



Goldsmiths Students' Union Policy

Goldsmiths Students' Union Student Assembly

Motion proposed by Kathleen Hurford

Motion Title:

Lewisham A & E and the NHS

Union Notes:

1. The impressive campaign against the closure of the accident and emergency (A & E) and maternity ward at Lewisham Hospital.
2. The cynical attempt by the NHS trust to use the closure as a means to introduce PFI (private finance initiatives) as detailed on the campaign's website, <http://www.savelewishamhospital.com/why-close-lewisham-ae/>
3. That between 10 and 15 thousand people demonstrated on Saturday the 24th against the closures in spite of pouring rain. For context the 2001 census calculated the Lewisham Central population as 13,190.

Union believes:

1. That the closure of the A and E/Maternity ward would be a considerable blow for the local community, as well as students.
2. That the closure comes in a wider context of cuts and austerity; something that we have experienced all too well on campus and in the student movement.
3. That it is the responsibility of the SU to show solidarity with the community and get students involved with issues outside of the campus as much as possible.

Union resolves:

1. To express official backing for the Save Lewisham Hospital campaign.
2. To build for the actions around the campaign (we should go after AGM tonight!)
3. To do everything we can to link different groups of people and different fights against austerity. This includes trying to link people in Lewisham with the 'Save New Cross Fire Station' campaign as much as possible. Also if our own departments face closure in the near future, we should ensure to build a campaign outwards into the community to gain support.
4. To donate £50 to the campaign.
5. To adopt a ward.