

South Tyneside

NEWS

Updates from South Tyneside Council and Partners • June 2024



South Tyneside Council

Summer in South Tyneside

INSIDE



12-13

Housing Transfer



16-17

Funding Boost



24-27

What's On

Spread the word!

**THIS IS
SOUTH
TYNESIDE**

Our South Tyn

A place where people live healthy, happy

Thank you for your understanding and patience during the disruption to the waste collection service.

The Council remains committed to progressing the plan to enable improvements in response to feedback from crews to be implemented.

Please continue to check our website and social media accounts for updates
www.southtyneside.gov.uk/waste



Our borough's young people engaging with Children's Service



Ziggy on a walk in South Marine Park

The Council continues to target support to make things fairer for those who are most vulnerable. This includes investing in children's homes for those children who are unable to live with their families; investing in adult social care accommodation across the Borough; and providing support with increased use of technology to support people who want to live independently at home.



Borrowdale House for those needing care after hospital

eside Vision

and fulfilled lives.

We are honouring our commitment to deliver free support for veterans, including those who served in the Merchant Navy and continue to help our residents access the jobs they want and need by investing in employment, skills and support for businesses.

The cost of living remains difficult for many residents and we remain committed to work with residents to obtain the welfare support they are entitled to. The free activities through our borough-wide festival programme are designed for residents to access family activities that may be difficult to prioritise alongside cost-of-living concerns.

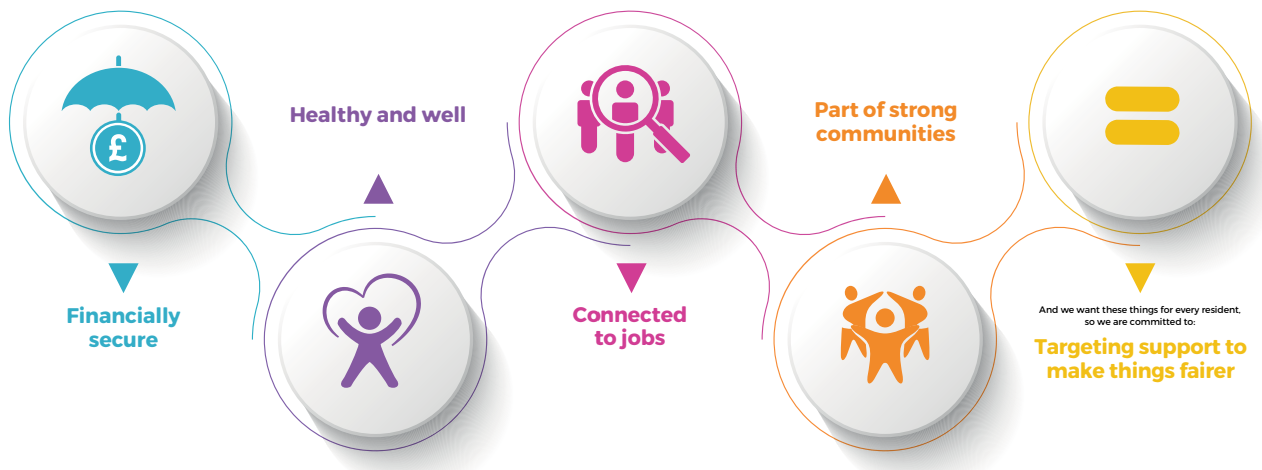


South Tyneside Festival

These events are open to all and focus on celebrating the diversity of our borough.

We continue to listen to residents' views throughout the coming year to shape our services to best meet your needs.

To help deliver our South Tyneside vision, we have created five ambitions



International Advanced Manufacturing Park

Located on the border between South Tyneside and Sunderland, the International Advanced Manufacturing Park (IAMP) is a ten-year regeneration project on 150 hectares of land. The IAMP is designed to attract private sector investment and 7,500 jobs in advanced manufacturing in the automotive, energy, rail, aerospace, electronics and pharmaceutical sectors.

The project, a partnership between South Tyneside and Sunderland Councils, has completed its first phase and has sold all its developable land, with occupiers including manufacturing giants SNOP UK and Faltec Europe on site.

Construction of the new AESC UK £450m gigafactory for battery production is well underway. The plant, which is due to open in 2025, will create around 1000 new jobs in the area.

The Council's South Tyneside Works team continues to work with AESC UK to secure apprenticeship opportunities for our residents, including supporting funding for four Maintenance Technician apprentices following a recruitment event in April 2024.

Planning permission has been secured for the second phase of the project, which will see the widening of the A1290 through the site, and the required highways infrastructure to open-up 1.8million square feet of space for advanced manufacturing on the 'Northern Employment Area' in South Tyneside. Work on the A1290 improvements commenced in Spring 2024.

Find out more news and information on the IAMP at www.iampnortheast.co.uk

Find out more about South Tyneside Works at www.southtynesideworks.com or find us on Facebook by searching for 'South Tyneside Works'.

Have your say South Tyneside Electoral Review



The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is asking for your views on proposed new electoral arrangements for South Tyneside.

We want to know:

- Do the proposed wards reflect local communities?
- How do you think the proposals can be improved?
- Are the names of the proposed wards right?

Consultation closes: 9th September 2024



reviews@lgbce.org.uk



<https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/south-tyneside>



Review Officer (South Tyneside), LGBCE,
PO Box 133, Blyth, NE24 9FE





PLEDGE

South Tyneside



Hitachi Construction Machinery UK, based in Hebburn, has donated 21 "ride-on toy mini diggers" to local schools, to get youngsters excited about the construction industry and deliver on the company's commitment to the South Tyneside Pledge.

The South Tyneside Pledge, which launched two years ago, encourages businesses to 'think local': to spend in, recruit from, and support the Borough.

The initiative, which almost 300 organisations have signed up to, is having a positive impact on the economy and fostering greater collaboration between the private and voluntary sectors, between business and young people and between companies themselves. More jobs are being advertised locally and collaborations have been forged between Pledge organisations on student placements and work experience.

With a focus on local spend, the Pledge has added at least £3million to the local economy. In addition, 60 per cent of pledges are using more local suppliers and 57 per cent have hired local people. The Council has played its part by increasing its local spend from 33 to 45 per cent and regional spend from 64 to 75 per cent between 2010 and 2022.

The Pledge has also led to an increase in volunteering with 55 per cent of pledges having volunteered locally while pledge organisations have provided sponsorship and contributions towards key local initiatives.

The South Tyneside Pledge

£3M
added to local
economy

60%
pledges using more
local supplies

57%
pledges hired
local people

75%
of Council spend
is regional

Find out more about the Pledge at: www.investsouthtyneside.com

This summer...

LOVE YOUR BEACH

Beaches in South Tyneside are summer ready. Over the summer our teams will continuously empty litter bins, pick up litter, remove windblown sand from paths and anything else which is needed to make our beaches and coastal areas safe. Help our local wildlife and teams by putting any litter in the bins provided.

Sandhaven Beach is much loved and it's easy to see why given its location. It has been awarded a **Keep Britain Tidy's Seaside Award**, in recognition of it being one of the best beaches in the country.



FEED OUR DOLPHINS

Along the seafront new recycling bins are in place to help reduce plastic, protect our sea and local wildlife.

Find out more about how you can support our oceans at www.southtyneside.gov.uk/ocean



DO NOT BURY DISPOSABLE BBQ'S IN THE SAND

These can take hours to cool and seriously hurt children, adults and animals. Please wait until they are fully cooled and dispose of correctly.



SAND CLEANING

DID YOU KNOW?

Sand on our beaches is mechanically cleaned every day by using a 'surf rake'.

You'll recognise our surf rake throughout the summer if you visit the beach. The surf rake is a piece of equipment which is towed behind a tractor and sieves the sand with a belt of steel tines which penetrate the sand, removing any debris and returning the clean sand to the beach. This is carried out every morning from 6am to 11am, or earlier if there is heavy footfall on the beaches.

Please maintain a safe distance from the machinery.

We are proud of our beaches in South Shields and we want all who visit them to have a safe and pleasant experience. Please use the litter bins provided.

SUPPORT LOCAL



We have a fantastic range of local businesses located in South Tyneside town centres and villages.

Spread the Word!

Do you have a go-to local trader for all your shopping needs? A favourite spot to enjoy food and drinks? Spread the word and support local businesses even further by:

- Telling your family and friends about your favourite local stores, bars, cafes or restaurants
- Following, sharing and liking posts on social media from your favourite local businesses
- Sharing your favourite independent businesses online with the hashtag #LoveSouthTyneside
- Leaving reviews online to encourage others to shop or visit there



FREE WIFI

Did you know there is FREE wifi in King Street?

The network is available through the marketplace, along King Street and Ocean Road, so connect for free while you're here.



SOUTH SHIELDS MARKET

Enjoy browsing a variety of stalls in a friendly and bustling atmosphere at one of the oldest open-air markets in the North East:

- Friday and Flea Market - Fridays 9am to 3pm
- Traditional Market - Saturdays 9am to 3pm

www.southshieldsmarket.co.uk



SEE AND SOLVE

Our new See and Solve service, introduced last year, has been instrumental in reducing the number of people waiting to see an occupational therapist from almost 500 to 55 and has helped cut waiting times from eight months to eight weeks.

The See and Solve service sends trained assessors to visit people who may need help to live safely and independently in their home. They take basic equipment such as grab rails and bathing equipment and install them on the same day, supportive equipment that previously people had to wait a number of weeks for.

Since this innovative service was first introduced, it has been expanded to include items such as ramps and stairlifts. A 'trusted assessment' is carried out by the trained assessors which significantly speeds up the process to obtain and fit this equipment.

We know our residents want to live well in their own homes for as long as possible and our See and Solve service is there to make that a reality and provide reassurance and support for those caring for family and friends.

The service was given a Commendation of Excellence in the Outstanding Achievement of the Year category at the National Healthy Housing Awards 2023.

Find out more at:

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/adultsocialcare

Could you make a difference to someone's life and become a Shared Lives carer?



As a Shared Lives carer, you will share your home, family, and community life with someone who needs extra support, to help them develop the skills to live independently.

It is a flexible, paid way of working and isn't a regular job in care.

Some people move in with their Shared Lives carer, while others are regular daytime visitors. Some combine daytime and overnight visits.

FIND OUT MORE OR APPLY:

Call: 0191 424 7279

Email: sharedlives@southtyneside.gov.uk

A Shared Lives worker will discuss the next steps with you. We'd love to have a chat.

JOURNEY OF IMPROVEMENT FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES



LATEST UPDATE

Key improvements have been made in Children's Services since it was rated Inadequate by Ofsted in May 2023.

Following a positive first monitoring visit by Ofsted, a second monitoring visit was held earlier this year when inspectors noted a number of improvements across the wider service.

In their report, Inspectors highlight that improvements have been achieved at the 'front door' - which refers to the arrangements in place when Children's Services are initially contacted by a professional or member of the public concerned about a child - with children's needs now **"promptly identified and responded to."** This has been achieved through increased social work and manager capacity, a streamlined single point of contact and improved partnership arrangements.

The report adds that the out-of-hours service is effective, with staff making swift analysis of the risks to children, meaning children do not experience delays in receiving the right service.

The timeliness of the assessment of children's needs has also improved. Inspectors also found that there is a well-coordinated joint response from housing and children's social care when 16 and 17-year-old children present as homeless.

Inspectors also noted an improvement in collaboration with partner agencies. The introduction of a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub has provided opportunities for enhanced communication, information-sharing and shared decision-making for the benefit of children.

The report said:

"The new leadership team is delivering on some key objectives in their improvement path. While this visit looked specifically at the local authority's response at their front door, there also been further improvements across the wider service. In addition to the improvements outlined at the first monitoring visit, further changes have been made to include an improved early help offer, a greater willingness to learn from the sector, and continuing improvements to quality assurance."

YOUNG CARERS

Our Council was the first in the country to sign a covenant promising to take practical and meaningful action for young carers.

We are committed to working with young carers to develop a plan which helps them progress into adulthood as smoothly as possible.

To find out more about the support on offer for young carers, visit www.southtyneside.gov.uk/youngcarers





**FOSTER IN
SOUTH
TYNESIDE**

YOU **CAN** FOSTER

There's no such thing as a typical foster carer – foster carers are as different as the children they care for.

“ I can't foster because I'm single ”

You don't have to be married or in a relationship to foster. If you can provide the time and energy to dedicate to the care of a young person, then you are suited to foster caring.

“ I can't foster because of my sexuality ”

Your sexual orientation does not determine your ability to provide a safe and stable home to a young person. Families and individuals who foster are as unique and diverse as the children in their care.

“ I can't foster because I'm not a homeowner ”

You need to show that you have enough room to care for a child or children in a safe environment, whether you rent or own your home.

“ I can't foster because of my job ”

You can still foster if you work full time. What is important is that you have the space and time to meet a child's needs.

Find out more about fostering with us

Foster *with*
NORTH EAST

Call 0800 917 7771

Enquire online at www.fosterwithnortheast.org.uk



SUPPORT FOR OUR ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY

Our website contains information about where and how to access advice and practical support as well as information on services relating to employment, housing, money and welfare, mental health, drugs and alcohol.

As valued members of our community we constantly work to enhance the support offered to past and present military personnel.



To contact the service call: 0300 123 6633 or find out more at www.southtyneside.gov.uk/armedforces



NAAFI Break is a face-to-face drop-in service in South Shields run by veterans of the Armed Forces and can help ex-armed forces personnel get the support they need at the right time.

For more information about NAAFI Break contact **Joe Mills on 07850 584 960** or drop-in on the first and third Wednesday of every month, 10am- 12noon at Action Station, Boldon Lane, South Shields, NE34 0LZ.



New walkway

South Tyneside Council is supporting the National Veterans' Walk charity to create a new community-owned walkway feature in the North Marine Park in South Shields.

The walkway will be made up of personalised stones, purchased by the community, to commemorate loved ones past and present.

Once enough stones have been commissioned, the walkway will be laid, proudly displaying the names, regiment and years of service for generations to come.

Orders are now being taken for the granite plaques, through the National Veterans Walk www.nationalveteranswalk.co.uk/



Housing Transfer

In March, Cabinet made the decision to return housing services from South Tyneside Homes to direct council control following a ballot of tenants and leaseholders, in which 94% were in favour of the move.

The Regulator of Social Housing has changed the rules about the homes and services tenants can expect from landlords. They have introduced four new consumer standards: The Safety and Quality Standard; The Transparency, Influence and Accountability Standard; The Neighbourhood and Community Standard and The Tenancy Standard. The Regulator will hold all social landlords to account with regular inspections and scrutinising data on tenant satisfaction and repairs.

Having a direct relationship will result in better communication and accountability, ensuring a transparent and responsive service which involves and empowers tenants. It also means we can make better use of resources.

South Tyneside Homes was originally established in 2006 to access the government's Decent Homes Fund that councils couldn't access directly. Since then, it has brought thousands of properties up to Decent Homes standard and beyond.

It has continued to deliver excellent services, including responding to over **99% of emergency repairs within timescale**, and a **100% compliance rate for gas and electrical safety checks and fire risk assessment**.

However, Decent Homes funding no longer exists and with changes to regulations and the sector facing increasing financial challenges the Council agreed it was time to look at whether it was still right to use a separate organisation to deliver housing services.

This is now the start of an exciting journey where together, we can identify areas for improvement and create a joined up, streamlined housing service fit for the future.

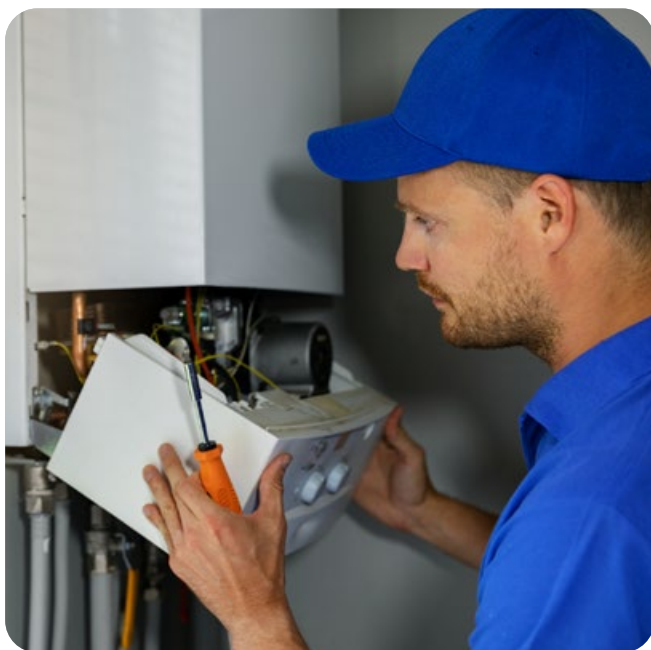
We aim to complete the transfer by October. Until then, services will be provided by South Tyneside Homes as normal, with work going on behind the scenes to transfer staff and services. We'll continue providing progress updates to tenants and leaseholders.

Allowing access to your home

As a landlord, we have a duty to ensure your home is safe and in good condition.

It is a requirement of your tenancy that you allow reasonable access for inspections and repairs.

We will always give you 24 hours' notice if we need to inspect your home unless there is an emergency, in which case immediate access may be required.



Housing disrepair claims

You may have seen adverts or might have even been contacted by someone calling at your home, telephoning or messaging you, promising high amounts of compensation if you have outstanding repairs in your home.

Despite what you hear, many claims are unsuccessful. Even if a claim is successful, it's likely you will get significantly less than was suggested when you signed up. Legal costs are paid by the council, from money set aside for running the housing service, and for repairs and improvements, meaning less is spent on residents and their homes.

It is worthwhile seeking independent advice before signing up to anything.

For any concerns or issues regarding your property contact us on **0300 123 6633**

OUR REPAIR STATS

90%
customer
satisfaction



73,474
repairs
carried
out overall

14% increase
in requests for
repairs

99.45%
of emergency
repairs delivered
within timescale



Reaping Benefits for Residents



More money than ever before has been secured for residents by a team which helps people navigate the benefits system.

Our Welfare Support team offers a free, confidential welfare benefits and debt advice service to ensure residents are receiving the help they are entitled to. The team can also help people recover benefits at appeal which have been stopped by the Department of Work and Pensions.

Last year the team was tasked with maximising benefits take-up to help people through the cost-of-living crisis.

However, they smashed their target with more than £8.5 million secured in the 2023-2024 financial year - a £2million increase on the previous year.

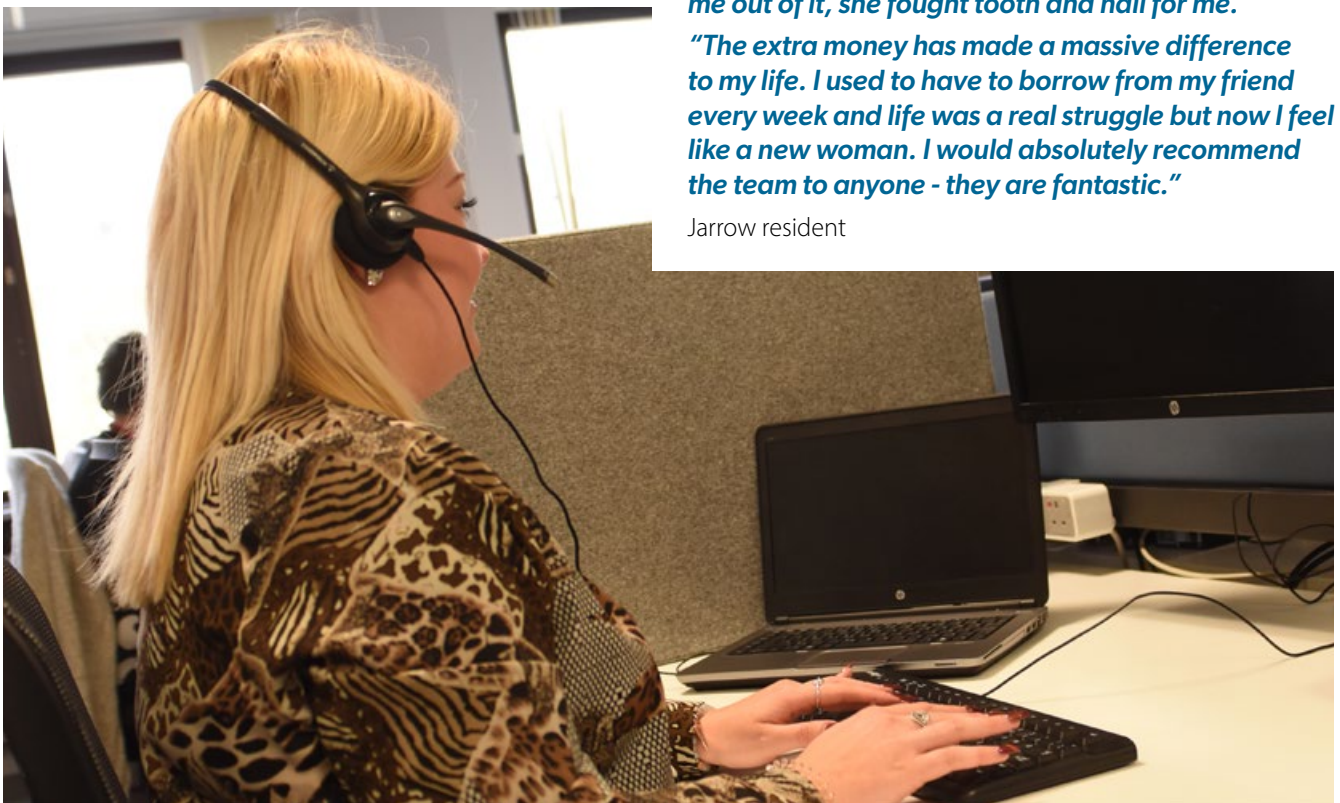
One person who cannot praise the team enough is a 70-year-old lady from Jarrow who was struggling to manage on her basic state pension.

She had been turned down for Attendance Allowance twice but was awarded this after a Welfare Support adviser called for her case to be reconsidered. In addition, she now receives pension credit which has increased her income by almost £9,000 a year.

“The girl who worked with me was an absolute diamond. I felt I was in the gutter and she brought me out of it, she fought tooth and nail for me.

“The extra money has made a massive difference to my life. I used to have to borrow from my friend every week and life was a real struggle but now I feel like a new woman. I would absolutely recommend the team to anyone - they are fantastic.”

Jarrow resident



CONTACT

The team offers face-to-face, telephone or home visits appointments. To contact the team, call 0191 424 6040 or email welfaresupport@southtynesidehomes.org.uk

South Tyneside WORKS

Unlock your potential



HGV Skills Bootcamps

Get skills, get experience and get the job.

A number of Skills Bootcamps have launched across South Tyneside after South Tyneside Works secured more than £3.7 million in Department for Education funding.

The free, flexible courses of up to 16 weeks will give residents aged 19 and over the opportunity to build up sector-specific skills with the offer of an interview with a local employer upon completion.

The Skills Bootcamps will be run in HGV Driving, including transportation of dangerous goods, and Gas Engineering and Renewables and will set you up to have a successful career in each of the sectors.

Our Skills Bootcamps in HGV Driving will help you become a qualified heavy goods vehicle (HGV) driver and get the driver Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC)

Depending on which route you take, you could become qualified to drive a 7.5 tonnes to 18 tonnes rigid lorry, 44 tones articulated lorry, or become qualified in the transportation of dangerous goods.

Find out more about our range of Skills Bootcamps at
www.southtynesideworks.com

YOUR NEXT STEPS

Many congratulations to all those who are about to complete secondary education here in South Tyneside, the next step of your journey is an exciting one and one that will set the tone for your future career and adult life.

We understand that like you, many people across the country may be feeling nervous about what their next steps look like, whether that be through an apprenticeship, college course, sixth form or a more vocation pathway such as a study programme or T-Level.

Your Next Steps is here to support you with the transition between secondary and further education and training, find out more about the variety of options available to you and how you can access them at:

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/yournextsteps



Residents Benefit from Multi-Million Pound Fund

Last year we were awarded £8.8million from the UK government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) which aims to ‘build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK’ as part of the Levelling Up agenda.

Twelve projects have launched under the banner of People and Skills to help those furthest away from the job market back into work.

The projects are aimed at changing the Borough’s position as the area with the highest rate of economically inactive residents of all seven North East local authorities.

Working with a wide range of partners, the projects will offer support, training and qualifications to break down barriers to employment.

Money from the UKSPF is also funding a number of Community and Place projects. The latest of these is a third community shop which opened earlier this year in Fowler Street in South Shields. With other shops in Horsley Hill and Tyne Dock, the latest shop completes the third phase of Hospitality and Hope’s three-year plan of work in partnership with us to break the cycle of reliance on food banks.



Hospitality & Hope provide community shops and a food bank

Anyone living within a mile and a half radius of the shops can become a member of the community shop which enables them to shop there once a week to buy goods at greatly discounted prices. Members pick their own items which can include basics such as cereal, milk, bread, pasta, rice, fresh fruit and vegetables and toiletries. A basket of goods worth about £20 costs only £4 at a community shop.

The community shop is open from 9.30am- 2pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

Plans are also underway to use the funding to replace the current changing facilities at Gypsies’ Green which are used by athletic and cycling clubs. Work will likely take place later this year and we will work with those groups which use the facility to ensure any disruption is minimised.





£8.8 million
UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Funding Boost for Culture and Creativity

Funding from the UKSPF is also being used to strengthen and support creativity in South Tyneside.

A Place Partnership grant secured from Arts Council England through the National Lottery was match funded by UK Shared Prosperity Funds. The funds will be used to help South Tyneside's Cultural Partnership to develop a programme of activity that supports local creatives to deliver ambitious projects, festivals, residencies, skills and development workshops across the Borough over the next three years.

Culture already plays a key role in enriching people's lives and boosting wellbeing in South Tyneside. With the additional support, the Council and its partners hope to nurture creativity still

further, increase participation and engagement and give more people access to high quality experiences.

The funding follows South Tyneside being named one of 54 Arts Council England Priority Places in 2021. Priority Places receive support from the Arts Council for a minimum period of three years to develop new opportunities for investment.

South Tyneside's Cultural Partnership is made up of key cultural and heritage partners including South Tyneside Council, The Customs House, The Cultural Spring, Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums, Groundwork South and North Tyneside, the National Trust and many more.

Our South Tyneside Conversation

Let's talk about Jarrow

With support from Government Funding, Jarrow will receive a 10-year £20 million endowment-style fund to be spent on local people's priorities, like regenerating local high streets and town centres or securing public safety.

A Town Board made up of community representatives, employers, council, and local MP was set up. The board met in May to work together to help deliver the Long Term Plan for Jarrow.

Our Jarrow conversation will be starting shortly to find out what's important to you. Your feedback will help shape the plans and where funding will be directed.



Being a **better u** Champion

My name is Elaine and I am a better u Champion.

After 44 years of working full-time I decided I wanted more freedom and time to myself. The first few months were great but then I realised I was finding it difficult to adjust. I needed a new focus and a new sense of purpose.

One day I was at Cleadon Park library when one of the a better u drop-in mornings was happening. There was lots going on and everyone was very friendly. I picked up some leaflets as I wandered around. One of them was about the a better u Champions network. It had information about how to become a community champion. It looked interesting, but I hesitated, I didn't want to do something I might not enjoy or would take up too much time. After speaking to people at other drop-in sessions it started to sound more and more like what I had been looking for, so I signed up. It was one of the best decisions I have ever made!

a better u Champions choose what they want to do, how much time they give and how often. Some of us share health information with friends and family, others distribute flyers to supermarkets, pharmacies etc. Some champions help out at different health and wellbeing events, signposting to services and



Elaine Smith



chatting to people. Support is always on-hand and no one is left to feel out of their comfort zone. Champions can sign up to free training sessions on lots of health topics. You can decide if you want to attend none, some, or all of the sessions which are available.

Since becoming a better u Champion I have met lots of people, made lots of new friends and learned a great deal about the health and wellbeing services in South Tyneside. I have a new-found sense of purpose and knowing I have made a difference for others, no matter how small, gives me a sense of achievement.

Why not become a better u Health Champion volunteer yourself? I can't think of any other volunteer opportunity that gives as much flexibility, support, training and friendship. You can start small and become more involved if and when you want to.

YOUNG HEALTH AMBASSADORS

South Tyneside Young Health Ambassadors (STYHA) is a programme led by the South Tyneside Public Health Team. We are a group of young people from school years 9-13 with a passion for health, who want to make a difference by raising health awareness for young people in South Tyneside.

OUR CAMPAIGN!

Our campaign for 2024 focusses on mental health in young people.

During our public health training, we looked at local and national evidence around mental health and did some research into what services were available for young people in South Tyneside.

We found that although there are lots of services that can support them, young people didn't know they were there, let alone what they did or how to contact them! Added to this is the increased stigma around talking about mental health topics, making it difficult for young people to access support.

We decided to create a website, giving advice and guidance on mental health topics and encouraging everyone to talk about how they're feeling without judgement.



THE PODCAST

As part of this, we have also created our podcast - What The Health Are You Talking About!? - where we have interviewed some of the services across the Borough to showcase what they do, how to access them, and give young people an idea of what to expect from them. This will ensure that young people are able to access the right service for them, in the right way, without having the stress of worrying about what to expect. We hope that listening to real people from the services in our area will make it easier and less scary to ask for help!



@styha_insta



styha@southtyneside.gov.uk

VISIT OUR
WEBSITE:
SCAN ME



VISIT OUR
YOUTUBE
SCAN ME



supported by
a better u

FOR every FAMILY

SOUTH TYNESIDE FAMILY HUBS



Local dads set to benefit from new partnership

Dads and dads-to-be throughout the Borough will have the opportunity to access top tips on parenthood, with South Tyneside Family Hubs excited to announce a new partnership with DadPad UK.

The partnership will see local male parents/carers gain free access to the newly launched DadPad app, an easy-to-use resource packed with relevant information, as well as details on local support groups and service providers.

Its aim is to provide new fathers with guidance on how to develop the mindset, confidence and practical skills needed to meet their babies' physical and emotional needs.

Building a strong attachment will not only enable dads to better enjoy their new role but also contribute towards positive long-term social, health and educational outcomes for their babies.

Crucially, the app also provides dads with guidance on how to support and seek help (when needed) for their partners and themselves as they adjust to their new roles, and cope with the physical and emotional strains that this can place on individuals and relationships.

The app covers topics such as:

- Feeding, holding, changing and cleaning your baby
- Surviving without sleep and coping with crying
- Getting to know your baby
- Home safety and first aid
- Looking after yourself and supporting your partner

DOWNLOAD NOW

You can download the brand new DadPad app platform
www.thedadpad.co.uk/app



For all our latest news follow us on Social Media

 **South Tyneside Family Hub**

 **@familyhubssouthtyneside**

Reflecting on a memorable year for The Mayor

It's been a memorable year for Councillor John McCabe and his wife Julie, who have enjoyed a busy schedule of key events and civic engagements during their year in office.



As well as representing the Borough and promoting civic pride as Mayor and Mayoress 2023-24, they have raised a great deal of money for their chosen charities – South Tyneside Food Banks and Hospital Radio, as well as other good causes.

The Mayor said:

“As we reflect on our time in office, the Mayoress and I have had an incredible experience representing our wonderful borough.

“We met so many special people doing some fantastic work in our communities. It’s a period of our lives we will look back on fondly and with amazing memories.

“We thank everyone for their support and helping us to raise money for good causes.”

Key

- 1 Salute to South Tyneside Armed Forces
- 2 Summer Parade
- 3 Freedom of the Borough for Sheila Graber
- 4 Unveiling a Blue Plaques to Shuley Alam
- 5 Fit for the Finish with Sir Mo Farah
- 6 Marking Holocaust Memorial Day
- 7 Switching on Hebburn’s Christmas lights
- 8 Celebrating Kings Honours Awards



New Mayor and Mayoress



The newly appointed Mayor, Cllr Fay Cunningham is carrying out her civic role alongside new Mayoress Stella Matthewson.



South Tyneside Council's confirmed new cabinet

The revised cabinet portfolios reflect the Council's twenty-year vision and five ambitions which help deliver it.

Each portfolio reflects the key areas that are important to residents and businesses and have been realigned to help support delivery across service areas.

The Cabinet are:

- **Leader** – Cllr Tracey Dixon
- **Deputy Leader; Governance, Finance and Corporate Services portfolio** - Cllr Jane Carter
- **Culture, Leisure & Visitor Economy portfolio** – Cllr Judith Taylor
- **Housing and Community Safety portfolio** – Cllr Jim Foreman
- **Economic Growth and Transport portfolio** – Cllr Margaret Meling
- **Neighbourhoods and Climate Change portfolio** – Cllr Ernest Gibson
- **Childrens and Families Social Care & Education and Skills portfolio** – Cllr Liz McHugh
- **Adults, Health and Independence portfolio** – Cllr Ruth Berkley
- **Voluntary Sector, Partnerships and Equalities portfolio** – Cllr Paul Dean



(Front left to right) Leader, Cllr Tracey Dixon with Deputy Leader, Cllr Jane Carter and Cabinet members : Cllr Judith Taylor, Cllr Liz McHugh, Cllr Ruth Berkley and Cllr Meling
(Back) Cllr Ernest Gibson, Cllr Paul Dean and Cllr Jim Foreman.

Minority Party and non-Party groups



Cllr David Kennedy



Cllr Kate Owens-Palmer

South Tyneside Alliance Group (STAG)

Leader – Cllr David Kennedy

Vice-Leader – Cllr Kate Owens-Palmer



Cllr David Francis



Cllr Andrew Guy

Green Group

Leader – Cllr David Francis

Vice-Leader – Cllr Andrew Guy

For a full list of all councillors, council committees and members appointed to serve on outside bodies, see www.southtyneside.gov.uk/councillors

Working together for the North East

The North East Combined Authority (North East CA) was formed on 7 May 2024, led by an elected Mayor and Cabinet.

The North East CA covers the seven local authority areas of County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland.

The historic first meeting of the North East Combined Authority took place in May, chaired by the first North East Mayor Kim McGuinness.

The purpose of the North East CA is to champion the full potential of our region. Collaborating with our partners and local authorities, they aim to connect communities, give people the skills to succeed, and improve wellbeing for all, so that the North East is recognised as an outstanding place to live, work, visit and invest.

To find out how to get involved and Have Your Say visit www.northeast-ca.gov.uk/get-involved



First Combined Authority meeting



Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner 2024

Susan Dungworth was elected as the new Northumbria Police & Crime Commissioner.

PCCs aim to cut crime and deliver an effective and efficient police service within their police force area. Susan's manifesto commits to 'Safer Streets and Stronger Communities'. The priorities she cites include reducing serious and violent crime, tackling ASB and a focus on neighbourhood policing.

Find out more at www.northumbria-pcc.gov.uk

Explore SOUTH TYNESIDE

Make the most of the coming months and plan your next adventure by checking out lots of places to visit and things to do at www.visitsouthtyneside.co.uk

Arbeia Roman Fort

Explore the history of the Romans. Explore Roman reconstructed buildings and find out who the people are that built the fort in A.D.160. Don't forget to take a close look at all the remarkable objects found at Arbeia.

www.arbeiaromanfort.org.uk



South Shields Museum & Art Gallery

A favourite for many residents in South Tyneside. Look out for activities and events being announced shortly!

www.southshieldsmuseum.org.uk



The Customs House

The year-round programme is very exciting. Pop down for a cuppa and a look at what's on offer this summer or visit www.customshouse.co.uk

Souter Lighthouse and The Leas

A range of fantastic activities are taking place this summer. As well as a lighthouse Souter has a number of trails, breaches, beautiful scenery, a second hand book shop and a lovely café.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/north-east/souter-lighthouse-and-the-leas



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Whitburn Community Bowling Club Family Fair

Cornthwaite Park

Sat 22 June, 11am – 8pm
and Sun 23 June, 11am – 5pm

A weekend of family fun with local entertainment, fairground rides, activities and local vendors. All welcome!



Boldon Community Summer Festival

19- 26 August

Lots of activities and events taking place for the whole community. Discover more:

www.southtyneside.gov.uk/whatson



Spread the word!
**THIS IS
SOUTH
TYNESIDE**

festival

2024

THE FANTASTIC FREE, THREE MONTH FAMILY- FRIENDLY SUMMER PROGRAMME IS BACK!



MUSIC

IN SOUTH MARINE PARK

FREE

**SATURDAY 27 JULY UNTIL
SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER, 2-4PM**

**Brought to you by The Friends
of North and South Marine Parks**

27 JULY, 2-4PM	Cats Night Out	17 AUG, 2-4PM	4 Worried Men
3 AUG, 2-4PM	Barely Human	31 AUG, 2-4PM	The Marigolds
10 AUG, 2-4PM	The Howard Baker Band	7 SEPT, 2-4PM	City Road Survivors

BRASS BANDS

AT THE AMPHITHEATRE

Join us every Sunday afternoon at Sandhaven Amphitheatre, on the promenade beside the beach, between 2 June and 25 August (except 7 July).



21 JULY, 3.30-5.30PM South Tyneside Music Service

28 JULY, 3.30-5.30PM Bear Park & Esh

4 AUG, 3.30-5.30PM North East Concert Band

11 AUG, 2-4PM Houghton Brass

18 AUG, 2-4PM Bright Street Big Band

25 AUG, 2-4PM Off Key Music

KIDS FUN FEST AT THE AMPHITHEATRE

THE EVENTS TAKE PLACE EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY AFTERNOON BETWEEN 6- 22 AUGUST FROM 2-4PM.

Free fun, games and activities with amazing performers and entertainers

TUESDAY 6 AUG	THURSDAY 15 AUG
THURSDAY 8 AUG	TUESDAY 20 AUG
TUESDAY 13 AUG	THURSDAY 22 AUG

FREE



For further information about all the events please visit



▶▶ www.southtynesidefestival.co.uk



FREE
1pm-5pm

SATURDAY 6 JULY

PARADE

The hugely popular South Tyneside Summer Parade returns as part of a weekend of celebrations!

Be amazed by colourful costumes, dances and music as the parade makes its way from South Shields Town Hall to Bents Park at the seafront.

The theme of this year's Summer Parade is 'Celebration' which will celebrate and promote connectivity, inclusivity and diversity in all its forms. The parade is delivered in partnership with The Cultural Spring and Out North East, a new inclusive LGBTQ+ events charity.

So come along and experience what is always a great, family-friendly afternoon in South Shields!



FREE
12noon-3pm

SUNDAY 7 JULY

ENTERTAINMENT BY THE SEA

Come along to Sandhaven Promenade at South Shields seafront for an afternoon of entertainment, performances and live music as part of our Summer Parade weekend of events.

Join us for a free afternoon of family fun

The entertainment will take place between Sandhaven Amphitheatre and the performance area to the rear of the New Sundial pub.

This event is part of our Parade weekend celebration which is funded and supported by Arts Council England.



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

PROMS IN THE PARK BENTS PARK, SOUTH SHIELDS

SUNDAY 7 JULY, 3-5PM

FREE

▶▶ Enjoy classical performances featuring South Tyneside Orchestra and guest singers at this open air concert.

Spread the word!
THIS IS SOUTH TYNESIDE

festival 2024

Sponsored by:



Spread the word!
**THIS IS
SOUTH
TYNESIDE**

festival
2024

SUNDAY CONCERTS

BENTS PARK IN SOUTH SHIELDS

**FREE
ENTRY
PRIORITY
TICKETS £6**

Sigala.



SUNDAY 14 JULY

**JASON
DONOVAN**



SUNDAY 21 JULY

PRIDE IN
SOUTH TYNESIDE
SISTER SLEDGE
FEATURING KATHY SLEDGE



+DENIECE PEARSON
(FIVE STAR)

SUNDAY 28 JULY

HAIRCUT 100
+CAROL DECKER OF T'PAU



+SONIA

SUNDAY 4 AUGUST

Tickets can be purchased now

www.ticketmaster.co.uk/southtynesidefestival

For further information about all the events please visit



▶▶ www.southtynesidefestival.co.uk



Access a range of services across our libraries

- Borrow, renew and reserve books for free
- Access free e-books and online magazines
- Free computer and internet access
- Printing facilities
- Home Readers Service
- Explore local history and heritage
- Lots of library activities and groups for all ages
- Download the South Tyneside Libraries app

Become a library member – it's FREE to join!

You can sign up online via our website or in person at any South Tyneside library.

🔍 www.southtyneside.gov.uk/libraries

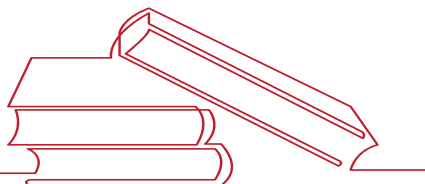
✉ library.support@southtyneside.gov.uk

Follow us on social media

Receive the latest information and updates on our Library Services.

 [@southtynesidelibraries](https://www.facebook.com/southtynesidelibraries)

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



The Council's four libraries



Cleadon Park Library
10 Prince Edward Road
South Shields, NE34 8PS
📞 0191 424 6194



Hebburn Central Library
Glen Street, Hebburn, NE31 1AB
📞 0191 424 7831



Jarrow Focus Library
Cambrian Street
Jarrow, NE32 3QN
📞 0191 489 7786



The Word Library
45 Market Place
South Shields, NE33 1JF
📞 0191 427 1818





Operation Niagara success

A joint council and police operation to tackle youth crime and disorder in Hebburn, Jarrow and on the Metro network has led to a significant drop in reports of anti-social behaviour.

Operation Niagara has seen Community Responders from the Council equipped with bodyworn cameras targeting hotspot areas, supported with both plain clothed and uniformed police patrols.

In Hebburn town centre, this has resulted in a number of arrests - including two male teenagers suspected to be the main offenders - in connection with a string of alleged offences including robbery, burglary and criminal damage.

Since these arrests, which have included strict bail conditions not to enter certain parts of the town, there has been an **70 per cent drop in reports of anti-social behaviour.**

Nine Acceptable Behaviour Agreements have also been served to other youths in the group.

This has been followed up by visits to parents from our tenancy enforcement and youth justice teams. The operation is ongoing, and we are holding regular meetings with local businesses to keep them updated.

We've also been working with our partners to crack down on motorbike disorder, which we know is one of your top concerns.

A dedicated pilot taskforce for South Tyneside and Sunderland has already started to make its mark in the Borough.



Since its launch last November:

57
BIKES HAVE BEEN SEIZED

25
ARRESTS HAVE BEEN MADE

71
PEOPLE HAVE BEEN STOPPED AND SEARCHED.

The message is clear: anti-social riders can expect to have their bikes seized and crushed.

Intelligence from local communities has been vital in the taskforce's work, and you can continue to help us by providing information in confidence about where bikes are stored and who is riding them.

Email Community.Safety@southtyneside.gov.uk



#LST Awards

The #LoveSouthTyneside Awards return this year on Thursday, 11 July at The Customs House.

The annual awards, now in their seventh year, recognise and celebrate civic pride and community spirit across the Borough.

More than 270 nominations were received last year! From inspiring individuals to community volunteers and local businesses, the awards recognise those who are the unsung heroes of our communities.

Last year's winners included Bede's Helping Hands, Hebburn Litter Pickers, Bev Cook, Save South Tyneside Hospital Campaign, Arts 4 Wellbeing, Eddie Hope, Jordan Trotter, Waves, Suzanne Jackson and Samantha Robson.

#LoveSouthTyneside

More information on the awards can be found at www.lovesouthtyneside.co.uk



FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

Inspire's new community engagement portal launched earlier in the year. It provides residents with free and easy access to events ran by the community, for the community.

Plinth is FREE for all VCSE organisations to promote events, activities or volunteering opportunities. If you're interested in hearing more contact Niki.marshall@inspiresouthtyneside.co.uk or Sadie.Harrison@inspiresouthtyneside.co.uk

Find out what's happening in South Tyneside at <https://book.plinth.org.uk/calendar/8dQff9APZHq0DWOWoleP/cover>



Michael Vasey with winner Lucy Wallace

Boldon celebrates Earth Day

Boldon Library held a special Earth Day event in April

The theme in 2024 was Planet v Plastics. The event was a huge success with library volunteers and a range of organisations supporting with information, advice and activities. The day also included a special Earth poster competition for pupils across South Tyneside with all those shortlisted and the winner receiving a prize. The posters were displayed in the library for all to view.

Congratulations to Jake Thompson, Leon Ellies, Lucy Wallace, Tom Branthwaite, Stephen George Freya Smith & Liam O'Donnell.

Did you know that Boldon Library offers a range of activities and events throughout the year? Find out what's on at Boldon Library www.thelibrary.uk.com

Summer Car Boot Sale

Annual Fundraising at Temple Park Centre for Rotary International

**Sunday 28 July
& Sunday 11 August
10am- 2pm**

Further information call Val: 07368 329395



Have a go at Archery!

Whether you're an experienced archer, a beginner or want to try something new Cleadon Archers are a friendly club with over 100 members.

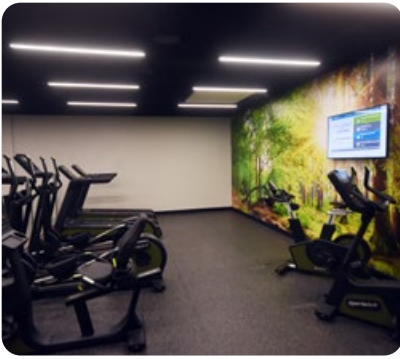


Find out more about the club including competitions and open days at www.cleadonarchers.org

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



Apply for a leisure membership today

If you're interested in improving your fitness levels, building confidence, feeling healthier or gaining motivation then our range of flexible membership options make joining South Tyneside Leisure Services an easy decision.

With no joining fee and prices from £20.50 per month, there is no better time to get active and feel great.

Join online today at www.southtyneside.gov.uk/leisure

Download the mobile app

Download the 'STC Leisure' mobile app, where you can book fitness classes, gym inductions and sports facilities, amend your bookings, keep up to date with the latest leisure news, plus more.

Available to download from the Google Play Store and the Apple App Store – simply search for 'STC Leisure'. You can also download the app by scanning the QR code



ONLINE 

Council services and payments



Online forms are available 24/7. They are a quick and easy way to make a request or enquiry, provide feedback or report a problem.

Our online forms are easy to complete and you can even set up an e-account online to help manage transactions. Our forms can help you pay housing rent or even make a Welfare Support enquiry.

Find out more at: www.southtyneside.gov.uk

If you know someone who lives in South Tyneside who has not received the newsletter by 15 July 2024, or if you would like to provide feedback or comments, call 0191 427 7000 or email communciations@southtyneside.gov.uk

If you would like the newsletter in a different format or language 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