

PRESS RELEASE – September 12th. 2018

Invitation to South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust's 2018 Annual Members' Meeting/Annual General Meeting

South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust is inviting patients, staff and the public to its Annual Members' Meeting/Annual General Meeting on Monday, 17th September 2018.

The meeting, from 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm, at the Clarion Hotel, Boldon, will be an opportunity to reflect on a busy and challenging year during which the Trust, along with City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust, has progressed 'Path to Excellence' plans to transform hospital services in South Tyneside and Sunderland in order to meet the future needs of patients and offer the best possible care for local people.

Completely separate to the Path to Excellence Work, South Tyneside and City Hospitals Sunderland have also announced their intention to formally merge to provide long-term operational and financial sustainability and maximise the benefits of becoming one bigger, stronger NHS organisation for the future.

Highlights of 2017/18 for South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust included:

- Investment of £1.7m in Radiology at South Tyneside District Hospital, including the introduction of a new MRI scanner - the first of its kind in the UK
- The appointment of the first ever kidney consultant at South Tyneside District Hospital in a joint role across South Tyneside and Sunderland
- The hospital's success in reducing patient falls was highlighted in a national report following on from its involvement in NHS Improvement's 90-day falls collaborative, which was aimed at reducing the rate of falls in hospitals and sharing examples of best practice and innovation across the NHS. The Trust

also rolled out a new 'falls prevention assessment and individualised care plan' for every patient aged 65 and over admitted to hospital.

At the meeting on 17th September, Chief Executive Ken Bremner will outline the challenges and priorities for the year ahead.

Mr Bremner said: "We have already seen a number of benefits by South Tyneside and Sunderland working together and in the coming months, as we move towards merger, we will build upon these to deliver many more positive changes for patients and staff. I can say with some certainty that there will continue to be a pivotal role for South Tyneside District Hospital providing services for patients both now and in the future."

He added: "One of the highlights of the past year has been the dedication and commitment shown by our staff in continuing to put patients first, despite another extremely challenging year. At no time was this more evident than during the 'Beast from the East' earlier this year when their determination to maintain services in the face of extreme weather conditions made national headlines and me very proud to lead the Trust."

There will also be an opportunity at the meeting to meet some of South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust's directors and governors.

Anyone wishing to submit a question in advance of the event should email Debbie Henderson, Company Secretary/Head of Corporate Governance at debbie.henderson@stft.nhs.uk

Book your place

Places for South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust's Annual Members' Meeting/Annual General Meeting on **Monday, 17th September 2018, 3.00 – 5.00pm at the Clarion Hotel, Witney Way, Boldon, NE35 9PE**, are free but limited. To avoid disappointment and to help us plan for the event, please register by emailing membershipoffice.stft@stft.nhs.uk or by telephoning 0191 2024121.

ENDS

Issued by **Kay Jordan**

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