

PRESS RELEASE – August 6, 2018

South Tyneside and Sunderland hospitals among best in the NHS for junior doctor training



Junior doctors working at hospitals in South Tyneside and Sunderland have ranked their training experiences amongst the best in England, according to the results of the 2018 General Medical Council's (GMC) annual survey.

Every year junior doctors are asked to give feedback about their postgraduate medical training in the NHS across a range of important indicators. These include the level of clinical and educational supervision received and whether junior doctors feel supported, as well as feedback about the environments in which they work

The GMC results for 2018 reveal junior doctors at South Tyneside District Hospital as the most satisfied in the region and in the top 15% of all NHS organisations nationally. In Sunderland, junior doctor trainees also voted their experiences very highly with the Trust ranked fifth in the region and in the top 30% of all NHS organisations nationally.

The latest results for South Tyneside are testament to the hard work and concerted efforts of many colleagues to improve the quality of training which has seen the Trust rise from 183rd place nationally in 2015, to 31st in 2018. The Trust also performed extremely well in the GMC's annual 'trainer' survey, being one of only a handful nationally to achieve a green flag for overall performance.

The results of the 2018 GMC survey show that across the South Tyneside and Sunderland Healthcare Group, despite the daily challenges and pressures being faced, local hospitals continue to offer some of the very best quality of medical training anywhere in the NHS.

South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust's Deputy Director of Medical Education Dr Mickey Jachuck said: "Our aim is always to make South Tyneside a great place for junior doctors to learn and work so I am absolutely delighted with our excellent performance in this year's GMC surveys. This is entirely due to the dedication and commitment to education and training of our highly trained and highly enthusiastic faculty of trainers who teach and guide them."

Commenting on the results, Ken Bremner, Chief Executive of South Tyneside and City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trusts, said: "These results are fantastic news and testament to the hard work of our highly committed medical education teams in both Trusts to support our future workforce.

"Given the immense challenges that we face across our workforce, it is vital that we provide a high quality training experience for junior doctor trainees who are coming into the NHS and starting their careers with us.

"This latest positive feedback demonstrates the high quality of training and support that we offer to enable junior doctors to deliver outstanding patient care. As we look to the future and our ambition to become one Trust, we want to build on these successes and our strong reputation for high quality education and training to attract

more new graduates and junior doctor trainees to stay with us and build their long-term careers in South Tyneside and Sunderland.”

The GMC’s annual national surveys give trainee doctors and trainers the opportunity to give their views to ensure that doctors in training receive high quality training in a safe and effective clinical environment and that trainers are well supported in their role.

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Photo caption: A group of junior doctors

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