

South Tyneside

HELLO TOMORROW, CHANGE IS HAPPENING

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March 2020



South Tyneside Council

Brought to you in partnership with:



living better lives

In these challenging financial times, it is all too easy to overlook the positive changes being delivered on the ground across South Tyneside.

The last decade represents a period of unprecedented and rapid change. Now we can see the positive impact of 10 years of investment in our town centres, across our transport infrastructure, schools, streets, homes, leisure facilities and much more.

The financial challenges for the Council continue but we remain committed to creating the best possible conditions for residents and businesses to thrive. It is important that we strike the right balance and ensure that we make every pound count – delivering vital services whilst planning for our future.

Looking to the next decade and beyond, climate change is a threat to all of us and that is why the Council has vowed to make its operations carbon neutral by 2030, supported by a five-year strategy and action plan. We have also pledged to become a champion for a carbon neutral future for South Tyneside. Council emissions account for less than five per cent of borough-wide emissions, but we need to lead by example and look at our own operations to see how and where we can make the greatest impact. Together, residents, businesses and the Council can make a positive impact borough wide.

Exciting plans are afoot in Jarrow to harness the power of the River Tyne to generate energy through the Viking Energy Network. This cutting-edge renewable scheme will slash carbon emissions and save more than half a million pounds a year – the first of its kind in the UK.

The Viking Energy Network will be the latest investment in Jarrow which has seen Jarrow Pool, the establishment of Jarrow Focus as a focal point to the town centre, the upgrade of the Tyne Tunnel, new housing, road improvements and much more in recent years. You can find out more about what is happening in Jarrow on pages 8 to 13.



Councillor Iain Malcolm
Leader of the Council

A decade of change and investment

Over the last 10 years, we have delivered exceptional standards in the face of austerity and invested almost £1 billion on a regeneration programme in the town centres of Jarrow, Hebburn and South Shields, the river and foreshore and across South Tyneside in homes, schools, roads and footpaths.

As a result of our investment, we are seeing happier and healthier communities. The smoking rate has reduced, there's been a huge increase in leisure memberships and 94% of residents say they feel safe in their neighbourhoods.

We ended this successful decade by being named 'Cooperative Council of the Year' in 2019 which demonstrates our approach to proactively support and empower residents to channel their passion into action and to #LoveSouthTyneside.

As we look to the future, we are clear about the next phase of our journey. We will work hard to deliver outstanding regeneration schemes, maintain our focus on improving neighbourhoods and continue to make South Tyneside an outstanding place to live, invest and bring up families.

- The award-winning £5million Littlehaven Promenade and Seawall project - March 2015
- Hebburn Central opening - May 2015
- £350,000 Ocean Road public realm investment - August 2015



2015



- Haven Court specialist health facility - August 2016
- The opening of The Word - October 2016
- Jarrow Hall (former Bede's World) relaunch - October 2016

2016

- £234million investment into Decent Homes Works - November 2010



2010

- One Harton Quay investment in jobs - September 2011



2011

- One Trinity Green business space - September 2012
- £31million investment in Sinclair Meadows housing - October 2012
- Work began on the Flags to Flexible investment in footpaths - June 2012

2012

- Housing Ventures Trust first starts trading – March 2014
- IAMP launched as a key part of a plan that secures a City Deal - June 2014



2014

2013

▶ Watch our video on our youtube channel to see how we've invested in South Tyneside over the last 10 years

- Opening of £4million Jarrow Community Pool - January 2013
- Launch of £100million South Shields 365 regeneration plan - January 2013
- Completion of £200million schools' investment - June 2013
- Harton Quays Park £2.3million regeneration - September 2013
- Haven Point opened by The Duke of Cambridge - November 2013



- £7.5million investment in Lindisfarne/John Reid road - July 2017

2017



- Investment in The Arches - January 2018
- Opening of young people's facility, MarketPlace - September 2018
- £1.4million tower block safety scheme begins - December 2018

2018



- Jarrow Focus - January 2019
- Centaurea Homes established - April 2019
- Transport Interchange open to public - August 2019
- Work begins on £3million North Marine Park renovations - October 2019

2019

Council spending 2020/21

Since 2010 the Council has already had to save £168million due to reductions in the amount of funding it receives from Government. This year we need to save a further £7million and even more is expected in future years. An ageing population, increasing numbers of children in care and adults with complex needs requiring support are putting budgets under huge pressure. The vast majority, some 70%, of South Tyneside Council's discretionary budget is spent on vulnerable adults and children.

We've worked hard to keep all of our children's centres open, to invest in our leisure centres and libraries, to run the best events programme in the region and protect vital frontline services that our residents rely upon.

Despite the challenging financial climate, the Council continues to deliver against an unshakeable vision to make South Tyneside an outstanding place to live, invest and bring up families. In 2020/21 our spending includes:

Local welfare provision:

Unlike many councils, South Tyneside retains a local welfare scheme supporting those most in need at times of crisis. This year the fund will be increased so that more residents can benefit from it.

You can find out more at www.southtyneside.gov.uk/welfaresupport

Last year (2018/19) we also supported people/residents to access an additional £3,297,626 in owed benefits and income.



The rig at Jarrow Focus

Leisure concessions:

As part of our commitment to support veterans, from April 2020, the Council will extend its concessionary leisure scheme to residents in receipt of a war pension. For more information about this and other leisure concessions go to www.southtyneside.gov.uk/leisurememberships



Artist impression of wind turbine at Middlefields

Environmental initiatives:

As part of the Council's commitment to become carbon neutral by 2030, a series of projects are being developed targeted at sustainable energy sources.

These include the Viking Energy Network, a proposed wind turbine at Middlefields, a new recycling transfer station and much more.



Adult social care – accommodation:

As part of our commitment to helping adults live independently, we are looking to develop three new accommodation schemes across the Borough in the 20/21 financial year - two independent supported living schemes and one extra care scheme. The supported living schemes will be designed for individuals with complex learning disabilities.

These schemes will provide much needed accommodation provision for some of our most vulnerable adults, allowing them to live independently in their local communities with support.



Decent Homes investment

Housing:

Every year we spend £10million updating South Tyneside Homes properties. This includes routine maintenance and upgrades including meeting all necessary safety standards. Properties are on a rolling programme and constantly refreshed so that we can provide high-quality council housing for our tenants. To date, £234million has been invested in Decent Homes works. We also work in partnership with South Tyneside Housing Ventures Trust to increase the number of affordable homes in the Borough.

Roads and resurfacing:

We are just about to start the ninth year of our Flags to Flexible footway improvement programme. This long-term major investment programme is transforming South Tyneside by providing footways which reduce tripping hazards and improve public safety, particularly for elderly and disabled pedestrians. This is complemented by planned investment to resurface and improve over six miles of road in 2020/21.



Improvements in footpaths

Regeneration:

Work continues on our major infrastructure and regeneration projects targeted at boosting the economy and increasing prosperity including South Shields 365, Holborn, IAMP and North Marine Park.



Artist's impression of how Holborn might look



Cllr Ed Malcolm with the adult running club at Monkton Stadium

Monkton Stadium:

Building on the Council's investment in leisure facilities across the Borough, in 2020/21 we will be improving our leisure offer further, with an upgrade to Monkton Stadium. Discussions are currently underway with England Athletics and various user groups to ensure that our investment is directed towards the things that matter most to our existing users, whilst still providing something unique and fresh that will appeal to an entirely new audience.

How we spend your money 2020/21

Band A Council Tax Per week (typical £20.89)

We spend the following on each service:



Adult Social Care
£8.19



Cultural Services
(including libraries)
£0.86



Education
£2.39



Highways, Roads,
Transport &
Street Lighting
£0.92



Public Health
& Other Services
£2.03



Refuse Collection,
Disposal & Street
Cleaning
£2.18

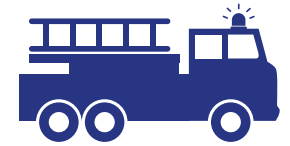


Children's
Social Care
£4.32

*The Police and Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Services will increase to:



Police **£1.76** per week



Fire **£1.08** per week

*Correct at time of going to print

HELLO TOMORROW, CHANGE IS HAPPENING



New interchange improving links across South Tyneside and beyond

With our award-winning cultural venue, The Word, attracting hundreds of thousands of new visitors a year, and our superb new transport interchange providing a smart entry point into the town, the South Shields 365 regeneration masterplan has gradually taken shape before our eyes.

The £21million interchange has welcomed almost five million passengers since opening in August and has quickly become a familiar and striking landmark.

We are now refining our proposals for Phase Three of the plan, which will provide an enhanced retail and leisure offer to help create a vibrant town centre experience, day and night.

Work on the public realm and highway surrounding the interchange is ongoing; this will include a pedestrianised link between Keppel Street and King Street which should be complete by early summer.

A planning application by the Council's development partner, Muse, seeks approval for new purpose-built premises for the Department for Work and Pensions – the job centre - on Mile End Road.

Subject to planning permission, the relocation of these offices, which are currently on Chapter Row, will make way for the next stage of the town's regeneration.

Refurbishment of the historic Riddicks building will get underway in the spring and demolition of a number of empty properties on King Street, which were acquired by the Council as part of the 365 plans, is scheduled to start in the summer. A specialist contractor will ensure disruption is kept to a minimum while the work is being carried out.

Holborn Apartments – New £200million Riverside Development for Holborn, South Shields*



Holborn

Our ambitious plans to transform disused docks at Holborn into a vibrant riverside quarter are gathering pace too.

The £200million development will see derelict former industrial land turned into an exciting new location for homes, office space and a cultural offer and build on the significant investment, that has gone into the wider riverside area.

Work is underway to demolish existing buildings and prepare the site ahead of a planning application being submitted for enabling works.

These works will see the height of the river edge wall raised and the large retaining wall which runs through the site removed. The levels across the site will then be re-profiled creating a gentle

*Artist's impression of how Holborn might look

slope from Commercial Road to the river, providing a new platform for the upcoming development. A new river edge promenade will link the development with Harton Quays Park and the area's industrial heritage will be preserved by the renovation of three of the graving docks.

We'll shortly be appointing a housing partner following a procurement exercise which we launched last year. The developer will deliver up to 400 new houses and apartments on the site, with the first phase of residential construction scheduled to start at the end of this year.

Investing in South Tyneside – new interactive map

Find out what's happening in your area by browsing our interactive map of recent and upcoming projects in South Tyneside.

There is a huge programme of investment underway across South Tyneside, including new and improved housing, modernised community and leisure facilities, economic growth projects, roads and footpaths investment, and so much more. Why not take a look at our interactive map illustrating some of our completed and ongoing regeneration projects.

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/regeneration

Just a few of the projects highlighted in our new map:

Reducing journey time on the A19 northbound, cutting congestion and improving air quality



South Tyneside children are taught in world-class education facilities as a result of over £200million investment since 2017



Eyesore building on Beach Road transformed into apartments for affordable rent



The £3million transformation of the former Jarrow Community Centre, including a redesigned gym, sports hall, dance studios, theatre space and library

For more information about South Shields 365 Town Centre regeneration go to www.southshields365.co.uk



www.southshields365.co.uk

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/regeneration

SPOTLIGHT ON JARROW

It's an exciting time for residents in Jarrow – it's an area that has something for all ages and interests, and a substantial amount of recent investment means it is now better than ever.

The Council recently invested £3million to create a new leisure and library facility for residents at Jarrow Focus. As well as leisure improvements, Jarrow has benefitted recently from improved transport links on the A19, the TT2 pedestrian and cyclist opening, tower block safety improvements, new green technology as well as external funding to improve local visitor attractions and CAF funding for school improvements.

Your local area

This edition we are shining a spotlight on Jarrow. If you want to know what's happening in your area then your Community Area Forum is the place to be.

Upcoming topics include:

- Minimum alcohol unit pricing
- Gully cleansing
- Community safety and tenancy support



Chair of Jarrow and Boldon CAF:
Cllr Margaret Peacock

Tel: 0191 483 4121

Next meeting:
Thursday 16 April, 10am.



Jarrow School

£19million was invested in Jarrow school providing a state-of-the-art building and supporting an environment where pupils and staff can thrive.



Jarrow Pool

The £4million Community Pool has a 25-metre, four-lane pool with suitable water depth for competitive swimmers' dive starts. The pool also has a moveable floor, meaning the depth of water can be adjusted to cater for varying age groups. Schools have use of the pool during school hours in term-time. Outside these hours the pool is available for public use, swimming lessons and bookings from swimming clubs as well community groups such as Scouts and Guides.



Jarrow Focus

Jarrow's recently-revamped leisure facility features a gym, sports hall, dance studios, changing facilities and theatre space as well as a library. The library features a designated area for teenagers, a gaming zone, and provides space for young children with books and bespoke activities aimed at encouraging reading and learning. There is something for everyone in the community.



Banana bridge

The Council is currently preparing tender documents with a view to carrying out a major refurbishment of the Kirkstone Avenue footbridge this summer. The works will involve the removal and refurbishment of the bridge at a location off site before it is lifted back into place. Temporary bus arrangements will be in place for the duration of the works to minimise risk and disruption to bridge users.



Pictured from the left on a litter pick are David Purvis, Sadie Hall, Cllr Nancy Maxwell, Hannah Purvis and Emily Baige.

Sowing the seeds for partnership working

Green spaces in Jarrow are being improved thanks to partnership working between the community and the Council. Springwell and Valley View Park had started to attract anti-social behaviour, drug dealing, dog mess, vandalism and litter. But following the creation of a community group dedicated to improving the area, families are now enjoying the park for the right reasons. Primrose Parks Alliance – which was formed when Friends of Valley View and Springwell Park and Keep Mill Dene Clean merged - works in partnership with the Council which provides equipment for litter picks, delivers training to volunteers and provides maintenance of the parks. If you would like to get involved email: primroseparksalliance@gmail.com or follow on Facebook and Twitter.

Jarrow Hall – celebrating our history

Jarrow Hall is the world's only Anglo-Saxon farm, village and museum dedicated to Bede. The museum tells the story of the Venerable Bede and his time, from the beginnings of the Anglo-Saxon period, through Bede's life, death and extraordinary legacy. The farm is a great place for all the family to enjoy. Home to curly-coated pigs, Dexter bullocks, sheep, goats, ducks, chickens and more, this 11-acre site houses rare breeds which are the closest possible representatives of the animals that would have been present 1300 years ago. As well as the animals you can see replica buildings based on structures excavated within Anglo-Saxon Northumbria. Jarrow Hall is a beautiful Grade II-listed manor house adjacent to the Bede Museum. It is home to a lovely café on the ground floor and to the south of Jarrow Hall is Drewetts Park.

Next to Jarrow Hall is St Paul's Church and Monastic Site where the Venerable Bede



would have once lived and worked. The chancel here would have stood at the time of Bede. There's always something new to do at Jarrow Hall. Throughout the year there's regular events, ranging from craft fairs to reconstructions, with something for everyone to enjoy.

SPOTLIGHT ON JARROW

Williby Roc's

Williby Roc's is a Community Interest Company based at Bilton Hall, Low Simonside and offers Eco Craft activities for all ages, reconnecting people to nature and getting everyone outdoors. Williby Roc's run Eco Craft Workshops for both children and adults, developing outdoor skills and bringing people together to reduce social isolation.



Williby Roc's Eco Brick project

One of the projects that Williby Roc's has been heavily involved with is the Eco Brick Project in South Tyneside. Eco Bricks are created by stuffing non-recyclable plastics into plastic bottles to make a solid brick to build structures such as seating and planters. There is a huge global consciousness of our overuse of single-use plastics and Eco Bricking is one way of putting the plastic we already have to good use. Williby Roc's works with schools in South Tyneside delivering an assembly to introduce the project and give advice and support for the collection of bricks and builds. So far they have built an Eco Brick planter with Epina 6th Form at Bilton Hall, where 67,932g of non-recyclable plastic waste was directed from the waste stream. There are lots of builds planned with schools and community groups, if you would like to get involved with building your own structure in your community please get in touch with danielle@willibyrocs.co.uk



Perth Green CA

Perth Green CA is a group of volunteers that came together to save a much loved community building. The centre has loads of different activities to get involved in. The centre hosts Skinnypigs every Mon - Thurs and their fitness suite is open every day of the week, a Karate Club every Tues, Thurs, Fri and Sat as well as Ju-Jitsu every Mon and Thurs. For the kids try Fun Floor Games on Tues at 11:30am or Creative Crafts on Wed at 10am. Any enquiries or to book a place/event call Perth Green CA 0191 489 3743, find them on Facebook or visit www.perthgreenca.org.uk

Fellgate Flood Alleviation

Completed in 2015, this £2.5million project involved the installation of two detention basins to the fields off Durham Drive as well as a range of sewer upgrades, ponds and swales across the estate. The project was carried out and part funded in partnership with Northumbrian Water and the Environment Agency. The scheme, which is now complete, protects a number of properties across the Fellgate Estate increasing their resilience against surface water flooding.

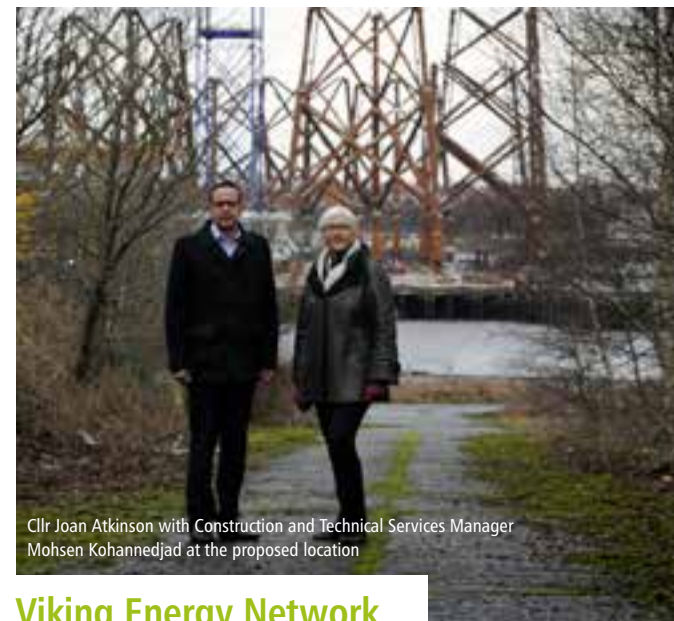
The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust has also designed some 'SuDS for Schools' type measures in the two schools in conjunction with Northumbrian Water Limited to aid education.



Living Better Lives Resource Centre

A centre dedicated to supporting people in South Tyneside relocated to the Royal Industrial Estate last year. The Living Better Lives Resource Centre features a fully-equipped assessment centre where assistive technology for use in the lounge, kitchen, shower and bathroom can be demonstrated.

A wide range of assistive technology is available to help people maximise their independence. The new centre is in addition to the demonstration room at Haven Court which also showcases assistive technology.



Cllr Joan Atkinson with Construction and Technical Services Manager Mohsen Kohannedjad at the proposed location

Viking Energy Network

Investment in a new Viking Energy Network will harness low-grade heat from the River Tyne and export it to 11 council-owned buildings in Jarrow, including high-rise flats, schools and sheltered accommodation schemes. This is the first of it's kind!

Spreading Happiness at the Hubs

Lonely people in Jarrow are benefitting from a befriending scheme which started with support from the Council. The Council originally commissioned South Tyneside Churches Together to deliver a befriending service but demand has grown so high that older people are now transported to 'Happy Hubs' where they can socialise with others. One of these is based at St Matthew's Church in Jarrow where they can take part in activities such as cards, dominoes, crafts and bottle top bingo or just enjoy a chat over a cuppa.



Margaret Bond

Albert Road bridge

Albert Road bridge is a strategically important structure carrying the A185 road over both Metro and rail freight lines. As part of an inspection process the Council identified that works to strengthen and re-waterproof the bridge were required. This type of work is a routine requirement as part of any long-term asset management process and will prolong the life of the bridge. The works are currently programmed to be carried out during 2020/21.

Fellgate Primary School – CAF funding

Children from Fellgate Primary School received more than £400 from the local Community Area Forum which helped them fund a Christmas party. The funding, which the Friends of Fellgate School applied for, was used to provide an entertainer, food and drink, prizes and selection boxes for 178 children.



Investment in Jarrow Town Hall

The building was originally designed by South Shields architect Fred Rennoldson and dates back to 1902. South Tyneside Council plans to refurbish the civic space within the building. This will allow us to accommodate greater numbers of council staff and improve the overall energy efficiency of the building, securing the future of Jarrow Town Hall.

SPOTLIGHT ON JARROW



Joseph Collin House over 55 scheme

Joseph Collin House is 48 apartments (mix of one and two bedrooms) for independent living for those aged 55 years or above. The properties are disabled accessible and fitted with either a shower over the bath or a walk-in shower so there is something to suit all needs.



Housing developments in Wark Crescent and Salcombe Avenue, Jarrow

The projects, on Wark Crescent and Salcombe Avenue, brought 26 new homes to the area.

The schemes, both for affordable rent, were delivered by the Borough's independent housing company, South Tyneside Housing Ventures Trust. The Wark Crescent development, for people over 55, consists of six one- and two-bedroomed apartments complemented by private and communal gardens, and Salcombe Avenue features a mix of bungalows, houses and apartments. Both developments benefitted from grants from Homes England, totalling £520,000.



Lindisfarne lane gain

An additional lane to the A19 northbound, between the A19/A194 Lindisfarne roundabout and the Jarrow A19/A185 junction to the South of the tunnel. The lane has helped reduce journey times on the A19 northbound and the local network, reduce congestion and improve air quality. This has made a huge positive difference to the residents living in the Hadrian Road area.



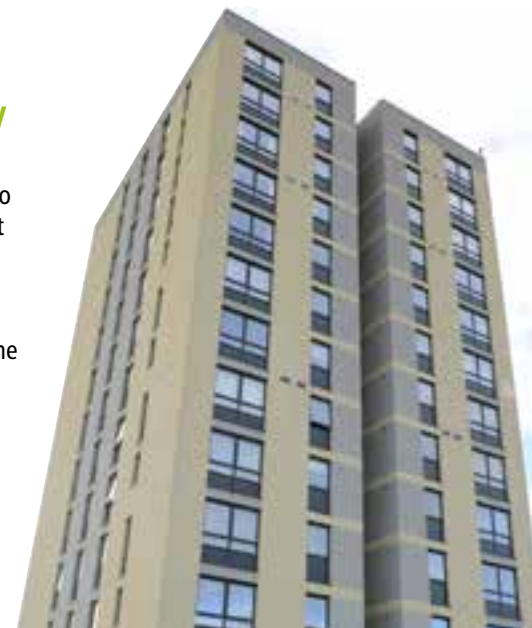
£250,000 scheme to tackle flood risks

Flood-hit homes in South Tyneside received extra protection against surface water flooding after South Tyneside Council secured funding from the Environment Agency. The scheme, which benefitted around 50 homes at Wuppertal Court, was one of the measures taken by the Council to reduce future flood risks in Jarrow.

It used 'Property Level Protection' measures such as air brick covers, flood resistant external doors, non-return valves in waste pipes and outlets, and pump systems. Every property was individually assessed to decide the most appropriate measures.

Investment in fire safety

The Council made the decision in the wake of the tragic Grenfell Tower fire to install new sprinkler systems to protect the safety of residents in our high rise flats at Ellen Court, Wilkinson Court and Monastery Court. Although the buildings were deemed safe by the Tyne and Wear Fire Authority, the Council chose to invest £1.4million to provide reassurance for residents.



Jubilee Wood

South Tyneside Council is responsible for more than one million trees across South Tyneside parks and open spaces, woodlands, tree-lined streets and highways – that's more than six trees per resident.

Jarrow's Jubilee Wood at Church Bank welcomed the Duke of Gloucester in 2019 to plant a commemorative tree in the wood which links to the wider River Don area and St. Paul's Church.



Friends of Jarrow Cemetery

Friends of Jarrow Cemetery is a volunteer group with 10 members who meet twice a week, on a Wed and Sun between 10am and 12noon. They help keep the cemetery a safe, tidy and respectful place for our loved ones. The group would greatly appreciate any help and new members. The group even opened a tea room where everyone is welcome to call in for a tea or coffee.



Skating fun

A play area at Watson Street, a skate park and public realm improvements adjacent to Staple Road.

Friar Way, Stanley Street and High Street

Two- and three-bedroomed houses, bungalows and apartments for rent and shared ownership for people aged over 55 or for households including someone with a disability. Housing Ventures Trust obtained £275,000 worth of funding for the properties from the Care and Specialised Support fund provided by the Homes and Communities Agency.



TT2 – Cyclist

The historic Grade-II listed Tyne Pedestrian and Cyclist Tunnels reopened to the public last year following a complex six-year refurbishment project. The Council has also invested in the Jarrow Riverside Park including public realm improvements adjacent to Staple Road.



Lindisfarne Roundabout scheme

The £7.5million scheme has involved widening both Lindisfarne and John Reid Road roundabouts and most of the dual carriageway in between from two to three lanes in both directions. The improvements reduced accidents, eased congestion and improved traffic flows in the area. The project also included the installation of a large underground tank to alleviate the risk of flooding.

You said, we did

MAKE SOUTH TYNESIDE THE HOME FOR YOUR BUSINESS

You asked for support and advice for expanding and relocating your business. South Tyneside has a wide range of commercial property available at competitive lease and purchase prices.



Cllr John Anglin (left) with businessman Colin Hughes

Invest SOUTH TYNESIDE

Specialist advice and support

Invest South Tyneside, the Council's inward investment team, works with property agents across the area and can offer assistance with planning, property search and business rates. They can also help you with:

- Information and advice about attracting finance and accessing grants.
- Practical day-to-day support from set-up to becoming operational, including recruitment and training support.
- Information and introductions to contacts and networks, including a programme of business events throughout the year.

Managed workspace

South Tyneside offers an excellent range of managed workspace, with some really inspiring centres in which to base your business.

Whether it's location that is the priority, a secure workspace or a high-quality town centre office, there is something suitable.

All of our business centres benefit from high speed broadband connectivity, and hi-tech facilities are available in meeting and conference rooms.

Our aim is to make your selection of business space easy - we provide flexible terms in all locations throughout South Shields, Boldon and Jarrow.

For more information please visit www.investsouthtyneside.com or e-mail: business@southtyneside.gov.uk



Cllr Mark Walsh (left) with Paul Lindsay, Director of Bede Wealth Management Ltd

You asked for more electric charging points in South Tyneside. As more and more residents make the switch to electric vehicles, having a reliable, accessible charging infrastructure is increasingly important.

That's why the Council continues to expand its recharging network, with 11 charge points around the Borough.

Eleven of those have been installed in this financial year alone, after the Council received funding from the Department for Transport's On-Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme and the North East Taxi Infrastructure Bid.

These include locations in residential streets, particularly where off-street parking is not available, as well as at council buildings and business centres.

This not only supports those residents who have already switched to electric, but will encourage others to do the same, by ensuring that recharging is easy and convenient.

As more people use electric vehicles, our communities will benefit from improved air quality and a lower carbon footprint, and support the Council's drive towards carbon neutrality.

Winskell Road improvements help residents put best foot forward

Following concerns from residents about the surface of roads and footpaths in the Winskell Road area, the Council has taken action to make significant improvements.

We know that having well-maintained roads and footpaths is one of residents' top priorities. Our Flags to Flexible scheme is transforming South Tyneside by providing footways better able to resist vehicle over run so reduce tripping hazards and improving public safety, particularly for elderly and disabled pedestrians.

Recent footway works have recently been completed, vastly improving the footpath surface. Road resurfacing will follow in the next financial year as part of the 2020/21 budget investment programme.



Cllr Ed Malcolm at Winskell Road



(L - R) Vicki Pattinson from South Tyneside Council, Cllr Tracey Dixon and Dr James Gordon from the CCG

SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH AUTISM

People with autism are now benefitting from additional support following the opening of a new autism hub.

The hub, which is the first of its kind in the North East, is unique in the region by providing a lifespan service from the cradle to the grave.

In its first two weeks of opening almost 90 people accessed the services which are provided by the Toby Henderson Trust for children and Autism in Mind for adults. A further 132 families are signed up for upcoming workshops.

Councillor Tracey Dixon, Deputy Leader with responsibility for Independence and Wellbeing, said: "This hub is a direct response to feedback from residents who told us they needed additional support.

"The sheer level of interest in this new facility shows just how valued this new community asset is."

'TYNE' FOR ACTION ON

The Council is striving towards carbon neutrality across its buildings and operations by 2030. In order to achieve this ambitious target, an emerging climate change strategy, supported by a five-year action plan is being developed and will be presented to Council by the end of March 2020.

As part of the strategy development process we consulted with the people of South Tyneside to obtain views and feedback in relation to climate change. We want to thank residents for taking the time to respond to the survey.

Your feedback is really important to us and has helped to inform and shape our strategy.

Overwhelmingly **99%** of respondents told us that they were concerned by climate change.

91% of respondents agreed that we should be developing renewable energy sources.

“South Tyneside Council needs to be a strong climate action advocate, showing households that their actions do help and communicating the impact we/ they have made.”

Consultation respondent

Our plans include significant investment in the Viking Energy Network at Jarrow and a proposed wind turbine at Middlefields as well as investigating additional innovative opportunities.

94% agreed that the Council should invest further into energy efficient LED street lighting. So far, we have converted approximately **26%** of lanterns to LED, saving around £550k per year. Further schemes will be evaluated in future years.

People identified 'reducing emissions' as their biggest priority. Emissions from civic buildings, leisure facilities and street lighting account for **71%** of the Council's own total emissions. We will lead by example, focussing on reducing this figure.

75% of residents told us that they wanted more recycling options. Increasing recycling options is something that the Council is looking into as new technologies become available. You can find out more about the recent cardboard and paper collection trial in the Marsden/Whitburn area on pages 20 - 21.

The Council has pledged to become a champion for a carbon neutral future for South Tyneside. Council emissions account for less than five per cent of borough-wide emissions, but we need to lead by example and look at our own operations first to see how and where we can make the greatest impact.

We will also lobby government to help support the delivery of a carbon neutral future, highlighting the need for change, focusing on national and international policy change to help drive and deliver a sustainable future.

“It's crucial though that the Council doesn't just put the onus for change on individuals but rather leads by example and achieves net zero across its own operations as soon as possible.”

Consultation respondent

CLIMATE CHANGE

The Council is proposing a cutting-edge renewable energy scheme which would slash carbon emissions and save more than half a million pounds a year.

The Viking Energy Network in Jarrow will work by harnessing low-grade heat from the River Tyne and exporting it to council-owned buildings including high-res flats, schools and sheltered accommodation schemes.

Subject to planning permission, the multi-million-pound scheme, which combines a river source heat pump, a combined heat and power back-up system, a 1 MW solar farm, and a private wire electrical network with storage battery, will be the first of its kind in the UK.

Water source heat pumps work by extracting heat from a body of water, compressing it to increase the temperature and then converting it into useful energy in the form of hot water in a network of insulated pipes connecting buildings. The solar farm will provide much of the electricity to power the heat pump.

The project has already attracted £3.5million of external funding for its



Aerial photo of Viking Energy Network Site in Jarrow

innovative approach and has been deemed viable following a feasibility study.

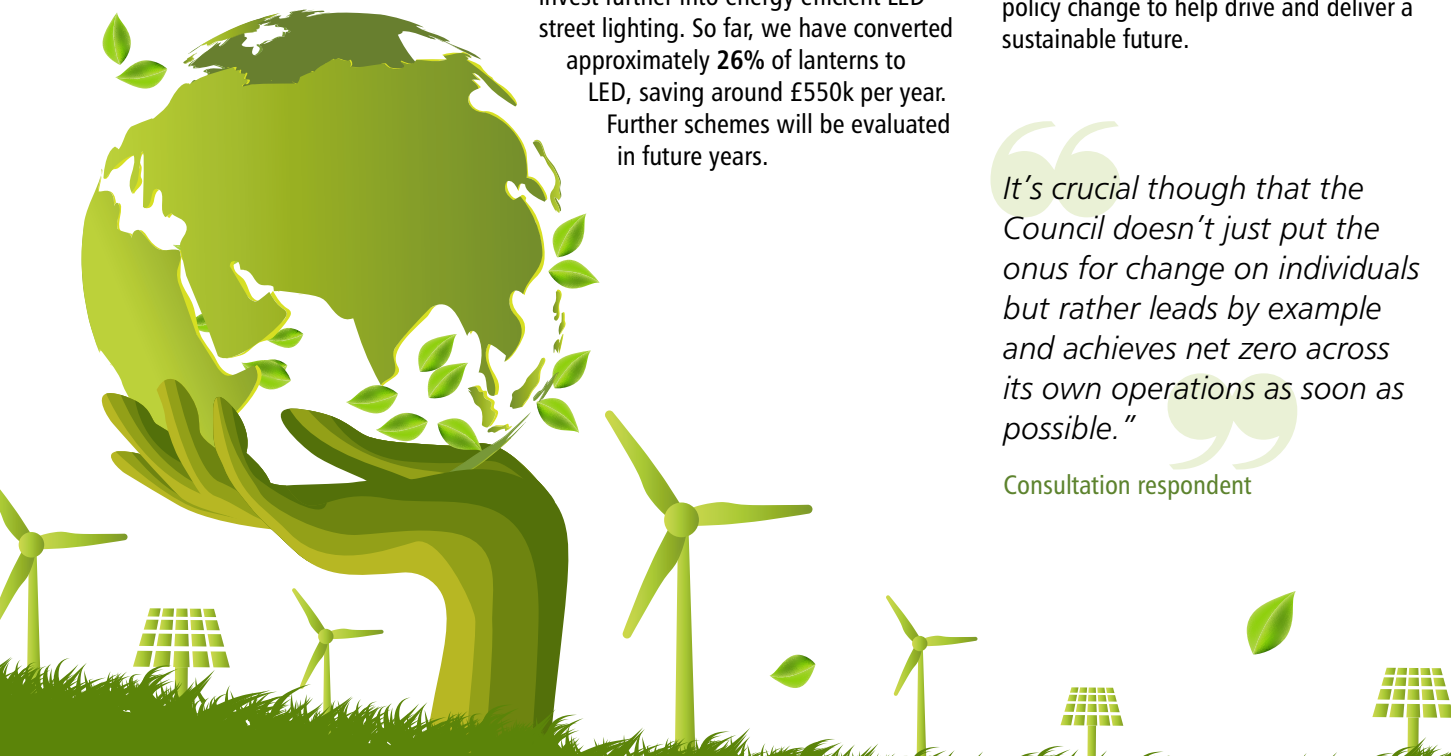
Detailed designs are now being drawn up for the system, which will save an estimated 1,475 tonnes of carbon per year.

The project is highly innovative and unique in that it combines all three of these renewable technologies, ensuring minimal use of fossil fuels.

As well as saving hundreds of thousands of pounds in fuel costs per year, the scheme will cut the

Council's overall carbon emissions by 12.5% per year making it a key component in the Council's drive to become carbon neutral by 2030.

Cllr Joan Atkinson with Construction and Technical Services Manager Mohsen Kohannedjad at the proposed location.



#LoveSouthTyneside

Young people to ramp up volunteering efforts

Public spirited young people in South Tyneside are banding together to make the Borough a better place in which to live.

Young people from 15 schools have already signed up to become volunteers in a new scheme which is being launched as part of the #LoveSouthTyneside campaign.

The project, which is being run by the Cleaner, Greener Communities Board, aims to encourage the Borough's young people to achieve 150,000 hours of volunteering – one hour for every resident in South Tyneside.

Many young people already volunteer in a variety of roles from serving on the Young People's Parliament to being Young Health Ambassadors.

Young Health Ambassador Alyssa Fake said: "Being a health ambassador is so important and it's a way to get out our ideas and opinions about what we think needs to improve or change."

"I love being part of the health ambassadors scheme as it makes you feel good about yourself and as a group. It is important to help others feel heard and have a voice."

It is hoped the project will boost young people's confidence and mental wellbeing, reduce social isolation as well as providing diversionary opportunities to divert some away from anti-social behaviour.



Young volunteers Alyssa Fake in the foreground with Rebecca Milne, Shauna Swales, Shana McCauley, Maribel Muir and Stephanie Taylor

#LoveSouthTyneside Christmas thank you

Congratulations to the winner of our Christmas Love South Tyneside Thank You award, Gerry Fionda of the Monkton Village association.

Gerry was nominated for the associations outstanding work including gardening, working with schools and achieving the Silver Northumbria in Bloom. Congratulations Gerry! Nominations for the summer #LoveSouthTyneside thank you are open now! #LoveSouthTyneside thank you.

Get involved

If you want to find out how you can #lovesouthtyneside, get involved in volunteer opportunities or promote and improve your local area, visit www.lovesouthtyneside.co.uk or follow us on:

@LoveSTyneside @LoveSTyneside

www.lovesouthtyneside.co.uk

Gerry Fionda receiving his award from Mayor, Cllr Norman Dick.

(L-R) Christine Beck, Val Scott, Janet Gray, Cliff Wassell, Mary Barrington-Smalling and Gail Barkel



New chapter for community library

Volunteers are proving to be just the ticket as they re-write the future of Boldon and Cleadon Community Library.

Since taking over the running of the library from the Council, the charitable trust has come up with novel ways to boost usage.

Around 90 volunteers work to deliver services above and beyond that of a traditional library with children's pre-school activities and craft sessions, a monthly general knowledge quiz, a monthly programme of talks, a Knit and Natter group as well as events such as an Easter

egg hunt and a summer fayre.

Library users can still access the full range of services including talking books and e-books. People can also access computers free of charge and there are printing and photocopying facilities. Good quality donated books are also for sale at very competitive prices.

The charity is now looking forward to its second year as a community-run library with a diverse programme of events and activities. This includes a return visit by the North East Rock Choir later in the year

The library is also working with local businesses and schools to gain recognition as a Dementia Friendly Community. Volunteers and trustees have already received Dementia Friendly Awareness training and there are plans to start a Memory Café for people living with dementia and their carers this spring.

To find out more about the library and the events and activities on offer visit www.thelibrary.uk.com



The Knit and Natter group

Easter bin collection dates

Normal collection day	Revised collection day
Friday 10 April	Saturday 11 April

Recycle Right for South Tyneside

Although residents in South Tyneside are doing a great job with recycling, we have been receiving a lot of items that cannot be recycled in the blue recycling bins. We know that it can be confusing for some items, so the below list aims to help



✓ Glass (rinse)



✓ Tins (rinse)



✓ Plastics (rinse and squash)



✓ Cardboard (dry and clean)



✓ Paper (place in your caddy)

What can be recycled?

All of the things below can be put in your blue recycling bin and can be recycled to make new products.

- Shampoo and shower gel bottles (rinse)
- Drink and milk bottles (rinse and squash)
- Aerosols (empty)

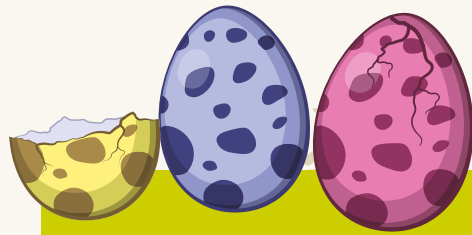


- Cleaning product bottles (rinse)
- Glass bottles and jars (rinse)
- Drink cans and food tins (rinse)

What cannot be recycled



- Nappies
- Plastic bags/sacks
- Dirty cardboard (greasy, wet boxes)
- Food waste
- Textiles (curtains, duvets, towels, sheets)



EASTER RECYCLING!

Each year, more than 8,000 tonnes of waste is generated just from Easter egg packaging and cards alone.

Let's stop egg-cessive waste this spring and help our natural environment by reducing, reusing and recycling!

EASTER EGG PACKAGING

The cardboard can be recycled in the main part of your blue recycling bin.

The plastic from Easter eggs must go in your grey refuse bin. These cannot be recycled locally.

Tin foil wrapping must go in your grey, refuse bin.

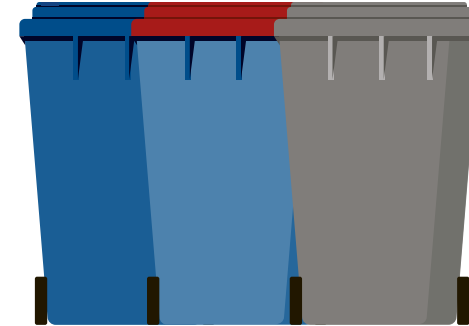
Happy Easter!

A CLEAN AND GREEN SOUTH TYNESIDE

CARDBOARD AND PAPER RECYCLING TRIAL

Last February 1,400 homes in the Marsden and Whitburn area were selected to trial a new recycling solution. The trial was to see if a separate collection of cardboard and paper would increase the amount and quality of paper collected. This trial is proving to be very successful with increased quality and tonnage. We asked the residents their thoughts on the scheme and 86% would recommend this way of recycling.

We are collecting more data and will be considering if it can be expanded to other parts of South Tyneside in the future. Thanks to all residents who are taking part in this scheme.



GARDEN WASTE

The garden waste collection starts on Monday 23 March 2020. For just £32 per year, we can collect your garden waste from your door.

The service is a convenient way for you to recycle your garden waste without having to take it to the tip. Become a greener gardener this year and join our scheme. The service runs March – November. Subscriptions are open until August.

If you joined the three-year collection, your subscription ended in 2019. To find out more information and to subscribe to the service visit www.southtyneside.gov.uk/gardenwaste



Don't let anyone get rid of your waste It could cost you more than you think.

You are responsible for your own waste. If you hire a company to dispose of your waste and the waste is fly-tipped, YOU are still liable. ALWAYS ask for a waste transfer note and take a photo of the vehicles when hiring a waste carrier.

Always check that the person is a registered waste carrier, details can be checked at gov.uk/access-the-public-register-for-environmental-information or from the Environment Agency on 0370 850 6506

Fly tipping is a crime and fly tippers can be fined up to £50,000 or receive a prison sentence of six months or both.

There are many ways to dispose of waste safely. Visit www.southtyneside.gov.uk/waste or call 0191 427 7000.

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/recycle

Community Safety South Tyneside



As the lighter nights approach, the Council and our partners have a range of schemes to tackle anti-social behaviour and prevent arson.

Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

To tackle arson and deliberate fire reduction, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service (TWFRS) have launched Firestoppers.

The scheme offers a completely confidential phone number that residents can call to report people who are setting fires. The number is free to use and has proven useful in reducing the number of incidents across the Borough.

You can call Firestoppers on **0800 169 5558** or go to www.firestoppersreport.co.uk.



TWFRS have also begun working with secondary schools that are close to deliberate fires such as grass fires, loose refuse and wheelie bins by talking to students in assemblies.

Finally, TWFRS run the Fire Cadets in South Shields which is open to 13 to 17 year olds. The cadets meet once a week and carry out similar duties to firefighters with a bit of fun thrown in, giving young people an insight to what the fire service can do for them.

Youth Service

South Tyneside Council's Youth Service host a wide range of voluntary youth clubs in order to engage with young people and give them positive role models.

The service gives young people the chance to get involved in exciting youth projects across South Tyneside. During these activities they can:

- engage with informal education
- access creative and sporting activities
- go on trips (including residential trips)
- take part in social action/ community projects



- develop personal, social and emotional skills
- relax and have fun

For a full list of projects visit: www.southtyneside.gov.uk/article/68544/South-Tyneside-Youth-Service-

South Tyneside Homes:

The Community Safety and Tenancy Enforcement team work closely with Northumbria Police to identify perpetrators of antisocial behaviour, including arson.

Actions include contacting residents in areas where deliberate fires have been set to encourage the reporting of incidents and to find information on persons found to be causing fires. Joint visits with Northumbria Police are made to perpetrators and where appropriate, enforcement action is taken.

Tools and powers available to the Community Safety and Tenancy Enforcement team include:

- Formal tenancy action where the perpetrator is a tenant or resides in a tenancy managed by South Tyneside Homes
- Community Protection Warnings
- Community Protection Notices
- Civil Injunctions
- Acceptable Behaviour Agreements

To report anti-social behaviour you can email asb@southtynesidehomes.org.uk or call South Tyneside Homes on **0300 123 6633**.



South Tyneside Council's Housing Company

Child to Parent Violence (CPV)

The Council has taken action to help parents and carers affected by violence from their children.

With the number of cases on the rise, funding was secured from the Police and Crime Commissioner to deliver awareness-raising training of the issue across the Northumbria Police area. This was rolled out to police officers, health practitioners and Children's Services at all levels across six Local Authority areas. To date, more than 500 police officers and 700 professionals have been trained across the region.

The project continues to evolve with police officers and safeguarding staff now routinely looking for evidence of Child to Parent Violence when called to incidents.

A screening tool – consisting of a series of questions - was developed in South Tyneside which identifies the level of risk faced by parents or carers. Families are then offered the appropriate level of support which could include Early Help, Social Care or Youth Justice. This support could include a Respect for Young People programme – a 12 session structured programme for the whole family - for those who need additional support.

Anyone who needs support on this issue is asked to contact the Early Help Team on **0191 424 6210** or Children's Social Care/ISIT on **0191 424 5010**.

CASE STUDY

South Shields couple Sarah and Bob say the support they have received from the Council has "completely changed their lives."

The couple asked for help for their 13-year-old son. They have undergone the Respect for Young People course which uses 'rewards' and 'consequences' to reinforce good behaviour.

Sarah said: "Our son has ASD and has emotional dysregulations and his go-to emotion was always anger. In the past he used to be physically aggressive. However we have done the Respect for Young People course and things at home have improved massively for us."

You are **not** alone

Parentline: **0808 800 2222**

Childline: **0800 1111**

Respect: **0808 802 4040**



Representing and Celebrating the Borough

The Mayor of South Tyneside, Councillor Norman Dick and Mayoress, Mrs Jean Williamson, continue to enjoy a busy civic year of key events and engagements while embracing their community and fundraising duties.

Highlights over recent months have included the Remembrance commemorations which involved the Mayor and Mayoress joining communities in attending poignant services and special events held across the Borough.

This included a spectacular commemoration event on Remembrance Sunday at Westoe Cenotaph in South Shields.

The countdown to Christmas also got off to a spectacular start when the Mayor and Mayoress switched on the Christmas lights in South Shields, Hebburn and Jarrow town centres. They also opened the annual Christmas Fair at Haven Point and attended the Whitburn Winter Festival.

In addition to this, they officially opened a new sensory service for residents with sight or hearing impairments, as well as opening the new autism hub in South Shields.

The Mayor said: "The Mayoress and I are very much enjoying our year in office and meeting all the people who make South Tyneside a fantastic place. It is a great honour to be the first citizen of South Tyneside and represent the Borough.

Over the coming months, the Mayor and Mayoress will meet even more people who go the extra mile to make South Tyneside great while continuing to raise money for the Mayor's charity, which this year include South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade and NAAFI Break.

The Mayor added: "The money we raise for these worthwhile causes will make such a huge difference. The Mayoress and I are calling on the kindness and generosity of the people of South Tyneside to donate whatever they can spare."

For further information about the Mayor and Mayor's Charity, visit

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/mayorscharity



1 The Mayor and Mayoress unveiling a commemorative blue plaque in memory of South Tyneside doctor, Anne Seymour

2 Enjoying the Mayor's Charity Fair event at Ocean Beach Pleasure Park

3 The launch of the Poppy Appeal

4 The Mayor receiving the official writs ahead of the General Election

5 Honouring the service and sacrifice of our Armed Forces Community on Remembrance Sunday

6 Kicking off the festivities by switching on the South Shields Christmas lights

7 Meeting traders at the annual Christmas Fair at Haven Point

8 Launching the new sensory service for South Tyneside

9 The Mayor and Mayoress pictured outside the new Autism Hub in South Shields

10 A service at South Shields Town Hall to remember victims of the Holocaust on National Holocaust Day

THIS EASTER, SIMONSIDE OUTDOOR ADVENTURE IS OFFERING A BROAD RANGE OF FUN AND EXCITING ACTIVITIES FOR ALL THE FAMILY TO ENJOY

SIMONSIDE CLIMBING WALL

Following its refurbishment in January, Simonside Climbing Wall now boasts six Clip 'n' Climb walls alongside its existing range.

The building houses 57 climbing lines and a bouldering wall with all sorts of shapes and angles to try.

During the Easter break, the climbing wall will be open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 5.30 - 9.30pm.

Thursday will also host a kid's club from 5.30 - 7pm for ages 13 and under.

The Climbing Wall is also the perfect place to hold your child's birthday party.

Birthday parties are £100 for up to ten children and £5 per child thereafter for two hours of climbing and games.

Pricing

Non-member: £4 for under 18s and £6 for over 18s.

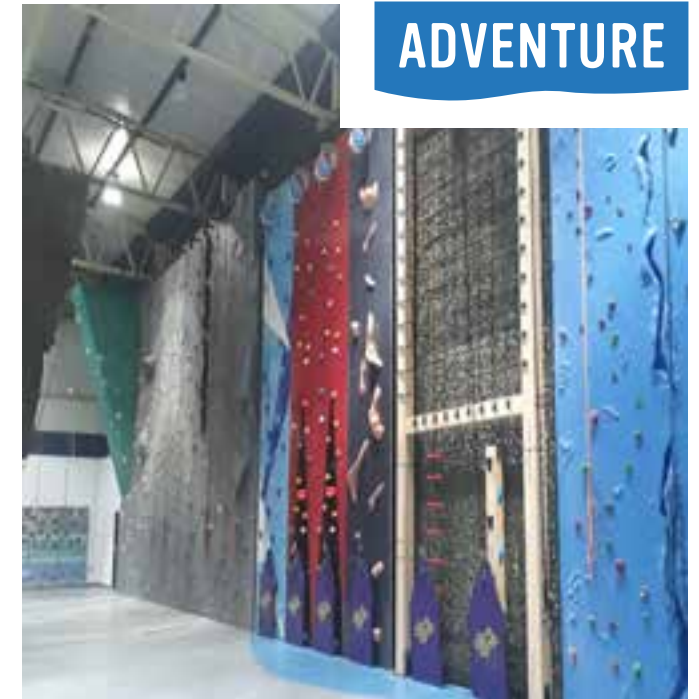
Member: £3 for under 18s and £5 for over 18s.



SIMONSIDE

OUTDOOR

ADVENTURE



The Friends Of Thurston

The Friends of Thurston are looking for new members to help them continue their efforts to look after the Thurston grounds and facilities.

The group was set up by Andy Stubbs and is made up of individuals who greatly benefitted from Thurston Outdoor Education Centre as children who now want to give back to the centre as adults.

Just last year the group successfully raised money to purchase a defibrillator for the centre and this year they built a new stile and path from the campsite to the boathouse.

If you are interested in becoming a member please visit the Friends of Thurston Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/16704564378/

For more information and to book contact Simonside Outdoor Adventure:

www.simonsideoutdooradventure.com

[/SimonsideOA](https://www.facebook.com/SimonsideOA)

[@SimonsideOA](https://www.instagram.com/SimonsideOA)

[0191 424 0118](tel:01914240118)



South Tyneside Beaches

Summer is just around the corner and our beaches in South Tyneside are beautiful places to enjoy, relax and make some fantastic memories. However, our oceans and seas are in danger. There are a number of threats to our shore and sea and we are asking residents to help us.

1. Take home your waste



Beach picnics or enjoying tasty fish and chips can be a real treat on a sunny day at the beach. Be sure to place any waste in the bins provided. Our summer waste team will be emptying throughout the day but if the bin is full please take your waste home with you. Be sure to recycle any plastics you use in your recycling bin when you get home.

Waste ends up a danger to our local wildlife, polluting our seas and spoiling the day for other residents and visitors.

2. Dogs



Dogs are big fans of the beach too, and they love a good paddle just as much as the rest of us. Please make sure that any pet-waste is collected and placed in the nearest bin or taken home with you. Pet-waste can pollute waters and it's not nice for anybody to step into, please pick up after your pet.

REMINDER

Dogs are not allowed on Sandhaven Beach between 1 May and 30 September between the hours of 8am and 6pm. They are allowed on Littlehaven Beach (next to Sandhaven) and Marsden Beach throughout the year.

3. Cigarette butts



Cigarette butts are made from a type of plastic that takes years to degrade, and during that process they release harmful toxins – exposing beaches and their marine life. If you are a smoker please make sure that you place any butts in the nearest bin or put it in a bag with your other rubbish when you leave.

If you want to make difference visit www.lovesouthtyneside.co.uk to find out if there is any local litter picks taking place in your area.

Thank you for helping South Tyneside protect our local wildlife and our beautiful beaches for future generations.



SHOP LOCAL AT Easter

Here in South Tyneside we have a fantastic range of shops to suit all shopping needs this Easter. Personal, face-to-face service can help you find exactly what you're looking for – whether that's a gift for someone special or an Easter treat for yourself. We've rounded up some of the best destinations in the Borough:

Whitburn, Cleadon and Boldon

Visit Boldon or the villages of Whitburn and Cleadon for boutique shopping, gifts, antiques, specialist fashion and products for the home.



Jarrow and Hebburn

Both town centres offer a mix of high street stores and independent shops in a compact area. There are plenty of parking spaces and public transport links, taking the stress out of shopping.

The Nook and Laygate

For a more local shopping experience, these two areas in South Shields offer independent retailers and are easily accessible from the town centre.

South Shields Town Centre



For some High Street shopping, visit South Shields Town Centre and browse from popular brand favourites. The town centre is also a great place to shop for

more unique gifts - the traditional market runs every Monday and Saturday and offers a wide range of products including food, toys, clothing and lots more.

Stop by Shop @ The Word, National Centre for the Written Word, which offers a wide range of gifts that are reasonably priced and have often been created by some of the many talented crafts people from around the region.

For more information on shopping in the Borough visit www.southtyneside.gov.uk/shopping

SOUTH TYNESIDE FESTIVAL



ELLA HENDERSON



WILL YOUNG



SHALAMAR featuring Howard Hewett, Jeffrey Daniel & Carolyn Griffey

FREE SUNDAY CONCERTS

Our open-air afternoon concerts return to Bents Park this summer with another fantastic line-up.

12 JULY ELLA HENDERSON

19 JULY WILL YOUNG

26 JULY SHALAMAR & THE FIZZ

2 AUGUST THE SOUTH & TBA

Admission is free, or you could upgrade to a Priority Plus ticket. A ticket will guarantee earlier access into the park, and guarantees your entry if you would like to come along later too. It also provides you with access to dedicated bar serveries and toilets.

NOW ON SALE

PRIORITY PLUS TICKETS
£6 PER PERSON PER CONCERT - UNDER 5'S FREE

Tickets can only be purchased in advance from:

- www.ticketmaster.co.uk/southtynesidefestival or 0333 321 9999
- In person at the Shop @ The Word



CARNIVAL PARADE

Saturday 4 July

The biggest carnival of its kind in the North East returns this July, and will be even bigger and better than ever before. Keep an eye out for exciting news soon!

Would you like to take part?
Contact the Events team on events@southtyneside.gov.uk or call 0191 424 7986.



THE FIZZ

Supported by



Other South Tyneside Festival dates include:

Live Music at the Amphitheatre

Thursday and Saturday evenings, 4 – 27 June (except 13 June)



Brass Bands at the Amphitheatre

Every Sunday afternoon
June – August (except 5 July)

Proms in the Park, Bents Park

Sunday 5 July

Kids Fun-Fest

Every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon,
4 – 20 August



Music in South Marine Park

Every Saturday afternoon, 25 July – 5 September (except 29 August)

For the most up-to-date news go to:

www.southtynesidefestival.co.uk

[@stynesideevents](https://twitter.com/stynesideevents) [southtynesideevents](https://www.facebook.com/southtynesideevents)

Other upcoming events for your diary!

Proper Food and Drink Festival

Saturday 23 – Monday 25 May, 10am – 5pm
One of the biggest food and drink festivals in the area returns to South Shields over the Spring Bank Holiday. Expect the finest street and local artisan food produce alongside a wide selection of craft ales, cocktails and other drinks.

Historic Commercial Vehicle Rally

Sunday 7 June, 11am – 5pm
Around 180 historic commercial vehicles will be on display in Bents Park, after taking part in the Tyne Tees Run from Stockton to South Shields.

Great North Dog Walk

Sunday 7 June, from 10.30am
The Leas will be the destination of thousands of dogs and their owners for the world's biggest dog walk, which this year celebrates its 30th anniversary.

Fake Festival

Saturday 13 June, 11.30am – 10.30pm
The Fake Festival returns to Bents Park this June with some of the best tribute bands in the UK. This year's line-up includes bands inspired by Queen, the Rolling Stones amongst others. For more information and tickets visit www.fakefestivals.co.uk

There's lots more events to enjoy during 2020 so keep an eye out for details in future newsletters or check online.

Turn the page for information on some of the events happening in the coming weeks.

More events to enjoy

There's lots of great events taking place in South Tyneside over the coming weeks and during the forthcoming Easter break. Here are just some events for your diary.

Easter Egg Hunt

Friday 10 – Monday 13 April,
11am – 4pm

Head to Souter Lighthouse this Easter and become a wildlife reporter to earn a tasty chocolate treat. £3 per person.



Easter fun at The Customs House

Enjoy a range of family friendly activities this Easter at The Customs House. For more information contact 0191 454 1234.



Easter at Arbeia

Arbeia, South Shields Roman Fort, re-opens for the new season on 1 April. With a great events programme and recent enhancements to the site, make sure you re-discover this important part of our heritage. You can now also take your dog along so there's no need to leave man's best friend at home.

Events to enjoy this Easter include a Roman Fayre on Saturday 11 April, 11am – 3pm, where you can browse a Roman market, witness gladiators doing battle and have a go at a number of hands-on activities. Entry is free.

Easter Market

Following a successful Christmas themed market there will be a special Easter market this year in South Shields' Market Place, which will be packed full of local and speciality stalls. More details are to be confirmed at the time of going to print, so please keep an eye out for more information and lots more exciting plans for the Market Place at www.southtyneside.gov.uk/market



Mayor's Civic Ball

Saturday 25 April, 7pm till late

Dance the night away at this special black tie event at Temple Park Centre, all in aid of charity.

Tickets are priced at £40, which includes a 3-course meal, disco and entertainment. To book call 0191 424 7331.

Sheila from Shields (and her cat)

Saturday 2 May –
Saturday 10 October

South Shields Museum's new summer exhibition will delve into the life, art and inspiration of award-winning animator Sheila Graber. There will also be a programme of family workshops and activities over the coming months too.



EASTER @ THE WORD



ARTS & CRAFTS

Monday 6 & Thursday
9 & 16 April,
10.30am & 2.30pm,
and Monday 13 April,
2.30pm

Enjoy some fun Spring themed crafts. Cost is £1 per child, and tickets must be bought in advance from Level 2 of The Word.

ANIMAL STORIES

Wednesday 15 April, 11am & 1pm
£3.50 child, £2.50 adult, £10.50 family of 4, £1 children under 1
Suitable for under 14s

Meet some cute and curious animals, including a lizard, tortoise and even a chicken, at this hands-on workshop.

StoryWorld theWORD

DINOSAUR TALES

Friday 17 April, 10.30am,
12.45pm & 2.15pm

£3.50 child, £2.50 adult,
£10.50 family of 4, £1 children under 1
Suitable for under 7s and their families
Be transported back to when dinosaurs roamed Earth at this interactive StoryWorld session. Hear tales of loveable dinosaurs, join in with songs and get crafty too!



For more information on these and many more events visit www.theworduk.org.uk. Booking is essential for events, unless it is a drop-in session. Tickets can be purchased online or at the Shop at The Word.

EASTER IN FABLAB

LASER CUT A DINOSAUR DOOR SIGN

Tuesday 7 April,
10am, £8

Suitable for over 6s



ROARSOME LASER CUTTING

Wednesday 8 & 15 April,
10am & 1pm, £8

Suitable for over 8s

DINOSAUR T-SHIRT PRINTING

Tuesday 14 April, 10am, £10
Suitable for over 8s



Easter Fun at Jarrow Hall

There will be lots to see and do at Jarrow Hall this Easter. Hunt for dragon eggs, follow the clues in a fun dragon trail, enjoy craft activities and discover some new arrivals on the farm. Find out more at www.jarrowhall.org.uk

Chasing the Rainbow

Until Saturday 18 April

Discover over 200 captivating photographic images of landscapes, architecture and more at this special free exhibition at South Shields Museum & Art Gallery.

To find out more about these events and lots more go to:

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/whatson

Visitor Information Centre @ The Word on 0191 424 7788

[/southtynesideevents](https://www.facebook.com/southtynesideevents)

[@stynesideevents](https://twitter.com/stynesideevents)

Please note: At the time of going to print (February 2020) event details were correct but you are advised to check before you travel.



Jarrow Festival

Friday 22 – Sunday 31 May

Enjoy a jam-packed programme of events and activities throughout Jarrow as part of this popular festival. Highlights include a fantastic finale event on Sunday 31 May across the sites of Jarrow Hall and St Paul's Church. More details about this exciting 10-day festival will be announced very soon!



FREE EXHIBITION

**28 March 2020
– 3 January 2021**

From Sherlock Holmes to Inspector Gadget, Poirot to Wallander, investigate some of the most famous fictional detectives and their creators in The Word's new exhibition.

Find out about the best-known on-screen detectives, study crime-busting techniques and examine the enduring appeal of detective stories. Explore Sherlock Holmes' Baker Street office and learn all about the character himself, then step into the Orient Express themed film space and watch local crime writer, Ann Cleeves talk about her famous North East detective Vera and how the genre has developed over the years.

There will be family fun detective activities to enjoy too; test your eyewitness skills, learn about forensic techniques, examine your own fingerprint under a microscope and pretend to be a suspect in a police line-up, plus lots more!



WRITE FESTIVAL 20

Be inspired by words

SAT 23 MAY – FRI 12 JUNE

WRITE Festival is back for its 4th year and is bigger than ever – now spanning over 3 weeks.

This year's programme has a jam-packed schedule of workshops, performances and events for people of all ages!

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

WRITE... FOR KIDS!

Become a Detective: CSI for Kids
Sat 23 May, 10.30-11.30am, 12.30-1.30pm & 2.30-3.30pm, £3 per child. Suitable for ages 7-12

The Detective Project will be holding a day of fun where children can become Crime Scene Investigators, learning real techniques and solving crimes using forensic evidence. There will also be a fun drop-in event on the same day for kids to learn how to take their own fingerprints and turn them into a keyring to take home. £1 per keyring.

WRITE... FOR TEENAGERS

YouTube Masterclass with Jenny Wotherspoon
Fri 29 May, 2-4pm, £3 per person. Suitable for ages 12+

Join Jenny Wotherspoon for a crash course in creating compelling video content for YouTube. Learn the basics of creating good quality videos using your smartphone, look at the best way to upload and promote your content to reach more people, and learn how to analyse your videos so you can grow your channel.

WRITE... FOR ADULTS



Kevin Maguire and Andrew Pierce in Conversation
Thurs 28 May, 6-7pm, £5 per person. Suitable for ages 16+

Kevin Maguire returns to The Word and is bringing Andrew Pierce with him for an evening of entertainment. Famous for their appearances on news broadcasts by the BBC, ITV and Sky News, where they review, dissect and disagree on politics, it's an event not to be missed for fans of the duo!

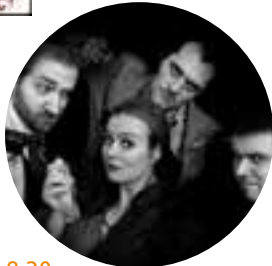


Are you an aspiring writer?

If so there are lots of events to help you develop your skills, from writing workshops with author Robert Scragg, an Inpress Day where you can find out all about how to get published, one-to-one masterclasses with Sixth Element Publishing to perfect your writing and two writing workshops with A.M. Peacock to hone in your skills.



The Matinee Murder – A Night of Murder Mystery



Fri 29 May, 6.30-8.30pm, £8.50 per person. Suitable for over 18's

Whether you're a first-class detective or a first-time crime solver, join Highly Suspect for a night of unforgettable fun as they bring their exciting interactive murder mystery to The Word.

Can you work out who the killer is?

An Audience with the Yorkshire Shepherdess

Fri 5 June, 7-8.30pm, £5 per person. Suitable for ages 16+

Join Amanda Owen - the Yorkshire Shepherdess as she talks about her life as a shepherdess, farmer's wife, mother to nine children, a passionate photographer and a Sunday Times bestselling author.



Wor Dialect Day

Sat 6 June, 10am-4pm, FREE. Suitable for all ages

Join The Word for a special day of celebrating the North East dialect!

The Word will be celebrating the North East dialect with this unique day packed full of events. With readings from the winners of the Lost Words Dialect Writing Competition, performances of Geordie The Musical, newly commissioned music from local songwriter and singer Jen Stevens and more, this is an event not to be missed!

Lemn Sissay in Conversation with Anna Foster

Fri 12 June, 6.30-8pm, £5 per person. Suitable for ages 16+

BAFTA nominated award-winning writer, international poet, performer playwright, artist and broadcaster Lemn Sissay is heading to The Word for the final night of the festival.



Lemn will be in conversation with BBC Newcastle's Anna Foster who will ask him questions about his life and work, including being awarded an MBE for services to literature by the Queen.

To view the full programme of events and to book visit:

www.theworduk.org/WRITE

BOOKING ESSENTIAL!



South Tyneside Libraries

Library Activities

There's lots happening at your local library, offering a chance to try something different, learn new skills and socialise.

Events running at our libraries include:

Knit and Knatter

Share hints, tips, patterns and laughs while enjoying this traditional craft.

Baby Bounce

Gentle finger, knee bouncing and action rhymes for babies. Suitable from birth - 13 months.

Reading Groups

Meet new people and enjoy a chat about books and reading at these monthly meetings



Dates, times and venues vary. For more information on library activities visit www.southtyneside.gov.uk/libraries or contact your local library.



Local Studies Collection

The Local Studies Collection at The Word, National Centre for the Written Word in South Shields, provides a good starting point to find out about the heritage of the local area.

Maps, photographs, directories, local newspapers and news cuttings, family history sources, as well as books, pamphlets and expert staff provide the means to travel back in time.



Home Readers Service

Home Readers is a friendly and free library service for individuals who are unable to visit the library in person. This service provides books to residential homes, sheltered housing and nursing homes, offering a wide selection of large print and ordinary books, as well as books on CD.

Join our libraries for free

You can join the library in person at any South Tyneside Library or online at www.southtyneside.gov.uk/libraries – it only takes a few minutes and you can start using the library straight away.



Follow us on social media

Receive the latest information and updates on our Library Services.

@southtynesidelibraries @SouthTyneLibs

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/libraries

FOSTER | SOUTH TYNESIDE COUNCIL



Could you be a foster carer?

South Tyneside Council is committed to giving every child the best start in life.

One of the ways it does this is by encouraging people to think about becoming foster carers so that children who cannot be with their birth parents grow up in a loving and secure environment.

Foster carers are needed particularly for older children, those with special needs and for sibling groups so that families can stay together.

Foster carers benefit from extensive support and training, can earn new qualifications and are rewarded financially. However most foster carers say the sense of achievement and the ability to change young lives are their primary reasons for fostering.

Foster carer Ann Shaw, 63, and her husband Bob (pictured) have fostered around 70 children over the years. She said: "We really enjoy fostering. We love to give the children in our care positive experiences such as parties and holidays. "You get a great sense of achievement through fostering. Knowing you are giving a child stability and a taste of what life should be like just makes us happy."

The Council runs a Payment for Skills model which means foster carers are paid an additional fee according to their experience and qualifications in addition to the weekly allowance payments they receive.

Regular open evenings for people interested in fostering are held on the last Thursday of each month at MarketPlace in South Shields.

Give children a better future, gain qualifications and be rewarded.



"You get a great sense of achievement through fostering. Knowing you are giving a child stability and a taste of what life should be like just makes us happy."

(0191) 423 8500

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/fostering





living better lives

Assertive outreach team and safe haven provision

People with a learning disability in South Tyneside and their families and care providers now have access to a team of learning disability nurses (Assertive Outreach Team) and a safe space where they can receive specialist support if they find themselves in crisis.

The Assertive Outreach Team is made up of staff with additional training who are able to support people managing in a crisis.

The two safe haven apartments, at Monkton Hall in Jarrow, consist of two bedrooms with en-suite facilities as well as a kitchen, a living area and an activities room. The model is the first of its kind in the Tyne and Wear area.

Although access to the Assertive Outreach Team and safe haven is time limited, and is not intended to be long term, it enables a person with learning disabilities to be supported through the crisis period.

One of the safe havens



Sarah French is pictured with Sarah Halliwell from Visionary and Chair of the service Lin Elder-Atterton

New sensory service for the Borough

A new service has been established to help blind and partially sighted people and those with hearing loss.

The Council has funded the new service – known as the South Tyneside Sensory Service – which provides specialist support and also helps people to access benefits advice, training and opportunities to help them return to work.

Although sight and hearing loss usually affects older people, the new service has been specifically designed to help adults over the age of 18.

Sarah French, Chief Executive of Sight Service, said: “The new sensory service provides a tailored package of support, activities and advice to meet the needs of each person, enabling them to develop skills and confidence to look forward to a positive future.”

The development of the safe havens is aimed at providing better community services for people with learning disabilities and their families, thereby reducing the dependency on hospitals to support those in crisis.

Dr James Gordon, Clinical Director for Mental Health and Learning Disabilities at NHS South Tyneside Clinical Commissioning

Group (CCG), said: “Our enhanced community team of experienced and highly skilled nurses, psychologists and therapists can intervene earlier and our safe haven is a supportive and therapeutic environment for people who need time away from home to get better. These developments will help people with a learning disability to live fulfilling lives as valued members of our community.”

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/betterlives



living better lives

Careers in care

The Council is supporting a campaign to raise awareness of employment opportunities in the care sector.

Around 300 vacant care posts are available in the Borough at any one time.

The roles, which are available with the local authority, independent sector providers and direct payment recipients, range from care workers to personal assistants, Shared Lives carers and activities co-ordinators. The focus of these roles is about really understanding about what matters to the person being supported and helping them to achieve this.

Working in the care sector is immensely rewarding and can offer good career prospects as well as flexible working for those juggling family commitments.



Daniel Quinn

Daniel Quinn, who now works as a Quality Officer, decided to become a social worker when he left the Army after 22 years' service. With the support of the Army, he did a degree in social work at Sunderland University. After three years working as a social worker he moved into his current role which involves assessing and monitoring the quality of services commissioned to provide residents with the care and support they need to live as independently as possible.

He said: “This can be a challenging sector to come into but one that gives much more than just money as a reward.

“Do not be put off by what you think you can't do, look at what you can do. With enough time and effort you can do whatever you want. Development is for life.”

In South Tyneside closer is certainly better.

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/betterlives

For more information visit:

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/betterlives

ACTIVE APPROACH TO CUTTING YOUTH CRIME

The Council has secured more than £250,000 to run a scheme aimed at preventing youth offending.

Owned and operated by South Tyneside Council, Thurston Outdoor Education Centre has been providing residential outdoor education courses for over 30 years. The outdoor adventure environment and residential experience provides a powerful setting for developing young people. Recent years have seen the centre grow and evolve to offer self catered accommodation and camping facilities.

The money from the Youth Endowment Fund, provided from the Home Office, will mean targeted early help can be delivered to families across South Tyneside to stop children getting dragged into crime.

The initial two-year project will focus on using outdoor education to enhance young people's resilience. Children between the ages of 10 and 14 at risk of offending, re-offending or school exclusion, or who are truanting or exhibiting anti-social behaviour or who have experienced childhood trauma will be targeted along with their immediate families.

There will be two cohorts over each of the two years of the project with families learning skills such as kayaking, orienteering, sailing and rock climbing. They will also use the facilities at Thurston



Outdoor Education Centre in the Lake District to learn life skills and reinforce resilience. The South Tyneside project is one of just 22 across the country selected from 445 organisations to receive funding. All projects will be independently evaluated by IPSOS MORI.



As part of the project, each cohort will be asked to also take part in a social action project to foster citizenship. This will involve working with them to think about the wider community, the consequences of their actions and hopefully result in them becoming a positive role model for other young people.

Andy Ratcliffe from the Youth Endowment Fund said: "Young people being drawn into violent crime is an issue of huge concern for communities right across the country. The Youth Endowment Fund is a serious long-term commitment to tackling this problem.

"We will fund, support and evaluate front line interventions to start making a difference now, while building a knowledge base of what works, what doesn't and where we need to focus our resources."



Delivering a digital council

More council services are now available as digital services at www.southtyneside.gov.uk.

Our digital services are secure, easy to use on smart phones, tablets and PCs and are available 24/7.

Some of the services that are available now via southtyneside.gov.uk include:

- Subscribe to the garden waste service
- Council tax and benefits online
- Become a member of our Leisure Service
- Apply for a Blue Badge
- South Tyneside Council Cleaning Service
- Pay for a wide range of services
- Easy ways to report missed bins, footpath problems etc.

New digital services are coming online all of the time.

PAY ONLINE

Did you know you can pay online for the below?

- Council Tax
- General invoices
- Parking fines
- Rent and housing payments
- Garden waste collections

To get the latest information subscribe to our free, monthly e-newsletter which includes:

- Latest news
- What's on, from festivals and local markets to school holiday activities
- Offers and discounts for local shops, attractions and restaurants
- Issues that are important to you, from recycling to regeneration
- How to have your say on local issues



There is access to free computers and internet at all of our libraries in the Borough. For more information and a list of libraries visit southtyneside.gov.uk/libraries.

Follow us on facebook and twitter

@STynesideCouncil

@STyne_Council.

Subscribe online at www.southtyneside.gov.uk/enewsletter

FREE exercise classes for knee and hip pain

escape pain

If you have hip and knee pain which has lasted more than 3 months and you are over 45 then you may be interested in joining an ESCAPE-pain class.



Carry out normal activities



Become more active



Manage your symptoms



Continue to exercise

ESCAPE-pain is a 6-week group exercise and education programme to help you increase your ability to exercise and manage hip and knee joint pain better.

It is evidence-based and has been designed for people with **hip and knee osteoarthritis**.

ESCAPE-pain was developed by a physiotherapist and has been supported and recommended by the NHS.

You can attend classes at a range of venues across **South Tyneside**. All classes take place twice a week for 6 weeks and each group starts and ends together.

"I have gained so much by coming to this programme. I have realised I can do exercises and enjoy them. I have met new friends, and I have started a keep fit programme and dancing classes."

"I have enjoyed the course tremendously. I would recommend it to anyone."

"The instructors are expert at friendly persuasion to do the various activities and a pleasure to work with. My mobility has most certainly improved."

"I have found the programme very beneficial to my physical and mental health. Instead of focusing on what I can't do, I now focus on what I can do. I am not afraid of making my osteoarthritis worse by exercising as I was before."

For South Tyneside classes, contact: Age Concern 0191 456 6903
More information available at: www.escape-pain.org

App available for iOS and Android



Looking after your health and wellbeing

The Council is driving forward the public health agenda and residents can look forward to improved health and wellbeing thanks to a range of initiatives that are taking place across South Tyneside.



Illegal tobacco – appeal to the public to help stop kids smoking.

People in South Tyneside are being urged to help keep illegal tobacco out of their local community and stop more local kids from starting to smoke. Figures show that illegal tobacco sold from shops and private homes or "tab houses" linked to criminals is a major source of cigarettes and tobacco for teenagers.

It comes as the Keep It Out campaign launched again in the North East in February 2020. Over 3500 people have already used the anonymous reporting form to give information to trading standards, leading to seizures, court action and shops facing closure orders and huge fines.

Crooked shop owners who sell smuggled or fake tobacco could not only lose their alcohol licence but face huge tax bills and closure orders from local authorities or the police for causing a commercial and health nuisance.

Buying illegal tobacco means supporting crime and can bring children into contact with and indebted to criminals.

Anyone with information about houses, shops, pubs or individuals selling illegal tobacco can give information online at www.keep-it-out.co.uk or by calling the illegal tobacco hotline at 0300 999 00 00.

All information will be treated anonymously.



Smoking in Pregnancy Incentive Scheme.

Pregnancy is a great reason to give up smoking. Quitting is one of the best things you can do to give your baby the best start in life.

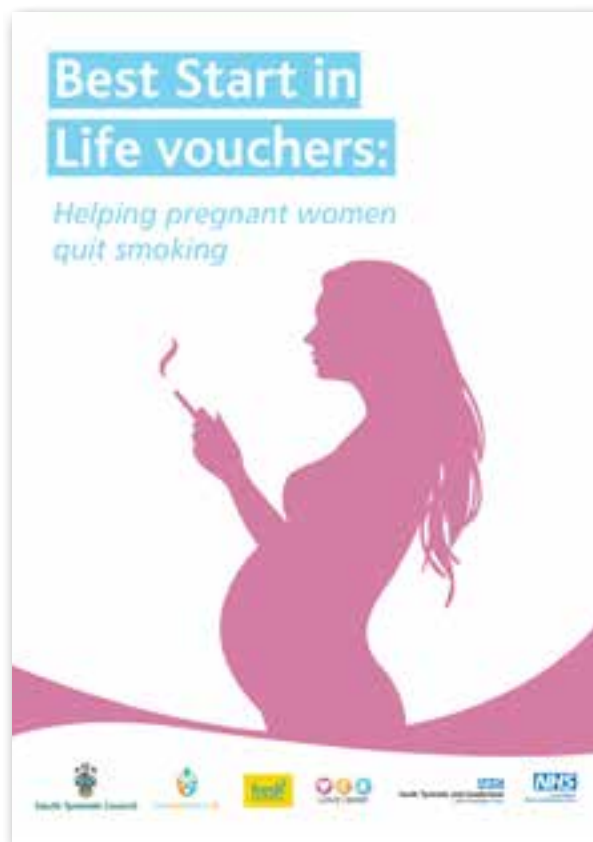
The sooner you start your quit attempt and stop smoking completely, the better it is for you and your baby. Nicotine is very addictive so it's really important to get the right support to help you give up smoking. We're offering Best Start in Life vouchers, alongside free one-to-one support, to help give pregnant women in South Tyneside the best chance to quit smoking for good.

How do the Best Start in Life Vouchers Work?

Your midwife will give you a £0 balance Love2Shop card and refer you to South Tyneside Stop Smoking Service. A stop smoking advisor from your nearest Children's Centre will contact you to make you an appointment. Your advisor will ask us to load £25 credit to your Love2Shop card once you set a quit date. You will need to activate your card on the Love2Shop website before you can spend the credit.

Your stop smoking advisor will meet with you regularly to offer advice, check your carbon monoxide reading and prescribe NRT (nicotine replacement products). If you are still quit after 4 weeks, 12 weeks and 35 weeks, they will ask us to load more credit to your Love2Shop card after you reach each milestone. This will add up to £300 in total.

For more information please call **0191 424 7300**.



Benefits of Stopping Smoking in Pregnancy

Stopping smoking now you are pregnant will have lots of benefits to both you and your baby during your pregnancy and afterwards.

You will reduce your risk of

- Miscarriage
- Premature Birth
- Still Birth
- Sickness during pregnancy
- Heart Disease
- Cancer

You will reduce the risk to your baby of

- A low birth weight
- Asthma
- ADHD
- Colic
- Ear Infections
- Respiratory Infections
- SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome)



Quit smoking to reduce chances of COPD.



In the run up to No Smoking Day (March 11) smokers in South Tyneside are being urged to quit and reduce their risk of developing a disease which can leave sufferers fighting for breath.

The "Every Breath" campaign from Fresh is raising awareness that smoking causes chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). COPD is the UK's fifth biggest killer and is mainly caused by smoking. Feeling short of breath, a chronic cough and wheezing are early signs that can present themselves from middle age onwards. One major study suggests at least 1 in 4 smokers will develop COPD.

The North East is one of the hardest hit regions with around 80,000 people in the region living with the condition, with 5,840 of those people in South Tyneside. Many people also have the disease but are as yet undiagnosed.

The likelihood of developing COPD increases the more you smoke and the longer you've smoked for. But even if you have COPD, quitting smoking can bring massive improvements to the way you feel and to your health. You'll feel better too – you'll feel less short of breath and cough less.

There are lots of benefits of quitting smoking besides improving your health and reducing the risks of a smoking-caused disease like COPD, cancer and heart disease. You can also save money by quitting – someone smoking 12 a day can save around £1,900 a year – as well as reducing feelings of stress and anxiety

There are more ways to quit than ever before

- Get support from your local stop smoking service where you can see a friendly, trained advisor.
- Nicotine replacement products and stop smoking medicines are available from shops, pharmacies and on prescription to help you reduce withdrawal symptoms and quit for good. Get some advice to help use it.
- Switching to an e-cigarette has helped many smokers stop. In the UK, e-cigarettes are tightly regulated for safety and quality and while not completely risk free, they carry a small fraction of the risk of cigarettes.

Visit everybreath.tv for support and advice or www.change4lifesouthtyneside.co.uk





Improving end of life care

Plans are moving forward for a better range of NHS end of life care services in South Tyneside, including a new hospice service.

Dr Jon Tose, a local GP and clinical director at NHS South Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "Last year we brought together doctors, nurses, families, care home staff and other experts to shape a new vision for better services and more choice at this important period in all our lives.

"We are now working hard to make it a reality – with more social care, nursing and palliative care for patients who prefer to die at home, as well as a new hospice for the Borough."

Over recent years, the majority of deaths in South Tyneside have taken place at home, in hospital or in care homes, with less than one in ten taking place in a hospice.

"We want people to have the best possible range of services, whatever their circumstances," added Dr Tose.

"We have been working with our partners to provide extra nursing and social care support for patients in the community, and we are carefully exploring options for a base for a new hospice. This will need to be a calm and respectful space as well as having the best possible access to medical support.

"The previous hospice service struggled to recruit medical staff and was rated as inadequate by inspectors. Our priority for the future is to give patients more choice and the highest possible standard of care in our community."

Manage your hospital appointments electronically

It's now easier to manage your hospital appointments on your phone, tablet or computer, thanks to a new system in place at South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust.

If your number is registered with the trust, you'll be able to receive and manage your appointments online – with the option of staying with paper letters if you prefer.



Helping you to stay healthy

Good health is about much more than doctors, nurses and hospitals. It's widely recognised that our good health comes from a range of things – like having good friends, a decent home and enough money to eat well.

The NHS wants to help you to stay well, and tackle the issues that could affect your health – before you get ill and need to think about seeing a doctor.

That's why local GP practices will soon be offering appointments with social prescribing link workers – specialist staff who can help you address a wide range of factors and take control of your health.

The new staff will work with colleagues in both the NHS and other organisations to provide more personalised and proactive

health and social care for you. For some people, that could mean getting help with a problem with your home, money worries or stress – all things that can affect your health.

For others, it could mean help with finding local groups or activities to take part in, if your life is a bit lonely.

So if you're over 18 and would like to find out more, why not have a chat with your GP or one of the staff at your practice, and they can put you in touch with someone who can help.

Path to Excellence

People in South Tyneside are continuing to share their views on the future of local NHS and hospital services through the Path to Excellence programme.

Recent roadshow events at venues across the Borough helped people to find out more about the next phase of the Path to Excellence, a five-year programme looking at how hospital services in South Tyneside and Sunderland can be improved.

Phase two of the Path to Excellence is looking at emergency care and emergency surgery, as well as planned operations, planned care and outpatient clinical support services.

Your local NHS has published a 'draft case for change' document, which sets out the process for developing ideas, alongside some of the ideas that have been developed by frontline clinical staff.

The roadshow provided a valuable opportunity for people to give feedback about what makes them proud of the NHS, what improvements they would like to see and what concerns them most about the future of local services.

Almost a thousand people shared their views – giving us vital information which clinical staff are now considering carefully. Over the past 18 months, we have collected more than 16,000 comments and responses from local people.

To find out more about the Path to Excellence, visit www.pathtoexcellence.org.uk.



Armed Forces Covenant Case Study

The Armed Forces Covenant is a national pledge to the Armed Forces community that they will have access to the same government and commercial services as any other citizen. Those organisations who sign the covenant recognise the value Serving Personnel, both Regular and Reservists, Veterans and military families contribute to our business and our country.

One aspect of the pledge provides support to ex-service men and women in starting a new career. In this instance, businesses can sign the Covenant and can make their own promises on how they wish to support the Armed Forces community.

One such company is Expedient Training Services based in Jarrow, South Tyneside.

They are a family orientated business delivering high quality training in the construction and utilities industry.

"Expedient signed up to the covenant as we felt the benefits were great for both the ex-service community and the business," said Claire Irving, Business Manager at Expedient.

"Employing and supporting ex-service men and women has helped our business to grow from a three-person setup to a team of 23 staff members with a strong infrastructure that supports our future aspirations. The benefits ex-service has brought our business has allowed us to build a reputation of reliability, flexibility and quality.

"Our own ethos is built around delivering high standards through process and our strength is undeniably based around the support we provide each other. We have an extremely supportive culture in Expedient believing that success is driven through the passion of our people something which we believe mirrors the services.



"We would encourage all businesses to at least consider this. We found the process simple to follow which has resulted in us gaining highly valuable members of our team."

Expedient Training show how supporting the Armed Forces Community through the recruitment and training of ex-service personnel can have huge benefits for your business through utilising this highly skilled and reliable sector of the workforce.

You can also benefit by enhancing your reputation as a company that cares. Why don't you consider taking the first step by Signing the Armed Forces Covenant and signing up to the MoD's Employer recognition scheme.



To find out more about the Armed Forces Covenant please contact Paul Baldasera on 0191 424 6022 or email Paul.Baldasera@southtyneside.gov.uk



L-R: Tutor Jasmine Middleton with learners Sophie Atkinson and Aaron Overman with the owner of the Clifton, Scott Carlucci, and learner Chad Burnett

South Tyneside business tastes success thanks to Skills South Tyneside learners.

South Tyneside residents have been working with local businesses to develop the essential skills required by employers.

The 'Find Your Future' course, funded by South Tyneside Council's Skills Service, helps learners understand the qualities employers are looking for in the hospitality, retail, warehousing and production industries.

The Clifton Hotel, a local business based on Ocean Road in South Shields, has been so impressed it has even made changes to its operation based on ideas from previous learners.

Scott Carlucci, owner of the Clifton Hotel, said "A few of the ideas from the presentations have given me food for thought, so we may well be seeing some of them on the upcoming menu!

"I have adopted a few of the ideas from the previous group. We have already changed our hotel breakfast menu to be more appealing and are working towards creating a new menu to be launched in March."

To find out more about this course and others on offer from Skills South Tyneside visit: www.southtyneside.gov.uk/skillssouthtyneside



Whether you're taking the first steps on your career path or looking to get back into work, Skills South Tyneside has something for you. Eligible learners will be fully funded.

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/skillssouthtyneside



ROUTES FROM EDUCATION TO EMPLOYMENT



Boldon School students join the South Tyneside Live panel

Opportunities through apprenticeships

South Tyneside Council is working with the Department for Education to help young people and residents of the Borough access higher level apprenticeships.

As part of the Opportunities through Apprenticeships programme the Council is working with schools, employers and parents to raise the profile of apprenticeships as well as the impact they have on individuals, employers and the wider economy.

Last November, a digital broadcast was streamed into the classroom of schools across the UK, giving young people the opportunity to understand more about where and how to find out about apprenticeship opportunities. The broadcast, which was viewed by 11,000 people, also enabled young people to hear from apprentices about their experience of earning while learning.

To view the broadcast on demand and hear from managers and apprentices from Port of Tyne, Siemens, Gamesa Renewable Energy and Zenith People visit: www.learnliveuk.com/south-tyneside-live/



housing matters



South Tyneside Homes' newsletter - Housing Matters - has been merged with South Tyneside Council's newsletter to deliver cost efficiencies and savings. Key information and stories for South Tyneside Homes' tenants are featured on pages 48-51.

Empty eyesore transformed into affordable apartments

A derelict eyesore in South Shields has been transformed into modern, affordable apartments.

The former boarding house in Beach Road had fallen into disrepair before it was bought by South Tyneside Housing Ventures Trust and converted into apartments for affordable rent.

South Tyneside Homes' Property Services team secured £200,000 grant funding from Homes England to restore the building to its former glory.

The building has required major refurbishment work including a new roof and windows, energy efficient heating systems and new kitchens and bathrooms.

Peter Davison, Chair of South Tyneside Housing Ventures Trust's board, said:

"The project has been quite challenging as the property was in a much poorer structural state than we originally thought so there was a lot more work than anticipated.

"But it has been rewarding too. The building has been given a total overhaul, been made structurally sound and completely transformed."

The Ventures Trust was set up in 2013 to build affordable housing for rent, with 435 properties completed or in the pipeline to date.

It has also brought more than 43 long-term empty homes back into use, with a further 10 planned.



Before and after images of the building.



Wave goodbye to beach litter



Next month will see the start of beach cleansing to make sure South Tyneside's beaches are looking their best to welcome the thousands of visitors who flock to the coastline each year.

At the beginning of May a sand levelling programme will start. This involves moving sand from areas along the beach where it has built up during the winter due to the wind and tides, to those areas of the beach where it is needed. No sand is ever removed from our beaches, it is merely dispersed to other areas on the beach.

Once the levelling has been carried out, debris is removed from the beach every morning using a surf rake which combs the sand to a depth of three inches and moves any debris into a collection chamber.

Litter is also regularly cleared from the beaches, bins are emptied and sand is removed from the paths to ensure the beaches are safe and welcoming.

Litter detracts from the beauty of our beaches, and can lead to fewer people visiting South Tyneside, which, in turn adversely affects the local economy. Cans and bottles can also be dangerous to people who use the beaches and can have devastating effects on marine wildlife.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Don't leave litter
- Bag any waste and leave it in the bins provided
- If bins are full take your waste home and place it in your own bin
- Do not take glass on to the beach
- Only disposable BBQs are allowed on the beach
- Dogs are not allowed on Sandhaven Beach between 1 May and 30 September between 8am and 6pm

Please only leave footprints after enjoying a day out on our beautiful beaches.



Did you know that you can swap your council or housing association home with another tenant?

Swapping your home in this way is usually called 'Mutual Exchange'.

Certain conditions apply and you will need permission from your landlord, but for many people this is best way of finding their new home.

At South Tyneside Homes we have listened to what customers have told us and want to make it even easier to find a home to swap. From May this year we are changing the way we help you find a home.

We will be launching a new House Exchange Service, which you access from any mobile device or tablet. It will give you an easy way to advertise your home and contact people who might be interested in swapping with you. Alongside this staff will be on hand to help you so that your property stands out and you can find a match as quickly as possible with very little effort.

In the meantime, if you need any advice on swapping your home please contact our Housing Options Team on 0300 123 6633 or by emailing housingoptions@southtynesidehomes.org.uk

Remember, searching for a new home needn't be stressful. Housing Exchange can help you every step of the way!



Get back on track

- Are you in arrears with your rent or other debts?
- Are your debts worrying you?
- Do you need some help to wade through your bills or sort out your benefits?

We can help you

- Just one phone call to us will start the process of getting your rent account and other debts under control. We will work together to look at your debts and ease you back onto the right track
- Make that call and you could have an appointment within the next few days.

Call: 0191 424 6040
Visit: www.southtyneside.gov.uk/welfaresupport



Are you Moneywise?

We are working with Moneywise Credit Union to help you access savings accounts and low-cost loans.

Moneywise is the largest community credit union in the North East, and membership is open to people who live or work in Northumberland, Teesside, Tyne and Wear and County Durham. Moneywise offers a range of loan products and savings to suit you. There are no joining fees. Their products include:

- Personal loans
- Payday loans
- Savings and payroll savings

Current customers have used the services for everything from savings plans, to paying for school uniforms and replacing white goods, to consolidating debts into one easy payment and saving money at the same time.



The kids can save too, with a Junior Membership.

You can become a member of Moneywise from birth so it's a great place for kids to save, or for you to put a little aside for your children, grandchildren and even great-grandchildren.

Find out more and about how the loans and savings could help you at www.moneywise.org.uk

No place like home

FREE exhibition at The Word, celebrating 100 years of council housing. In 1919 the Addison Act was introduced to create a nationwide system of public housing provision for the first time which would give working families a higher standard of housing.

RUNS UNTIL 19 APRIL 2020

AT THE WORD, SOUTH SHIELDS

The exhibition is shaped by the stories and memories that residents have shared of growing up in South Tyneside and in particular of the council estates that were built. From indoor bathrooms, built-in larders to gardens and communities with access to a range of facilities such as shops, churches and medical centres, the new houses provided a home.

www.theworduk.org



South Tyneside Council



Like South Tyneside Homes on facebook

Stay up-to-date with the latest news and services from your housing company.





Are you a landlord in South Tyneside?

We are consulting on a proposed Selective Licensing scheme for privately rented residential properties in South Tyneside. The scheme will impact approx. 3,000 properties in the:

- BEACON AND BENTS WARD
- SIMONSDALE AND REKENDYKE WARD
- WESTOE WARD

The scheme will help improve the management and standards of privately rented properties in South Tyneside. The consultation will run until Wednesday 25 March 2020.

Proposed Selective Licensing Scheme Consultation

What is selective licensing?

A selective licence means that all landlords with any privately rented properties in a selected area will need a licence for these properties.

Selective licensing will be introduced if the Council is satisfied that the selected area has at least one of the following issues:

- Low demand
- Significant or persistent problems caused by anti-social behaviour

- Poor housing condition
- Significant occupation of properties by migrants
- High levels of deprivation
- High levels of crime

Introducing a Selective Licensing scheme will help to improve these issues. All privately rented properties within the proposed areas would need a Selective Licence.

Why introduce Selective Licensing?

Privately rented housing has grown considerably in South Tyneside over the last 15 years. The private rented sector is an important part of providing a diverse housing in the Borough, so it important that the properties:

- Are of good standard
- Are well managed
- Help add to a well-rounded housing offer

Have your say

If you have any comments or feedback please email selectivelicensing@southtyneside.gov.uk or contact the Housing Strategy team on 0191 424 7963 before 25 March.

Hard copies of all documentation is available in the reception area of South Shields Town Hall.

More information about the scheme is available at www.southtyneside.gov.uk/licensing

get active... feel great!



Apply for a leisure membership online today!

Join over 7,000 people in becoming a member of South Tyneside Council's Leisure Facilities to get fit and active ready in time for summer. Our membership gives you unlimited access to six premier facilities including six pools, five gyms, two saunas, two steam rooms and over 200 classes per week. Come and try our unique functional fitness rig, the first of its kind in the UK and experience cutting edge virtual fitness technology, including the latest disciplines from global fitness brand Les Mills.

With no joining fee and monthly prices from as little as £14.50 for juniors and £18 for adults, there really is no better time to get active and feel great.

Becoming a member couldn't be easier. You can pay by direct debit and join online today at www.southtyneside.gov.uk/leisure. If you don't want to commit to a monthly payment, you can purchase a Get Active discount card and enjoy access to reduced rates on activities every time you visit.

Personal Trainers

Whether you're looking to improve your overall fitness levels, lose/gain weight or train for a particular event, we can arrange for a Personal Trainer to help achieve your goals. Designing tailor made fitness programmes and offering help and advice on exercise technique, your Personal Trainer will keep you motivated and on track to get results. For full details please speak to our reception staff.

Follow us on Twitter

Receive the latest information and updates on our Sport and Leisure Service @STyneLeisure



Easter Sports Programme

Kids can enjoy fantastic sports coaching sessions during the Easter holidays that will keep them fit, healthy, active and entertained.

Visit www.southtyneside.gov.uk/sports for booking and course information.

find out about our membership options and activities at www.southtyneside.gov.uk/leisure



South Tyneside Council CLEANING SERVICES

HOUSEHOLD CLEANING

Domestic £12.00 per hour

KITCHEN

Oven £43
Range oven £63
Fridge (under counter) £17.50
Single fridge freezer £22.50

FURNITURE

Dining room chairs £6 each
Sofa £30
3 piece suite/corner suite £43

CARPET

Carpet £29 for first carpet, £16.50 for additional
Rugs £15.50

WINDOWS AND EXTERNAL

Internal windows £22.50
External windows From £6
Full conservatory £36
Fascia £56
Pressure wash From £31

We also carry out other specialist cleaning services – prices available upon request

For more information visit
www.southtyneside.gov.uk/cleaning
call 0191 427 2591 (Mon – Fri 8am – 4pm) or
email buildingcleaningenquiries@southtyneside.gov.uk



DO YOU OWN A BUSINESS?

We also carry
out commercial
cleaning



South Tyneside Council

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/cleaning

SOUTH SHIELDS TOWN HALL CEREMONIES



SOUTH SHIELDS TOWN HALL WEDDINGS

South Shields Town Hall is a venue full of history, elegance and style. Built in 1910, this venue has played host to many of the town's prestigious events and has recently been restored to its former Edwardian splendour. The stunning period architecture of the Grade II -listed building is framed by the iconic clock tower, providing a picture-perfect backdrop to your special day.

We can also accommodate a wide range of other special occasions, such as naming ceremonies or vow renewal ceremonies.



South Shields Town Hall provides the perfect setting to host your wedding or civil partnership ceremony. Upon entering the building you will be greeted by a grand, sweeping, stone staircase overlooked by a stained-glass window.

The staircase leads up to the beautiful and ornate ceremony rooms, which can accommodate ceremonies for up to 120 guests.



THE RECEPTION ROOM

The Reception Room is our main ceremony room and boasts some truly unique features. The original wooden doors open to an elegant room with high ceilings, two marble fireplaces and large stained-glass windows which make the room airy and spacious.

Accommodates up to 120 guests.



ANTE ROOM

A marriage or civil ceremony in the Ante Room is relaxed and intimate, the perfect room for a meaningful celebration with a small group of people.

Accommodates up to 50 guests.

LET US HELP...

Our Ceremonies team would be delighted to meet with you and provide further details on pricing and availability. Contact 0191 424 7277.



YOUR FUTURE
YOUR VOTE
YOUR CHOICE



LOCAL GOVERNMENT & POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER ELECTIONS THURSDAY 7 MAY 2020

This is your chance to vote for who you would like to represent you on South Tyneside Council and Northumbria Police Force, but to have your say you must be registered to vote.

MAKE SURE YOU CAN VOTE

If you have moved house recently or think you may not be registered to vote, for any reason, you can apply to register online at www.gov.uk/registertovote. If you don't have access to a computer, tablet or smart phone you can call the Customer Contact Centre on 0191 427 7000 to provide your information or request a registration form (open Mon-Fri 8am to 8pm and Sat 9am to 1pm).

Online applications and completed registration forms must be received by The Elections Office by Tuesday 21 April 2020.

EASY POSTAL VOTING

Around 35,000 local people choose to vote by post and you can too. All you have to do is fill in a simple application form and provide a signature and your date of birth.

If you would like to apply to vote by post, or want to cancel or change an existing postal vote please call our Customer Contact Centre on 0191 427 7000. **Completed postal vote application forms or changes to existing postal votes must be received by The Elections Office by 5pm on Wednesday 22 April 2020.**



South Tyneside Council

YOUR VOTE MATTERS
DON'T LOSE IT



We have changed the format and paper stock of the South Tyneside newsletter to make sure we keep costs down and provide you with as much news and information as possible. If you live in South Tyneside and don't receive this newsletter to your home address by 15 March 2020, or if you would like to provide feedback or comments, please call 0191 427 1717 or email marketing@southtyneside.gov.uk to let us know. If you would like the newsletter in a different format we can arrange this for you. If you would like to receive newsletters from South Tyneside Council visit www.southtyneside.gov.uk/email

This issue includes information from South Tyneside Homes, if you have any queries please call 0300 123 6633 or visit www.southtynesidehomes.org.uk