

## For the Record – Press Statements

Publication	Express and Star
Date of article	29 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
Reporter	Heather Large
Headline	Hospital scheme for outdoor gym
First paragraph/s of article	An outdoor gym will be built in the grounds of Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital for patients and staff under new plans.
Paragraph/s relating to The Dudley Group	Paula Clark, chief executive of Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, which runs the site, said "The Dudley Group is committed to providing excellent occupational health initiatives for staff and encourages them to take exercise in the workplace.
	"The Trust has applied for planning permission from Dudley Council to build an outdoor gym at Russells Hall Hospital for use by hospital staff and patients.
	"It would be accessible at all times and allow staff to exercise before and after work as well as during their lunchtime.
	"The gym would also provide a 'step down' rehabilitation facility for patients being discharged from hospital. This would allow staff to demonstrate suitable activity programmes patients can use to improve and maintain their health.
	"Negotiation for joint funding of the gym are in very early stages and would be dependent on our successful planning application."
Press enquiry	The Express and Star have seen the Trust's planning application for an outdoor gym and would like a comment.
Trust response	
The Dudley Group is committed to providing excellent occupational health initiatives	
for staff and encourages them to take exercise in the workplace.	

The Trust has applied for planning permission from Dudley Council to build an outdoor gym at Russells Hall Hospital for use by hospital staff and patients.

It would be accessible at all times and allow staff to exercise before and after work as well as during their lunch time.

The gym would also provide a 'step down' rehabilitation facility for patients being discharged from hospital. This would allow staff to demonstrate suitable activity programmes patients can use to maintain and improve their health.

Negotiation for joint funding of the gym are in very early stages and would be dependent on our successful planning application.