



WEST LANCASHIRE · A COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN

# SAVE ORMSKIRK CHILDREN'S A&E

Key facts for media — everything below is verified and free to use.

## THE DECISION

On 13 March 2026, a joint committee of NHS Lancashire & South Cumbria and NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICBs approved moving the children's A&E from Ormskirk Hospital to Southport Hospital, 8 miles away. Cost: £33 million. Timeline: a minimum of three years, targeted for 2029.

**7,840+**

consultation responses

**#1**

Ormskirk was most popular

**£33m**

to move it 8 miles

**8am-midnight**

current hours (since 2020)

## WHAT HAPPENED

- A 13-week public consultation (July–October 2025) drew more than 7,840 responses. Keeping the children's A&E at Ormskirk was the MOST popular option.
- The NHS named Southport as its 'preferred option' before the consultation began. Keeping both sites was ruled out beforehand — which is why many residents felt it was a done deal.
- In late March 2026, Lancashire County Council's health scrutiny committee voted UNANIMOUSLY (cross-party) to ask the Health Secretary to formally 'call in' the decision. West Lancashire MP Ashley Dalton also asked for it to be reversed.
- That call-in request remains unanswered. The Health Secretary has the legal power to review and reverse the decision.
- Ormskirk sits 10–20 minutes closer than Southport to specialist centres at Alder Hey, Whiston and Aintree. In trauma, stroke and obstetric emergencies, minutes matter.

## THE ASK

**THE HEALTH SECRETARY MUST CALL IN THE DECISION BEFORE ANY WORK BEGINS.**

And Andy Burnham, as incoming PM, must instruct his Health Secretary to do it in his first week.

Precision note: the hospital is not closing — it is the children's A&E moving to Southport. This is an independent community campaign, not affiliated with the NHS or any political party.