expert staff come together to provide the very best care and treatment for patients who have had a stroke.



### **Specialist stroke doctors**

Specialist stroke doctors are experts in treating people who have had a stroke. They just work with stroke patients.



### **Support in the community**

Support in the community means the support to help you live more independently at home. It could be support to help you look after your baby, support to help you more from hospital back home if you have had a stroke or a heart attack.



### **Special care baby unit**

A Special Care Baby Unit is a specialist ward in the hospital that looks after very poorly new born babies or babies that were born too early and need extra care.



### **High and low risk births**

A high risk birth means that the mother or the baby's life could be at risk during birth. This could be for lots of reasons like the mother being unwell. Low risk means there are no complications.



### **Minor surgery**

Minor surgery is when an operation has very little risk to the patients and often patients have the operation and leave the hospital on the same day.



### **Children and young people's outpatient clinics**

Children and young people's outpatient clinics is the part of a hospital young people visit to find out what is wrong with them and to make sure they get the right treatment. People do not get treatment at these clinics and they do not need to stay overnight.