

**For the Record – Press Statements**

<b>Publication</b>	Express and Star
<b>Date of article</b>	Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> January 2012
<b>Reporter</b>	David Lumb
<b>Headline</b>	Hospital gowns to be 'less revealing'
<b>First paragraph/s of article</b>	<p>Less-revealing hospital gowns are being rolled out across the region in a bid to protect patient's modesty.</p> <p>The trust that runs Sandwell Hospital has spent £50,000 buying new gowns, which bosses said would be rolled out on wards in February. Unisex pyjamas have already been introduced at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital.</p>
<b>Press enquiry</b>	Have any similar nightwear schemes been rolled out in Dudley? How much did the schemes cost and what is the situation now?
<b>Trust response</b>	
<p>Our patients' privacy and dignity is very important to The Dudley Group and the Trust has introduced unisex pyjamas and bariatric gowns so they feel more comfortable. Women have the option of wearing pyjamas rather than a night gown.</p> <p>Where possible we encourage patients to wear their own nightwear or to wear day clothes, if appropriate, to enhance their recovery. However, we do have a supply of nightwear available for patients who are brought in to hospital as an emergency or who are not able to bring in their own.</p> <p>We continually work with our laundry provider to ensure we are providing the best garment for our patients.</p> <p>All of our nightwear is provided through our PFI contact.</p>	