

# South Tyneside NEWS

Updates from South Tyneside Council and Partners • June 2023



South Tyneside Council



## We're ready for the summer!

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Spread the word!

**THIS IS  
SOUTH  
TYNESIDE**

WELCOME



Councillor Tracey Dixon, Leader of the Council

Summer is here which means the return of the South Tyneside Summer Festival. Three months of entertainment featuring our live music, brass bands, carnival parade, proms in the park, Sunday concerts and kids fun fest!

Something for everyone. Our local park entertainment is back offering entertainment in local communities across the Borough.

I was delighted to find out that South Tyneside retained its Seaside Award this summer. A special thanks to our maintenance crew and volunteer litter pickers who keep this maintained throughout the year for all to enjoy.

South Tyneside Council always welcomes, respects and acts on external feedback. This was acknowledged in a recent Local Government Peer review of our Council.

Therefore, when a recent Ofsted report provided us some areas of challenge and review, we acted immediately to put an improvement plan in place, complementing the areas of great practice they also found during their visit with us. More Information can be found on page 8.

We continue to listen to residents and to learn from good practice from other local authorities to help us shape and deliver great services. We have a strong track record as a forward-looking and resilient Council with a vision to make South Tyneside a place where people live healthy, happy and fulfilled lives.

Tracey Dixon

# MEET THE NEW SOUTH TYNESIDE CABINET

A new Cabinet has been announced to steer South Tyneside Council through the next year.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Tracey Dixon, has confirmed nine Lead Member positions in addition to her own role, each aligned to areas that have been identified as being important to both residents and businesses.

The revised portfolios reflect the Council's Vision to enable people to live happy, healthy and fulfilled lives and deliver on its ambitions of keeping people well and healthy throughout their lives, financially secure, connected to jobs, skills and learning and being part of strong communities with a commitment to target support to make things fairer.

The new refreshed Cabinet will allow us to tackle the biggest and most fundamental issues our residents are facing.

You can find out more about each Lead Member and the services they are responsible for at [www.southtyneside.gov.uk](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk)



The new Deputy Leader of the Council is Audrey Huntley who takes on the portfolio of Culture, Leisure and the Visitor Economy

Your new Cabinet are excited to be working in this new way for you.

Cabinet

Joining the Leader and Deputy are:



Councillor Ruth Berkley  
Adults, Health and Independence



Councillor Adam Ellison  
Children's Services and Social Care



Councillor Margaret Meling  
Economic Growth and Transport



Councillor Jane Carter  
Education and Skills



Councillor Joanne Bell  
Governance, Finance and Corporate Services



Councillor Jim Foreman  
Housing and Community Safety



Councillor Ernest Gibson  
Neighbourhoods and Climate Change



Councillor Paul Dean  
Voluntary Sector, Partnerships and Equalities

Our South Tyneside – A place where people live healthy, happy, and fulfilled lives

# Our Ambitions

We have five ‘Ambitions’ that we want to achieve over the next 20 years to help deliver our Vision.

For each of the five ‘Ambitions’ we have identified some clear Priorities and a detailed Action Plan to guide delivery over the next three years. Below are a few of the priorities over the next 12 months.



## Financially secure

Residents will be financially secure. They will have what they need for a good standard of living.



- Develop the South Tyneside Pledge to include the promotion of good quality work and fair pay to address financial insecurity in the long-term.
- Maximise benefit take-up, and taking support to local community settings.
- Support carers to return to work including through accessible career opportunities and support to remain in paid employment.
- Ensuring access to specialist debt and welfare advice and provide advice, signposting and referral support for fuel and household bills and access to free and low-cost furniture.



## Healthy and well

Residents will enjoy good mental wellbeing and physical health throughout their lives. They will have the best start in life and be able to live and age well.



- **Mortimer School Expansion** - Additional classrooms, science laboratories and food technology areas to accommodate the increase in pupil numbers.
- **Seaview School Expansion** - Invest in an additional classroom which will provide a more specialist environment for the SEND children to be taught and supported.
- **Playground Equipment** - Replacement equipment over the next 5 years including new accessible playground equipment for users with disabilities to make playgrounds inclusive for all.
- **Road Safety Improvements Around schools**- A programme of works to improve road safety for school children outside the front of schools.

## Connected to jobs

Residents will have access to good quality jobs, skills, and learning.



- **IAMP** - In partnership with Sunderland City Council we are continuing to develop a joint strategic employment site, the International Advanced Manufacturing Park (IAMP), north of Nissan and west of the A19. The development is well underway.
- **Local Transport Plan** - External funding from the Department for Transport which includes an element of pothole funding. The monies are utilised for carriageway resurfacing and road safety initiatives.
- **Road Resurfacing** - An ongoing project to fund a 10-year recovery plan to reduce the highway repair backlog and slow further deterioration.
- **Flags to Flexible Footways** - This project will deliver the Council’s long-term plan to improve and regenerate the condition of the footway network across the borough.



## Part of strong communities

Residents will live in clean, green, and connected communities where they feel safe.



- **Decent Homes (Housing)** - Planned maintenance programme to maintain properties at the South Tyneside Decency standard. Programme improvement works include (but are not limited to) replacement kitchens, bathrooms, heating, window and roof replacements.
- **Stronger Shores** - The project aims to improve benefits of kelp, seagrass and native habitats with regards to coastal erosion, flood risk, climate change, biodiversity management, water quality and wider social benefits.
- **Disabled adaptations (Housing)** - The Council provides support across both private and public housing stock to people with disabilities need to make changes to their home for example to widen doors and install grab rails, improve garden access, improve access to rooms and facilities such as shower access or build extensions for example a bedroom downstairs.
- **Flood & Coastal Risk Management**- Undertake the appropriate appraisal work and feasibility studies in determining the most suitable option to mitigate flood and coastal erosion risk to vulnerable areas during extreme rainfall events
- **Three Community Engagement Officers** to tackle issues such as recycling, energy efficiency and crime and safety across South Tyneside.

And we are committed to:

## Targeting support to make things fairer -

We will target support at the residents and parts of our borough that need it the most, reducing inequalities and making things fairer.

- **Children’s Residential and Assessment Centre** - A new purpose-built children’s assessment centre and two residential children’s homes in South Tyneside. This will provide additional capacity to ensure more children from South Tyneside are able to be supported within the borough.





# Town Centre Blueprint taking shape

The views and ideas of almost 1,300 residents are being built into a new blueprint for South Shields town centre.

The full masterplan will be launched in the summer, with a series of engagement events planned. This was the first in a series of 'Conversations', with further consultation and masterplanning for Hebburn and Jarrow planned for later this year.

Local people aged 12 to 75 took part in the South Tyneside Conversation survey and helped to shape an emerging masterplan for the future of the town.

Pop up cafes and shops, a cycle hub on the ferry landing, green spaces, retail space for small businesses and more activity at the market place with a food hall and recreational activities are all being considered as the plan takes shape.

Consistent themes emerged from the public consultation, with residents asking for better variety of shops, a relocated College, quality green spaces, a refurbished Customs House, investment in the market place and more spaces for small local retailers to set up shop.

The masterplan will also explore opportunities for outdoor exhibition space, play activities and public art along King Street and seek to boost activity at the marketplace - building on significant investment in recent years.

In the 'Southern Gateway' zone, to the south of King Street, three out of five people surveyed supported the idea of new homes and green spaces, so these ideas will be taken forward into the masterplan.

Work has been ongoing since 2021 to acquire land and properties needed to facilitate the delivery of new homes in this area, using £6m awarded to the council from the Future High Streets Fund.

Upper floors of commercial premises could be repurposed to create homes, along with potential new residential development on Charlotte Street, Winchester Street and Mount Terrace.

The site of the former Central Library is also likely to house new student accommodation, with demolition of the building about to get underway imminently.

This is one piece of the jigsaw in the regeneration of our borough.

For further information and to see more of the results of the Conversation, visit [www.ourconversation.co.uk](http://www.ourconversation.co.uk).

## SUPPORTING A SUSTAINABLE SOUTH TYNESIDE

### Feed the Fish!

Feed the South Tyneside Fish, has been installed at Sandhaven to encourage beach users to 'feed' it single use plastic bottles so that they can be taken away for recycling.

The Council will be working with local schools and groups over the coming months to help develop the sculpture further. This will include coming up with a name for the fish. The Feed the Fish initiative supports the Borough's 'Protect our Ocean' campaign which continues to highlight the importance of wider coastal education around issues such as single-use plastics and reusable materials, as well as encouraging businesses to do what they can to make their businesses greener and find alternative solutions and disposal methods. [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/ocean](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/ocean)



### Low Carbon Man

Michael Vasey, the Council's Senior Carbon Reduction and Sustainability Manager (also known as Low Carbon Man) visited Whitburn Village, Simonside and West Boldon Primary schools.

Low Carbon man chatted with pupils about climate change. The children learnt about the causes and were asked to join 'Low Carbon Man' to help make a difference for the future. We'd love it if our residents found out more about climate change and the small changes they can make at [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/climatechange](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/climatechange)



Michael Vasey



Library volunteers Gary and Gail.

### Earth Day

On 22 April, Boldon and Cleadon Community Library opened its doors to the residents of South Tyneside for an environmental exhibition to mark Earth Day.

Over 100 residents visited the library, along with representatives from South Tyneside Council, South Tyneside Homes, Groundwork and volunteers at the Salvation Army.

Volunteers from West Boldon Lodge offered a stall where children could make bird feeders and name disks. There was an opportunity to learn about how to reduce energy consumption and find out about Active Travel with Bikeability and Wheel Education.

Pupils at local schools designed Eco-posters. Pupils from five local schools put forward their creations to be judged. The winner was from West Boldon Primary, with Cleadon Academy's entry the runner up.

The exhibition was the result of the hard work of a handful of library volunteers. The library, which is a popular community hub, also offers and supports a varied programme of activities to people of all ages and a wide range of interests find out more at [www.thelibrary.uk.com](http://www.thelibrary.uk.com)



# Council's Commitment to Journey of Improvement

The Council is absolutely committed to doing everything we can to support our young people, to provide a safe, healthy environment where children are given the security they need to develop and flourish, and to be able to realise their hopes and dreams.

Following recent inspection, Children's services have been rated "Inadequate" by Ofsted, an unexpected result for the Council after a strong series of inspections in previous years.

Whilst we accept the rating and where we have fallen short, Ofsted outlined some precise and specific areas of concern which they deemed serious enough to bring the overall judgement down despite good practice noted in many areas.

**We are already motoring on with our journey of improvement, Inspectors recognised that the Council has been quick to take decisive action and has already made significant changes to ensure we can develop services for children and young people of the highest possible standard.**

Steps have been taken to address the main concerns noted and scrutiny of management has already been tightened. Families can be assured that decision-making is now robust. Additional placements in registered children's homes have been found and plans are already in place for two new children's homes and an assessment centre in South Tyneside.



Despite the overall rating, inspectors noted improvements in some areas since the 2017 inspection, such as improved response to children who are missing or at risk of exploitation, improvements to the quality of children's plans, children's participation, and the quality of supervision in the leaving care team. The Council's team of social workers were recognised as passionate and committed.

Ofsted highlighted a wide range of positive activity within Children's services. Mockingbird constellations are noted as a service strength, with children and foster carers benefiting from the nurture and support that the programme brings.

The Virtual School are relentless in pursuing education outcomes for most children in our care.

Service users spoke positively about South Tyneside Children's Services. Some children take part in a range of participation activities and contribute to the development of services



through groups such as Making a Great Important Change (MAGIC) and the Care Leavers Council.

Inspectors also acknowledged the generous local offer provided to care leavers in South Tyneside which young people know how to access. Care leavers also benefit from long-standing relationships with their Personal Advisers who know them extremely well and can offer support on a range of issues from employment to mental health.

Ofsted also found that most disabled children receive effective support and planning, which means they live with carefully selected and committed carers while those needing additional, or specialist support are quickly identified and supported.

We have fallen short, but we are doing everything that Government would expect us to do in these circumstances. We are resolute in making the necessary changes to drive up standards and are making steady progress already.



living better lives

# Are you looking after someone?

Caring for a relative, friend or neighbour who is ill, disabled, or older can be valuable and rewarding but without the right support and information, caring can have an impact on your health, you job, your finances and your social life.

South Tyneside Council in collaboration with Carers UK have **FREE** online resources to help you.

Register for our digital products today and get the **HELP** you need **TODAY**.

Visit [carersdigital.org](http://carersdigital.org) and use your unique access code to create an account: **DGTL1952**

**DID YOU KNOW?**



**South Tyneside Council has an online directory with information for carers**

**Our Living Better Lives directory of services below lists local, regional and national organisations that can offer information and advice, support, care and social activities for adults.**

If you find that you need help and support in your caring role, we have an online directory which you can always access with contacts to services in South Tyneside.

The Let's Talk team make sure that everyone has access to information and advice which supports their wellbeing. This includes online information and telephone advice supported by trained Adult Social Care Advisors.

This means that information is up-to-date and tailored to the individual and their needs.

The aim is to support people and connect them to the support available in their communities and networks.

Our online directory can be found at: [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/servicedirectory](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/servicedirectory)



**Help and support is always available**

Do you look after someone who has an illness, disability, mental-ill health, or an addiction? There is help and support available for you.

**Get in touch with South Tyneside Adult Carers Service (STACS) - they are the main carers support organisation in South Tyneside.**

Tel: **0191 4061531**

Email: [STACS@cgl.org.uk](mailto:STACS@cgl.org.uk)

Website: [www.changegrowlive.org](http://www.changegrowlive.org)



Around 200 organisations have now signed up to the South Tyneside Pledge.



# PLEDGE

## South Tyneside

Pledges have helped create over 50 new apprenticeships across the borough, increased spend with local suppliers, delivered talks in schools and provided work experience placements, launched innovative community initiatives and schemes for carers, and got involved in volunteering and the fight against climate change.

Launched in January 2022, the Pledge sets out nine commitments around encouraging organisations to spend, recruit and procure locally. It aims to boost local economic activity, reduce health inequalities, cut carbon emissions, and enhance civic pride.

And Pledges are really making a difference by honouring their commitments.

There have been great examples of businesses supporting the community, such as local charity Emmaus launching a community launderette to help people with the rising cost of living, and energy consultancy Tritivity supporting the Council's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme. A further 20 are giving back by volunteering, at local junior Park Runs and the Great North Run, hosting an arts event at the Customs House, volunteering with Friends of West Park and offering free sessions in schools.



Jarrow based business energy consultancy Tritivity have supported a range of community projects as part of the South Tyneside Pledge including the Council's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme.

Use of local suppliers has also increased among pledges, with over 20 using more local companies and 15 Pledges winning more local contracts. With some businesses collaborating for mutual benefit.

The Health Insurance Group, a family-owned commercial insurance broker based at One Trinity Green in South Shields has since joined forces with two neighbouring marketing firms, Elite Branding & Sales and Far North. Since working with Elite and Far North, the Health Insurance Group has seen dramatic growth across all areas of the business, with the percentage of clients within a 15-mile radius of South Shields increasing from 1% to 10%.

### Businesses can sign up now:

Organisations, public and private, big, and small, can sign up at any time and become part of the Pledge South Tyneside network at [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/southtynesidepledge](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/southtynesidepledge)

Many organisations are also taking action on climate change and taking measures to reduce their carbon footprint such as converting to LED lighting, installing solar panels and introducing an electric car scheme. Groundwork has committed to training all of its staff and volunteers in Carbon Literacy.

Any organisation, big or small, public or private, can sign up to the Pledge and do their bit to champion the borough and help South Tyneside thrive.

The Council has been working to compile and share best practice, advice and information to help participants with their commitment, and has a range of events planned to encourage networking and collaboration amongst Pledges.

# SHOP LOCAL

South Tyneside has some fantastic local businesses in our towns and villages.

Whether you're picking up some essential items at an independent corner shop or choosing a unique and quirky gift from a local boutique, by shopping local you are helping local businesses and your community.



### Have you seen the rainbow umbrella installation in South Shields town centre?

The umbrellas provide a colourful canopy over Interchange Square and help create a warm welcome for residents and visitors. The installation is part of a wider initiative to brighten and smarten the town centre and will remain in place until the Autumn, to then return next Spring.

# EAT LOCAL

From fine dining to independent cafes, traditional pub lunches, afternoon tea, seafood delicacies, curries and bakeries for sweet treats - you'll find them all in South Tyneside there is something for everyone.

Fancy a night in? There are lots of great local takeaways and hospitality venues who offer a delivery service, so you can enjoy delicious food in the comfort of your own home.

Explore more at [www.visitsouthtyneside.co.uk](http://www.visitsouthtyneside.co.uk)



### 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](http://www.southshieldsmarket.co.uk)

Local Heroes Pop Up Market at Hebburn returns every third Saturday of the month, 10am- 3pm at Hebburn Shopping Centre (opposite Fountains Park).



Supporting local can also help reduce carbon emissions, making it a great way to help protect the environment. By keeping journeys local and walking/cycling where possible, you are positively impacting the environment and your own health.



# What is Adult Social Care?

Adult Social Care supports people (and their carers) to stay independent and well so they can live the life they want.

## Who can get support?

Adult Social Care can support:

- any adult with a physical, learning or mental disability
- any adult with a physical or mental illness
- people who care for them

The Let's Talk team make sure that everyone has access to information and advice which supports their wellbeing. This includes online information and telephone advice supported by trained Adult Social Care Advisors. This means that information is up-to-date and tailored to the individual and their needs.

The aim is to support people and connect them to the support available in their communities and networks.

Find out more at [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/livingbetterlives](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/livingbetterlives)



**At South Tyneside Care Academy, our vision is to build an Adult Social Care workforce that is representative of our local population, by encouraging more residents to choose a career from a wide range of opportunities available and supporting our existing workforce to further develop.**

The Academy can deliver a range of courses from entry level right through to senior leadership and management qualifications. We have lots of flexible ways for you to develop your skills and experience. There are also opportunities for further training, promotion and career progression.



## Working in Social Care

**Social Care is a sector where jobs are increasing and offering a wide range of long-term career opportunities, including career progression.**

If you are new to the sector, starting a career in social care can be very rewarding. There are lots of different roles depending on what you want to do, who you want to work with and where you'd like to work. If you like working with people, social care could be for you!

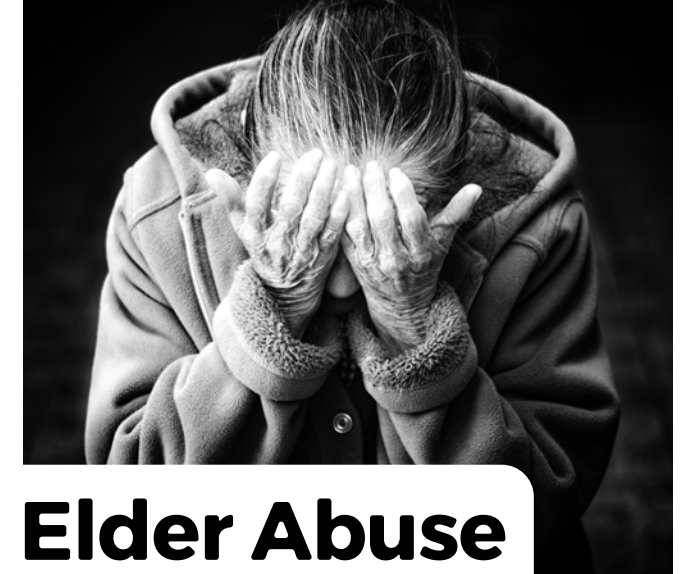
## Become a Personal Assistant in South Tyneside

**A Personal Assistant (PA) is someone who can support an older or disabled person to give them more independence and live their life more fully. PAs need to be good listeners, with a willingness to learn and respond.**

The job can be very flexible, offering part or full-time work on different days and at different times. Some PAs work part-time, alongside another job. The role is also suitable for a student or retired person wanting a few hours a week.

The duties of a Personal Assistant vary widely and depend on your client - what kinds of support they need and when. We currently have vacancies working with children and young people and adults offering a range of social time only posts or mixed care packages including personal care and social time.

**Please note these vacancies are not employed through South Tyneside Council but through the Individual Service user. Find out more at [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/jobs)**



## Elder Abuse

**Every adult should be able to live safely, free from abuse and neglect.**

Research indicates that almost half a million people aged over 65 will experience some form of abuse or neglect.

- Incidents of abuse and neglect may be one-off or multiple, and affect one person or more.
- You can also be affected by more than one type of abuse at the same time.
- Abuse can be; physical, emotional, domestic, financial, slavery, sexual, neglect or self neglect to name a few and all involve using power to control or coerce a vulnerable person.
- Abuse can be face to face, online or via post (ie scams).

### What can I do to help?

The best way to protect yourself or a loved one and stop abuse from happening is to tell someone about it. This may feel difficult, especially if the person abusing you is a close friend or relative, but abuse and neglect are never acceptable. You don't have to put up with it, and there is help available for you.

### If you're unsure who to contact you can:

- Call the police on **999** if the person is in immediate danger
- Ring the Let's Talk Service in South Tyneside on **0191 424 6000**, 8.30 – 5.00 Mon – Thurs, 8.30 – 4.30pm Fri OR (Out of Hours, Evenings Weekends and Bank Holidays) **0191 456 2093**
- Call the Age UK Advice Line on **0800 678 1602**
- Call Hourglass on **0808 808 8141** or visit their website [www.wearehourglass.org/england/welcome-hourglass](http://www.wearehourglass.org/england/welcome-hourglass)





**connexions**  
SOUTH TYNESIDE

# Have you recently left secondary education?

Many congratulations to all those who completed 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](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/yournextsteps)

**YOUR  
NEXT  
STEPS**

Support is available from **Connexions South Tyneside** to help you explore your options as well as putting a plan in place if come results day, things don't go to plan. You can contact Connexions South Tyneside for advice or to make an appointment by calling **0191 424 6690** or **0191 424 6657**, or emailing [connexions@southtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:connexions@southtyneside.gov.uk)

## Earn and Learn

Apprenticeships are real jobs that allow you to earn a wage while you learn – They can take between 1 and 5 years to complete depending on the level.

**As long as you're over 16, you can start an apprenticeship at anytime. As an apprentice, you will:**

- earn a wage and get holiday pay
- work alongside experienced staff
- gain job-specific skills
- get time for training and study related to your role

The training might be at your place of work, a college, a training provider or online.

There are over 600 different apprenticeships - no matter what career you're interested in, there's likely to be an apprenticeship for you.

**The 4 different apprenticeship levels are:**

- intermediate: level 2
- advanced: level 3
- higher: level 4 or 5
- degree: level 6 or 7

**Discover more:**

You can search and apply for apprenticeship vacancies at: [www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](http://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)



## Build the Future

A new programme from South Tyneside Works is preparing the next generation of Teaching Assistants.

Starting in September, the Level 2 Study Programme in Teaching and Learning will give young people aged 16-19 the opportunity to gain the skills needed to succeed in the classroom.

Teaching Assistants help to foster the learning and development of children and young people in the classroom. This exciting new course will provide the essential skills to support young people aged 5-16 and learners will be supported to build their experience with a work placement at an education setting in South Tyneside.

**Discover more:**

Email: [SouthTynesideWorks@southtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:SouthTynesideWorks@southtyneside.gov.uk)

The course will run from September to May.

# South Tyneside Works

## Unlock your potential

Whether you're taking your first steps into work, looking to change your career path or improve your skills, we've got a course for you.

South Tyneside Works courses offer you the best chance of finding employment. Courses range from engineering and manufacturing to health and social care as well as business administration, retail and customer services - our courses will also help you gain essential English and maths skills needed for work.

Lee, from South Shields, recently completed a Removing Barriers to Work course with South Tyneside Works and has progressed into work with South Tyneside Council as a Quality Officer.

**"I loved my experience and it gave me the foundations to gain confidence and get back into full time employment, therefore if you had the opportunity, I would massively recommend attending one of South Tyneside Works courses."**



Lee Orr, Quality Officer

The Removing Barriers to Work course covers the essentials skills needed for employment and helps you build the confidence individuals need to succeed in the workplace.





Architect illustration of Hindmarch Drive development

# New Council homes under construction

The construction of 10 new council homes is underway in South Tyneside.

Preliminary work to prepare the site at Hindmarch Drive, Boldon, has already started.

The development will provide a mix of houses, apartments and bungalows, all with two bedrooms and parking facilities. Nine of the properties will have a private garden.

All the homes will be A rated for energy consumption and will use energy efficiency measures including air source heat pumps, solar panels and battery storage. They will all have electric vehicle charging points.

The homes are being built through the Housing Revenue Account, following changes to the cap on borrowing limits and grant funding provided by Homes England, and as part of the council's five-year housing strategy.

**"We're delighted to be building 10 new homes for rent. These properties will suit the needs of a variety of residents and the energy efficiency of these properties helps us on our journey to a cleaner, greener South Tyneside."**

*Gary Kirsop, Director of Asset and Property Services*

# £25m investment into Council homes in 2023-2024

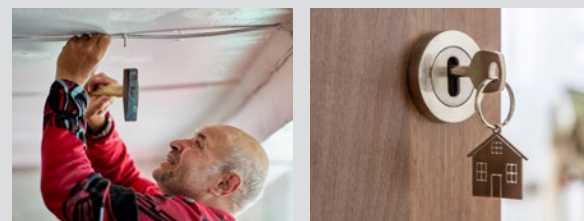
Investment programme set to deliver £25m of works in the next year.

As part of our commitment to providing excellent services and quality homes where customers feel safe and supported, we'll soon be carrying out investment programmes in estates across South Tyneside.

This investment will include replacing kitchens, bathrooms, heating systems, windows, doors, and more. Rewiring, pointing, and roofing is also included in the programme.

We know many customers will be keen to hear more about whether their home will be included with this investment. If your property is to have works completed, you will be contacted by the South Tyneside Homes Property Services team.

Please be aware that we are also completing a separate programme of stock condition surveys to ensure that the information we have on your home is accurate. Customers whose survey is outstanding will be contacted over the next few months by our surveying partner Faithful and Gould to schedule a convenient appointment.



## OUT AND ABOUT

# Energy Roadshow success!

Did you spot our Environmental team on their first Energy Roadshow tour of South Tyneside?

The team visited Jarrow Focus, Hebburn Central, Whitburn Library, and The Word in South Shields on their journey around the Borough, dishing out free impartial energy and welfare advice to the public.

We had a great turnout and met a lot of friendly faces across all venues. Stay tuned to our social media pages for future Energy Roadshow dates!

If you didn't get the chance to meet the team out and about, you can still access free help and advice through our Welfare Support team.

The Welfare Support Team offer face to face, telephone or home visit appointments to anyone who is a

resident in South Tyneside – you don't need to live in a South Tyneside Homes property!

The team will go through your situation with you, giving you the information and advice you need to take control of your debts. We can deal with your creditors for you and take the pressure out of your situation.

We'll also maximise your income to make sure you are getting any extra income you are entitled to.

Give the team a call on **0191 424 6040** or email **welfaresupport@southtynesidehomes.org.uk**

# Keeping residents safe with TwinnedIt

Residents who live in our High Rise blocks have had a first look at the innovative new way we're monitoring fire and building safety!

TwinnedIt is an award-winning system which creates 2D and 3D drawings of buildings and holds essential safety information. This enables South Tyneside Homes to meet the needs of the Fire Safety Act 2021 and the Building Safety Act.

A great feature of TwinnedIt is that it allows our teams to share essential building and safety information with residents of our high-rise buildings and the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service. This information includes things like personal emergency evacuation plans and building layouts.

The buildings have all been scanned and building and safety information is constantly being updated into the system. The system can be accessed from a smart phone, computer, or a tablet. Residents attended a demonstration event to see TwinnedIt in action ahead of the full roll-out in buildings.



South Tyneside Council's Housing Company

Keep in touch with us!

Did you know South Tyneside Homes are on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter? Follow us on social to stay up to date with service changes and latest news!

- /stynesidehomes
- @stynesidehomes
- @southtynesidehomes

# Summer Recycling Tips

We've pulled together a short list to help you recycle right this summer



## BBQ time

Last year disposable BBQs caused some concerns. For the safety of our crew, the public, our refuse vehicles and facilities **DO NOT** put disposable BBQs in ANY bin whilst still warm or hot. Leave it to cool completely.

Place in your grey household bin when it is safe to do so.

### What can and cannot be recycled?

Empty bottles and cans can all be put into the blue recycling bin

If you have any **leftover food** that you don't want to throw away, make sure it's cooled and stored safely. There's always inspiration for what to make with leftovers on [www.lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com)

If you need to put food in the bin - use your grey household bin.

If you're getting rid of your old BBQ, take it to Recycling Village at Middlefields. **Please book your slot online.**

We can't recycle plastic bags, nappies, garden furniture, paddling pools, patio furniture or old clothes/shoes.

You can recycle cardboard boxes, cartons such as milk, juice or fruit punnets and even yoghurt pots!

Find out what can and cannot be recycled at [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/recycle](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/recycle)

Do Your Bit for South Tyneside!



**DID YOU KNOW?**

**Whole loads of good quality recycling is being rejected rather than being recycled due to contamination!**

**Contamination from one household can ruin a whole load of recycling.**

# 3 easy ways to reduce your food waste!

**70%**  
of food waste comes from UK homes

South Tyneside has more excess household waste than our neighbouring authorities. We would love all residents to reduce, reuse and recycle.



### 1. Use only what you need

It may sound simple, but not overbuying is an excellent way to start reducing your food waste. Planning your meals can help and when looking at fruit and vegetables, buy single items or look out for smaller portions.

Only cook what you need to. It's useful to keep in mind a few basic measurements here – you only need around 75g of dry pasta per adult serving.

**Did you know?** Most packaging contains portion suggestions, so you can measure out exactly what you need.

### 2. Freeze batch cooking

Batch cooking can be a great way to use up surplus ingredients – simply freeze the extra portions for a later date. Keep an eye on use-by dates for fresh produce too; if you're not going to be able to use something up in time, check whether it can be frozen instead. Milk is an ingredient that often goes to waste.

**Did you know?** Milk can be frozen – look out for instructions on the side of the packaging.



### 3. Best Before date and use by date

Best before and use by dates are completely different. You can still eat foods for a while after the best-before date as they should be safe but they may have lost some quality. As long as the food looks and smells as you would expect, it should be safe to eat.

Keep an eye on the 'use-by' dates on the food in your cupboards. Don't eat any food that is past its 'use-by' date.



### Still got leftovers?

However much we try to plan ahead or follow the steps above, we may still find ourselves with leftovers from time to time. We're only human after all! With that in mind, you can find out some great recipes at [www.lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com)



**8**  
meals could be saved per week if we stopped binning our food at home

We have over 200 items on our recycling list! If you find one that isn't on – then pop across to the Council's social media and let us know. We'll happily answer your query and add to the list.





Everyone in South Tyneside working together to make self-care easy.

Self-care is anything that you do to look after your health, wellbeing and happiness. This can be anything from lifestyle choices, such as eating healthily and exercising, to knowing when and how to seek medical advice.

Our health and wellbeing is affected by everything around us. It's not just about keeping our bodies fit and healthy, but our minds too.

If you need a helping hand, a better u will be there to point you in the right direction. We can help with trusted advice and jargon free information to help you find out what's available in your local community.

# Become a better u Champion

Would you like to help your friends, family, colleagues and local community to become a better u?

Can you share key advice and information to help people to improve their health, wellbeing and happiness? Could you help us reach people who may not be able to find the right advice themselves? We'd love you to join our champions team and help to improve the health and wellbeing of South Tyneside.

The a better u Health and Wellbeing Community Champions are a group of volunteers who live or work in South Tyneside. They help others stay up-to-date with the latest health and wellbeing advice. They talk to people about the help and support that is available to them in South Tyneside and how to find it. They do this by sharing information with family, friends and colleagues. They also attend events to help share information to community groups and members of the public.

Find out more about a better u and how to become a better u champion at [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/abetteru](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/abetteru)



## We want to help you shine as a better u

Find out more from our animation video at [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/abetteru](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/abetteru)



# Summer Health and Wellbeing

A lot of us welcome the warmer weather, but when it's too hot there can be health risks.

Hot weather can have adverse effects on all of us but especially for the very young, elderly or those with long term medical conditions. If hot weather hits this summer, make sure it does not harm you or your loved ones by following these top tips:-

- keep out of the sun between 11am and 3pm
- if you have to go out in the heat, walk in the shade and protect your skin with clothing, including a hat, t-shirt and sunglasses
- Use a 'high protection' sunscreen of at least SPF 30 which also has high UVA protection and apply it generously and frequently when in the sun.
- have plenty of cold drinks and avoid too much alcohol, caffeine and hot drinks
- eat cold food - especially salads and fruit that has a high-water content
- take a cool bath or shower

Lots of additional advice on staying healthy and well this summer can be found at

[www.southtyneside.gov.uk/article/9348/Sun-safety](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/article/9348/Sun-safety)

# Health Literacy

Health literacy refers to how well a person can find, understand, and use health information and services that they need.

In England, 42% of adults can't understand or use everyday health information. That goes up to 61% when numeracy skills are also required.

Guidance tells us the average reading age in the Northeast of England is lower than the national average, at between 9 to 11 years. To put that into context The Guardian Newspaper has a reading age of 14 and the Sun Newspaper has a reading age of 8.

The principles of Health Literacy are just as important to the council to make sure that we communicate with staff and our residents as effectively as possible

We want to help and empower all of our staff, and residents, to be able to make more informed decisions about their own wellbeing by making sure all of our information is easy to understand. We believe this is a basic right and will help make our services fair and inclusive.



# News from your local NHS



North East and North Cumbria

## Families praise Cedar Unit for a year of caring

It's a year since The Cedar Unit opened its doors to offer end of life care for people in South Tyneside.



Based in Haven Court, it provides a 'home from home' for people near the end of life, who don't want to be in hospital or at home.

Families have spoken about the care they received at the Cedar Unit. Susan Appleby said: "Thank you so much for looking after our Mam in her final days. The standard of care was beyond expectation, and we will always be grateful for the compassion and care you provided to us all."

Carol Hamilton expressed thanks after her Dad passed away: "Thank you so much for the exceptional care and compassion given to my Dad in his final days. It was a huge relief for the whole family."

Eileen Carr thanked the staff for their care of her loved one, Norman: "I could not have hoped for a better standard of compassionate care for Norman, or warmer support for myself. I will be forever grateful for your care - kind, dedicated, professional and above all they prioritised Norman's dignity. Thank you for the amazing work you do."

Over the past year, the Cedar Unit has cared for almost 100 people. It works alongside a community team, which cares for people at home or in care homes, aiming to provide high quality and dignified care to everyone, whatever your circumstances and preferences.

## Eligible for a Covid booster? Don't miss out

Over-75s, care home residents and people with a weakened immune system are being invited to top up their immunity against Covid-19 this spring.

People in these groups are eligible for the booster around six months after their previous dose. Boosters will be provided at a range of local venues including several pharmacies.

If you're eligible, your GP practice will contact you with details of how to book. Eligible patients can also call 0191 283 1925 (Monday to Friday between 9am and 11am) to book appointments locally.

**BOOST YOUR DEFENCE AGAINST COVID-19 THIS SPRING**

#GetVaccinatedGetProtected



**OUCH!** Burning or stinging when you wee? Need to wee all the time?

Not much coming out? Speak to your pharmacist today. **BYE-BYE UTI!**

**HERE TO HELP**



Women aged 16–64 across the North East and North Cumbria can get immediate advice and treatment for UTIs from their local pharmacy. No need for a GP appointment or prescription.

[www.psne.co.uk](http://www.psne.co.uk)

# EXPLORE SOUTH TYNESIDE

South Tyneside has it all. Not only does the seafront come alive during the summer season with events, performers, and music but right on your doorstep you can explore roman ruins, farm animals, history, heritage and culture.

Take time out this summer and make sure you explore everything great in South Tyneside.



## Great North Feast in the Park

Bents Park, 26-28 August

Brought to South Tyneside by Proper Food and Drink Festivals, the free event will begin at 11am until 6pm each day.

The region's finest street food traders, local makers and up and coming musicians. Rides for the kids and bars for the big kids!

There is something for everyone to enjoy a good scan on.

[www.properfoodanddrinkfestivals.co.uk](http://www.properfoodanddrinkfestivals.co.uk)

## Arbeia Roman Fort

Arbeia is the perfect place to 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](http://www.arbeiaromanfort.org.uk)



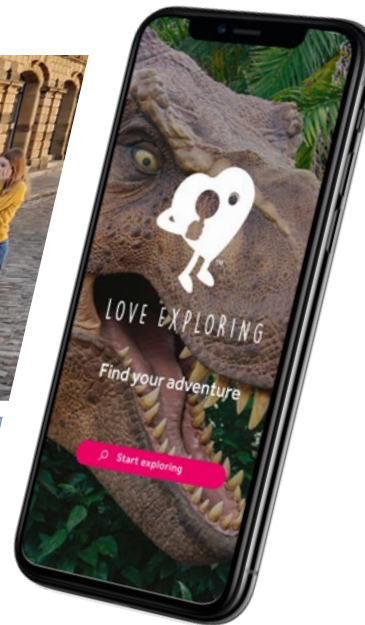
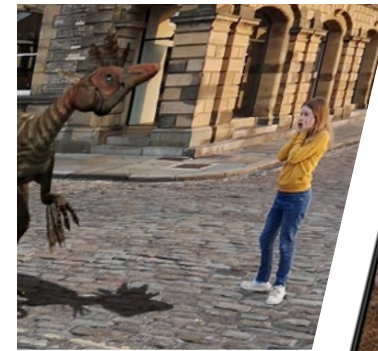
## Souter Lighthouse and The Leas

A historic lighthouse overlooking nature-rich clifftop grasslands, coastal park and rugged coastline

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 serving drinks, snacks and light meals.

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/north-east/souter-lighthouse-and-the-leas](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/north-east/souter-lighthouse-and-the-leas)



## Love Exploring App

The app, which is free to download, allows you to follow 7 guided trails around South Tyneside and discover more about our rich history, public art and places to visit.

There is also a games section! For more info pop across to: [www.visitsouthtyneside.co.uk](http://www.visitsouthtyneside.co.uk)

## Jarrow Hall

A visit to Jarrow Hall should be on the calendar this summer. Pop down to the farm and meet the lovable pigs, goats, sheep and dexta bullocks. Grab a coffee at the café at Jarrow Hall and request a guided tour of the herb garden run by volunteers.



The Museum is also worth a look with over 12,000 accessioned objects!

If you have a child aged 8-12 years then definitely visit the website to find out about the morning farm club on a Sunday morning. Numbers are strictly limited – so make sure you book!

[www.jarrowhall.com](http://www.jarrowhall.com)

**Plus lots more**  
Check out our website for more ideas and inspiration for things to see and do around South Tyneside. [www.visitsouthtyneside.co.uk](http://www.visitsouthtyneside.co.uk)

# SUMMER PARKS ENTERTAINMENT

**THROUGHOUT AUGUST 2023** FREE

A month-long programme of live music and children's entertainment in parks and open spaces across South Tyneside!

Featuring a mix of different performances from some of the region's finest brass and jazz musicians, local artists, and a selection of children's entertainers.

For a full list of the parks and dates ►► [www.southtynesidefestival.co.uk](http://www.southtynesidefestival.co.uk)



South Tyneside Council



Jarrow Hall



South Tyneside Museum



PORT OF TYNE



METRO RADIO



GREATEST HITS RADIO



COLMANS



SUNDERLAND PARKWAY



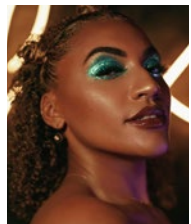
THIS IS SOUTH TYNESIDE



# THIS IS SOUTH TYNESIDE festival 2023

ENJOY THREE MONTHS OF ENTERTAINMENT IN SOUTH TYNESIDE!

## LIVE MUSIC AT THE AMPHITHEATRE



Jamilah



Cam Iyell



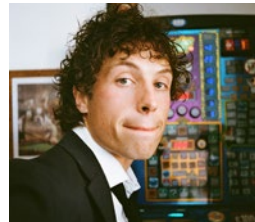
Dilutey Juice



Sarah Johnstone



India Arkin



Chintzy Stetson

Don't miss out every Thursday and Saturday throughout June. Pop down to the amphitheatre and enjoy some fantastic live music with friends and family.

**THURSDAY 15 JUNE** - Generator Live- Hivemind + Sarah Johnstone

**SATURDAY 17 JUNE** - The Gatecrashers

**THURSDAY 22 JUNE** - Camel Island + The Marigolds

**SATURDAY 24 JUNE** - Generator Live- India Arkin + Chintzy Stetson

**THURSDAY 29 JUNE** - South Tyneside College



## BRASS BANDS

▶▶ AT THE AMPHITHEATRE EVERY SUNDAY JUNE - AUGUST (excluding 2 July)



FREE

Sunday 11 June Peoples Mission Silver Band

Sunday 18 June Bear Park & Esh

Sunday 25 June Bede Wind



# PARADE

A SPECTACLE OF COLOUR, DANCE AND MUSIC

FREE

The biggest carnival of its kind in the North East, the hugely popular South Tyneside Festival Parade is here for the weekend on Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 of July.

### SATURDAY 1 JULY, 1PM - 5PM

Join us as the parade makes its way from the South Shields Town Hall to Bents Park, where there will be even more entertainment to enjoy.



### SUNDAY 2 JULY, 12PM - 3PM

On the Sunday afternoon, head down to the seafront for the Sandhaven Promenade Programme chosen by the Cultural Spring Community Champions. In various locations between The Amphitheatre and the performance area to the rear of the Sundial.

Enjoy live music and entertainment from the following performances:

**Eye of Newt with The Cabinet of Curiosity**  
Rear of Sundial

**Benjamin Storey with The Boy and The Seahorse**  
East Side of Minchellas

**Full Stilt with Bachelors of Paradise**  
Along the promenade

**The Word Respect Rappers** at the Amphitheatre

**Acoustic entertainment from Jen Normandale & Buskers** behind The New Sundial

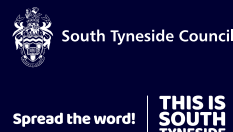
**Electric Pedals** behind The New Sundial

**Tenth Avenue Band** at the Amphitheatre



The Parade weekend is funded and supported by Arts Council England. This event is also brought to you by South Tyneside Council as part of This is South Tyneside Festival summer programme

Sponsored by:



# PROMS IN THE PARK

BENTS PARK,  
SOUTH SHIELDS

► SUNDAY 2 JULY,  
3.30-5.30PM



A warm welcome for the return of proms in the park.... get ready to enjoy a whole host of classical performances and singers at an open-air concert in the Bents Park, South Shields. Music lovers are invited to bring along their picnics and deck chairs, flags and voices ready for the best sing song in South Tyneside.

Enjoy classical performances featuring South Tyneside Orchestra and guest singers at this open air concert in Bents Park, South Shields.

Don't forget to bring a deckchair or blanket, then sit back and relax and enjoy what will be a great summer Sunday afternoon!



# KIDS FUN FEST

SOUTH SHIELDS AMPHITHEATRE

►► THROUGHOUT AUGUST  
EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY, 2-4PM

This summer come along to South Shields' Seafront Amphitheatre and enjoy afternoons of free fun, games and activities with a host of amazing performers and entertainers. It's a great way to keep the kids entertained during the school summer holidays!



## OTHER ENTERTAINMENT THIS SUMMER!

**SUN 9 JULY, 3.30-5.30PM**  
Whickham Wind brass band at the amphitheatre

**WED 12 JULY, 12NOON- 7PM**  
Different Voices in Harmony at the amphitheatre

**SUN 16 JULY, 3.30-5.30PM**  
South Tyneside Music Service Senior Band at Amphitheatre

**SAT 22 JULY, 2-4PM**  
4 Worried Men at South Marine Park

**SUN 23 JULY, 3.30-5.30PM**  
North East Concert Band at Amphitheatre

**SAT 29 JULY, 2-4PM**  
The Gaslighters at South Marine Park

**SUN 30 JULY, 3.30-5.30PM**  
Cockerton Band at the Amphitheatre

**SAT 5 AUG, 2-4PM**  
Cats Night Out at South Marine Park

**SUN 6 AUG, 2-4PM**  
Bright Street Big Band at Amphitheatre

**SAT 12 AUG, 2-4PM**  
City Road Survivors at South Marine Park

**SUN 13 AUG, 2PM- 4PM**  
Houghton Brass at Amphitheatre

**SAT 19 AUG, 2-4PM**  
Barely Human at South Marine Park

**SUN 20 AUG, 2-4PM**  
Westoe Brass at Amphitheatre

**SUN 27 AUG, 2PM- 4PM**  
Off Key Music at Amphitheatre

**SAT 2 SEPT, 2-4PM**  
The Guilty Pleasures at South Marine Park

THIS IS SOUTH TYNESIDE **festival** 2023

# SUNDAY CONCERTS

BENTS PARK IN SOUTH SHIELDS

FREE  
ENTRY  
PRIORITY  
TICKETS £6

THE  
VAMPS



+ HENRY MOODIE

SUNDAY 9 JULY

JASON  
DONOVAN



SUNDAY 16 JULY

Björn  
Again



SUNDAY 23 JULY

Boyzlife



SUNDAY 30 JULY

THIS IS SOUTH TYNESIDE **festival** 2023

Sponsored by:



South Tyneside Council  
Spread the word! THIS IS SOUTH TYNESIDE

For further information about all the events please visit

►► [www.southtynesidefestival.co.uk](http://www.southtynesidefestival.co.uk)



## Summer Reading Challenge 2023

# Ready, Set, Read!



This year's Summer Reading Challenge theme is 'Ready, Set, Read!' delivered in partnership with children's charity the Youth Sport Trust, which focuses on reading, sport and play.

'Ready, Set, Read!' aims to keep children's minds and bodies active over the summer break, empowering children to forge new connections with others and unleash the power of play, sport and physical activity through reading.

Children aged 4-11 can join in the challenge, which will feature amazing books and awesome rewards.

From Saturday 8 July, children can sign up at their local library and read six books of their choice and return them before Saturday 16 September to complete the challenge. There are rewards to collect along the way and it's FREE to take part.

Children can choose from a large selection of books, as long as they are borrowed from the library.

Alongside the Summer Reading Challenge, there will be a range of events taking place during the summer holidays for children and families to enjoy. Visit our website for lots more details.

Illustrations by Loretta Schauer and logo artwork by Lizzie Everard. All © The Reading Agency 2023.



Presented by The Reading Agency.  
Delivered in partnership with libraries.



South Tyneside  
**Libraries &  
Information**

**SATURDAY 8 JULY - SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER**

The Summer Reading Challenge will be delivered in libraries across South Tyneside including the Council's multi-service hubs (The Word, Hebburn Central, Jarrow Focus and Cleadon Park) and the community libraries run by volunteer-based organisations (Boldon and Cleadon, Perth Green and Whitburn).

For more information including how to sign up, visit [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/libraries)



INSPIRING  
ACTIVE  
READERS

THE  
READING  
AGENCY

SUMMER  
READING  
CHALLENGE



## NEW EXHIBITIONS OPENING AT THE WORD IN JULY

# BLUE FUTURES



The Word's new exhibition, **Blue Futures**, will examine the connections with water, local waterways and marine environments.

The installation connects with the Year of the Coast 2023 as well as the regional Stronger Shores project, which involves restoring marine habitats and looking at how they can help to protect coastal communities from the impacts of climate change such as flooding and erosion.

The exhibition will bring together the commissions of three artists to form one exhibition who are also working with local communities to help develop the concepts and artworks for display. The installation will also feature fun interactive activities too. Blue Futures is a collaboration between South Tyneside Council, CoLab Sunderland and SeaScapes – a Tyne to Tees project aimed at better connecting communities with the ocean. The piece takes inspiration from the Borough's new cutting-edge renewable energy scheme, Viking Energy Network Jarrow (VENJ).

## POWERING THE FUTURE: SOUTH TYNESIDE AND BEYOND



Little Inventors are bringing a new installation **Powering the Future: South Tyneside and Beyond** to The Word, delivered in partnership with South Tyneside Council and Dogger Bank Wind Farm. An invention challenge gave children in South Tyneside a chance to come up with an invention, powered by movement and wind. Four winners have been selected and their artwork will be brought to life and displayed at The Word in July.



**WRITE** FESTIVAL  
23  
Be inspired by words

RETURNING THIS  
SEPTEMBER

EVENTS AT THE WORD  
& ACROSS SOUTH  
TYNESIDE LIBRARIES

AUTHOR TALKS  
CREATIVE WRITING SESSIONS  
HOW TO GET PUBLISHED  
WORKSHOPS  
PERFORMANCES  
AND MORE



# #LoveSouthTyneside

## Awards 2023

The #LoveSouthTyneside Awards return this year at The Customs House!

The Awards recognise and celebrate the amazing community spirit, the unsung heroes and champions across South Tyneside who go the extra mile day in and day out without expecting anything in return.

We want to hear more about the amazing things and people in our borough. Find out more and nominate TODAY!

[www.lovesouthtyneside.co.uk](http://www.lovesouthtyneside.co.uk)



## Volunteering in South Tyneside

Across South Tyneside communities are coming together to create new volunteering groups to help look after open spaces or people in their local community.

This includes parks, cemeteries and litter picking. All groups are welcome to members. You can meet new people, get out and about and make a difference. Some of the groups include Friends of the Parks, Cemeteries and food banks.

To find out more about setting up a volunteer group visit [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/volunteering](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/volunteering)

### Training takes off for volunteers

Volunteers in South Tyneside can access a range of free training to help develop their skills and fulfil their potential. The Volunteer Skills programme consists of six core courses (Safeguarding, Inclusion, Prevent, First Aid, Fire Safety and Health and Safety).

The training has been developed by Inspire South Tyneside – the umbrella body for the voluntary and community sector which works with communities, the Council and partners.

Inspire also offers an extensive list of specialist courses, ranging from counselling to leadership skills to combatting hate crime. The courses are free to all voluntary organisations established or working within South Tyneside.

The courses are mapped against national standards (usually AQA units) so are helpful for those wishing to use their training to help them find paid work.

Inspire has also implemented a 'Volunteer Passport' where people can keep a record of their training and achievements either in paper or digital format which could help them move into paid work or progress in their chosen career.

To find out more about Inspire, visit [www.inspire.co.uk](http://www.inspire.co.uk) and to find out about the range of training on offer visit [www.bgmcd.co.uk/lms](http://www.bgmcd.co.uk/lms)

## Happy 40th Birthday Thurston!

South Tyneside is celebrating 40 years of the Council's Outdoor Education Service!

40 years of welcoming school children, clubs, scouts, guides, groups and teachers. Simonside Climbing Wall, Water Activities Centre, Akenshawburn Cottages in Kielder and Thurston!

Each centre and trip will have its own memories of canoeing, orienteering, walking, games and making fantastic memories.

To celebrate this South Tyneside history, we would love residents to send through their memories and any copies of photographs from their visit.

They will be used to create a video of memories which will be released as part of the celebrations. Young people in South Tyneside will also be involved in activities across the Council's outdoor sites to mark the occasion.

More details will be released shortly!

Help us mark this event with a special South Tyneside Birthday

Send your memories and images to [communications@southtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:communications@southtyneside.gov.uk)



## Get Active and discover South Tyneside!

There's no place like South Tyneside! Walking and cycling is excellent for our wellbeing and is a great way to get outdoors and spend time with family.

Go Smarter Go Active has created a suite of brand-new days out itineraries that you can explore by walking or cycling.

Take a scenic route along the vast stretches of golden sands from Marsden Bay to the rolling dunes of Sandhaven beach, then around the bustling harbour take in the sights of the Tyne Ferry landing and famous Customs House!

Plan your day out at [www.gosmartergoactive.co.uk](http://www.gosmartergoactive.co.uk)

Don't forget to send pictures of your walk or cycle to [facebook.com/LoveSTyneside](https://facebook.com/LoveSTyneside).



# Bag It! Bin It!

Dog fouling is a big concern, not just because of the mess it causes, but because it can also be a health risk..

## What is the Council doing?

We know that residents are concerned over dog fouling in the Borough. The Council is committed to raising awareness about the issue of dog fouling and will respond reactively and pro-actively to reported incidents.

## Dog Fouling Leads to Huge Fines

Failure to clean up dog mess has led to two South Tyneside residents being hit with fines and costs totalling thousands of pounds.

Mr F and Mr E were ordered to pay a total of more than £1,400 in fines plus a further £1,400 in costs, compensation and victim surcharges between them.

Mr F, of Spohr Terrace, South Shields, repeatedly failed to pick up his dog's waste from the street, despite being served with fixed penalty notices after members of the public reported him and he was caught on CCTV.

South Tyneside Council was left with no option but to take him to court after the fines went unpaid.

Magistrates ordered him to pay a £660 fine, £300 compensation to the council for clear-ups, costs of £350 and a victim surcharge of £264.

Mr E, of Northbourne Road, Jarrow, had previously been convicted by South Shields magistrates after he had allowed so much dog waste to build up in his back garden that neighbours complained about the 'unbearable' stench.

He continued to breach the requirements of the Community Protection Notice (CPN) and therefore South Tyneside Council prosecuted him again.

The case was heard in his absence and Mr E received a £770 fine as well as being ordered to pay a £308 victim surcharge and £200 costs.

If you have photographic, CCTV or video evidence of a dog fouling incident, you can report it to the Environmental Health Team by calling **0191 427 7000** or emailing [environmental.healthmailbox@southtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:environmental.healthmailbox@southtyneside.gov.uk).

**REPORT IT**  
Call the Council's  
Customer Contact  
Centre on  
**0191 427 7000**  
or by text to  
**07786 200 802**



**PLEASE!  
CLEAN UP  
AFTER YOUR DOG**



**DID YOU KNOW?**

Around **100** cases of toxocarasis are diagnosed each year in the UK

Local authorities in the UK receive approximately **226,000** complaints about dog fouling every year

The cost to British taxpayers of clearing up after dogs is around **£2.3 million** per year

# Report It South Tyneside

## What is Anti-social behaviour?

Anti-social behaviour is behaviour by a person which causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household as the person.

Anti-social behaviour covers a wide range of unacceptable activity including, but not limited to:

- Nuisance, rowdy or inconsiderate neighbours
- Littering or dumping rubbish
- Shouting or noisy behaviour in places where this might be annoying or upsetting
- Using rude, abusive or insulting language
- Threatening behaviour or bullying
- Excessively drinking alcohol, alcohol-related trouble or buying and selling drugs

Our Community Safety and Tenancy Enforcement Teams work alongside Northumbria Police, as well as other agencies and residents in South Tyneside.

**Our powers to tackle ASB**  
Some powers the Council have to tackle anti-social behaviour and others are through Northumbria Police. Each report will be dealt with case by case.

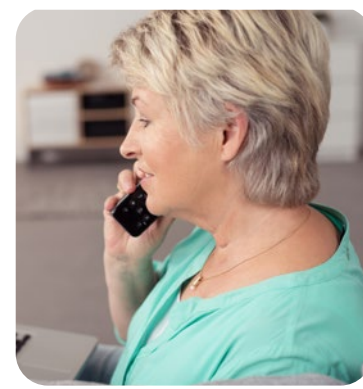


**DID YOU KNOW?**

## You can report online any:

- Potholes
- Street lighting problems
- Pavement problems
- Traffic light fault
- Missed bins
- Fly tipping
- Litter bin problems
- Public toilet issues and many more!

Report any community problems at [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/reportit](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/reportit)



## Anti social behaviour can be reported at:

Online at [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/reportit](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/reportit)

Email [asb@southtynesidehomes.org.uk](mailto:asb@southtynesidehomes.org.uk)

Text ASB and your message to **07786 200 802**

Contact South Tyneside Homes on **0300 123 6633** (8am - 6:30pm, Monday to Friday) or our customer contact centre on **0191 427 7000**

Visit South Tyneside Homes' Anti-social Behaviour Unit at Town & Hall & Civic Offices, Westoe Road, South Shields, NE33 2RL



# Democracy: A Year of Action!

Democracy: A Year of Action is a new campaign aimed at helping to raise awareness of South Tyneside Council - what it does and how it works - while encouraging local communities to get more involved in the democratic process, local decision-making and have their say in local elections.

The Council will build on wider awareness campaigns to help promote a greater understanding of the different roles of committees and elected members all year round, as well as continue to support the younger generation to learn about voting and democracy, through methods including School Councils and South Tyneside's Young People's Parliament.



Young People's Parliament.



Intergenerational debate in the Council chamber with Young People's Parliament.



Staryland involvement from local schools

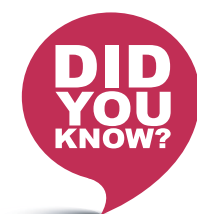


In April primary school pupils from across South Tyneside visited South Shields Town Hall to take part in an interactive story session to explore what makes a good leader and learn about the process of democracy.

In the Council Chamber, the children heard speeches from candidates and got the chance to cast their votes for a new leader of Staryland.

South Tyneside's Young People's Parliament (YPP) also arranged an inter-generational debate with older members of the public as part of the 'democracy year of action'.

The group debated three topics on the theme of health and wellbeing which has been the YPP's campaign for this year. Hebburn St Oswald's CE VA Primary School also visited the Town Hall for a short tour followed by a debate in the Council Chambers. This followed a number of debate workshops in schools run by the Participation Team to equip children with debating skills.



Meetings of Borough Council are livestreamed on the Council's YouTube channel [www.youtube.com/@southtynesidecouncil](https://www.youtube.com/@southtynesidecouncil) giving residents the opportunity to 'attend' if not in person.



# Mayor reflects on time in civic office

The Mayor of South Tyneside, Councillor Pat Hay, and Mayoress Jean Copp, have enjoyed a busy schedule of civic engagements and events during their two years in office.

They have played a key role representing the Borough and promoting civic pride while raising money for their chosen charities Cancer Connections and the Customs House, as well as other good causes.

Highlights include Armed Forces Day tributes to the Borough's military organisations, recognising outstanding recipients of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service and conferring the Freedom of South Tyneside to worthy recipients.

They have also unveiled a series of Blue Plaques, led poignant commemoration events including the unveiling of a Covid Memorial, and met royalty on several occasions, including HRH Prince Charles – before he became His Majesty The King.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations saw communities come together for street parties and a Beacon lighting ceremony. The Queen's Baton Relay also recognised inspirational local people for their contribution to their communities.



This is South Tyneside Festival Summer Parade.



Signing the Book of Condolence on the death of Her Majesty The Queen.



Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon Lighting



Proclamation of the new King.



Covid memorial unveiling at South Marine Park.

Celebrations later turned to sadness at the passing of Her Majesty The Queen and once again South Tyneside came together to mourn, reflect upon and express their gratitude for Her Majesty's lifetime of devotion.

The Mayor said: "The Mayoress and I have had an incredible two years in office and have been extremely proud to represent our great Borough during some historic moments in world history.

"As we emerged from the covid pandemic, we were able to reconnect with our wonderful communities and recognise their achievements.

"We also joined communities to celebrate and commemorate with the Jubilee celebrations, the passing of Her Majesty The Queen and the Proclamation of the new King.

**"It has also been fantastic to meet so many wonderful people who make the Borough such a special place and we thank them all for their amazing support. These are times we will certainly treasure forever!"**



Queen's Awards for Voluntary Service.



The new Mayor of South Tyneside is Councillor John Gerard McCabe and Mayoress, Julie McCabe. Councillor McCabe was presented with his chains of office by outgoing Mayor, Councillor Pat Hay, at the annual Mayor Making ceremony at South Shields Town Hall.





# Fostering with South Tyneside Council

## Adoptive parents are needed today

Adopt North East is your local adoption agency, providing adoption services on behalf of South Tyneside Council.

Since its formation in 2018, Adopt North East has found hundreds of forever families for children and supported over a thousand adoptive families.

Adoptive parents come from every walk of life. Adopt North East values and welcomes all potential adopters regardless of race, sex, gender identity, disability, religion or sexual orientation. You can be working or not, single, married, or in a partnership.

Children are waiting today for their forever family. Children like six-year-old Joe\* and his four-year-old brother, Ethan\*, need a family who can adopt them together. Joe is polite, caring and very articulate. He loves arts and crafts and anything to do with dinosaurs. Ethan enjoys running around outdoors and playing with his cars. The boys have a close bond and are developing well.

Often the best way to help you think about adoption is to attend one of Adopt North East's regular information events. These are informal, warm and honest presentations where you can learn more about the process and the ongoing support provided, hear from experienced adopters and ask any questions.

These events are purely to provide information and there's no pressure on anyone. The team works hard to put everyone at ease and appreciates that for many people this could be the first step towards to their forever family.

The next events are on:

- **Tuesday 6 June**, 6.30-8.30pm: Online event
- **Wednesday 5 July**, 6.30-8.30pm:  
Adopt North East office, Longbenton, NE12 8QP
- **Thursday 3 August**, 6.30-8.30pm: Online event
- **Thursday 7 September**, 6.30-8.30pm:  
The Linskill Centre, Linskill Terrace, North Shields, NE30 2AY

Full details are on the 'Events' tab of the website, or contact the Adopt North East team by phone or email at any time. They would be delighted to hear from you.



contact

- 📞 (0191) 643 5000
- ✉️ [AdoptNorthEast@adoptne.org.uk](mailto:AdoptNorthEast@adoptne.org.uk)
- 🔍 [www.adoptnortheast.org.uk](http://www.adoptnortheast.org.uk)

Foster carer Emma Robinson followed in her parents' footsteps 19 years ago when she first decided to foster.

"The fact that my parents fostered definitely inspired me to go into fostering," she said.

"A lot of children don't see the help they can give to other kids. The rewards of fostering far outweigh the troubled times and I know I have enriched my own children's lives by fostering."

Emma's sister Claire and their cousin, Paul and his wife Paula, are also foster carers with South Tyneside therefore, Emma comes from a fostering family herself. Emma is able to recall the benefits to her growing up in a fostering household and was keen for her own children to experience this.

Emma and her husband Greg were part of the first Mockingbird model of foster care in South Tyneside which uses the concept of the extended family to provide additional structure and support for both carers and children.

Emma, 46, said: "The Mockingbird model is just fantastic in that it provides a wall of support, it's just phenomenal.

"The support from the fostering team has always been outstanding but Mockingbird means that there are always people around who understand the issues you are facing and can offer advice.



Emma Robinson

“For anyone thinking about fostering, I would say now is the time to find out more because the level of support is just so fantastic.”

### Could you foster?

Emma and husband Gregg have helped to transform the lives of children and young people who, for a variety of reasons, cannot be with their birth family.

If you are interested in finding out more about fostering, you can contact us for a friendly and informal chat:

- Text or call 07744 3250695 • Call 0191 423 8500 (landline)
- Enquire online at [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/fostering)



# get active...



## 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. [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/leisure](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/leisure)

## Download our 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.



Green gym artist impression

COMING SUMMER 2023

## Monkton Stadium refurbishment

The internal revamp of Monkton Stadium is the latest in a series of investments in the Borough's leisure and library facilities.

It follows the new state-of-the-art facilities at Jarrow Focus, Hebburn Central, The Word, Haven Point and Jarrow Pool.

The renovations include an extension of the gym space, with the addition of a mezzanine floor.

The gym area will include a new 'green gym' area. The exercise machines in the green gym captures energy generated from a workout, converting it into usable electricity that will help power devices connected to the local grid.

Further improvements include:

- A new sauna
- Refurbishment of the changing rooms
- An outbuilding to be used in supporting athletics events

**Stay updated with Monkton Stadium and our other leisure centres at [www.southtyneside.gov.uk/leisure](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/leisure)**

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 23 June 2023, or if you would like to provide feedback or comments, please call **0191 427 7000** or email [marketing@southtyneside.gov.uk](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.southtynesidehomes.org.uk)