

SAVE OUR HOSPITAL SERVICES DEVON



PRESS RELEASE

South Molton Public Meeting 16 January 2016

Members of the *Save Our Hospital Services Devon* campaign addressed a meeting of approximately 300 people about the forthcoming *Sustainability and Transformation Plan* (STP) which is being prepared to implement across Devon.

In the latest in a series of packed out meetings across North Devon the speakers explained the details of what confronts the public if the so-called Success Regime carries through its programme of cuts, specifically the acute and emergency services at NDDH.

Most obvious would be the journey times to Exeter or Plymouth for patients in emergency situations such as stroke, paediatric, maternity or neonatal, leading to the conclusion that there will be deaths on the road.

Audience members were angry and very worried. Some contributions were both moving and dramatic eg a person who described what happened after being diagnosed with sepsis. Without the emergency services at NDDH the chair he was sitting on would have been vacant he said.

A woman spoke about the swift action of the ambulance service in bringing her to the NDDH and probably saving her life. She had lost power of speech and other functions temporarily after a stroke. If she had been forced to endure the journey to Exeter she said that she would have died.

There was an invite to join the campaign. Action cards were distributed. Coaches have been booked for a national *Health Campaigns Together* demonstration in London on 4 March. SOHS Devon campaign member, Dave Clinch said, "The momentum is gathering across Northern Devon, and beyond, to resist any cuts in our National Health Service.
ENDS

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