

Save Our Hospital Services Committee  
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Dundalk  
Co Louth

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

A Thaoisigh,

I wish to acknowledge your visit to Dundalk today, Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2010. You must be aware by now that the public in Dundalk along with Trade Unions, community groups, Dundalk Town Council and Louth County Council have all rejected your government's plans to close A&E, Intensive Care Unit and Acute Medical Services in Louth County Hospital.

We as a town have gathered thousands of signatures and passed that petition to your staff. We have gathered at our town square and Town Hall to send a clear message rejecting your plans. You have not listened. Your TDs in Louth have not listened.

Louth County Hospital has been the victim of a planned domino effect campaign of closures for many years. Our Maternity Ward was closed and children were barred from using A&E. Acute surgery was removed. Your strategists have created the conditions where they now argue numbers are insufficient to maintain the last vital services of A&E, ICU and Acute Medical.

But your policies have created these circumstances. You give tax breaks to private hospitals that operate with lower figures. Your policies prevent posts being filled and undermine the future of services.

The Regional Planning Guidelines for the border region state that residents in this area have identified that we have a poor quality of life. Removing the services that save lives, care for critically ill people will not address this concern.

We as a committee, on behalf of the people of Louth are demanding that you reverse plans to deprive us of these services.

Le Meas

Tomás Sharkey  
Vice Chairperson