

# **STPs – Slashing, Trashing and Privatising our NHS**



The NHS is in crisis and desperately needs more money. But the Tory government doesn't care about public services and is forcing local health chiefs to make plans to cut NHS services – including ward closures, cuts in bed numbers, changes to GP practices and downgrades or closures of A&Es, maternity and children's wards.

**Now, more than ever, the NHS needs us to fight for its future.**

These plans are called Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs). They have been prepared in secret and aim to limit NHS spending to £22 bn less than is needed to maintain the current service.

**The NHS isn't overspending. The government is underfunding.**

STPs exploit this defunding crisis to shrink the NHS and bring in healthcare models like accountable care organisations, from the US, where they base availability of healthcare on insurance and ability to pay, not on need, as it is now. Services will be rationed. People will have to pay for some services – or go without.

**If STPs go through, the NHS will no longer be able to meet all our health needs. It will become more difficult to access, and a limited service of last resort.**

**The problem is too few beds, not too many patients!**

**Join Momentum and build the campaign against STPs.**

**See overleaf for what you can do to help**

## **Your right to be consulted**

By law, health chiefs must properly consult with the public and patients as these plans involve massive changes to the ways health services are provided. Our voices must be heard and acted upon.

**Let's not make the mistake of waiting to be asked for our views – the NHS is depending on us.**

**Choose just one thing from this list and you will be part of the fightback:**

- Ask your councillors to demand that full and proper consultation takes place with the public about your STP. Tell them to oppose the plans and do everything they can to stop them. Contact them via: [weownit.org.uk/blog/its-our-nhs-dont-slash-trash-and-privatise](http://weownit.org.uk/blog/its-our-nhs-dont-slash-trash-and-privatise)
- Lobby full council meetings, Health & Wellbeing Boards and Scrutiny Committees. Ask them to oppose STPs.
- Join up with your local NHS campaign group and be ready to join in demonstrations to defend local services.
- Spread the word amongst your friends and family. Like and share our social media posts and memes. You can find us @Momentum\_NHS on Twitter and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/nhsmomentum](http://www.facebook.com/nhsmomentum)

**Get more information and resources from our webpage:**

**[www.peoplesmomentum.com/momentum-nhs](http://www.peoplesmomentum.com/momentum-nhs) :**

- **model petition to councillors**
- **STP campaign materials**
- **our template letter to GPs**

