

**For the Record – Press Statements**

<b>Publication</b>	Express and Star
<b>Date of article</b>	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2014
<b>Reporter</b>	Alex Ross
<b>Headline</b>	<b>Front page:</b> Russells Hall 'In need of Improvement'  <b>Page 5:</b> Chief positive over future for hospital
<b>First paragraph/s of article</b>	<b>Front page:</b> Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley 'requires improvement' in the areas of safety and responsiveness, health inspectors said today following a review.  <b>Page 5:</b> THE chief executive at Russells Hall Hospital says she remains positive about its future despite a far-reaching review by a health watchdog which has demanded improvements
<b>Press enquiry</b>	Following the publication of the Care Quality Commission's report into the Trust, the Express and Star contacted us as asked the following:  Would the Trust like to comment on the CQC report and rating published today?
<b>Trust response</b>	
<p><b>COMMENT FROM PAULA CLARK, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE DUDLEY GROUP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST</b></p> <p>The Dudley Group has now received the report and rating from the Care Quality Commission's inspection in March 2014 and we are pleased that out of 38 ratings, the Trust scored a good rating in 30 areas.</p> <p>Children and young people, medical care, surgery, outpatients and end of life care all received an overall Good rating. Across all core services inspected, the Trust has been rated as caring and effective.</p> <p>We are pleased that the majority of areas (five out of eight) received an overall rating of good and disappointed that the overall CQC rating is Requires Improvement.</p> <p>It is a credit to our staff that the inspection team found much evidence of excellent</p>	

practice and that patients see our staff as highly caring with many examples of staff going the extra mile. The team found a strong sense of team spirit amongst our staff who value The Dudley Group as a place to work.

The inspection report identified many good things we are doing for our patients. These include very regular comfort rounds on wards that means nurse contact with patients is high, patients not needing to use call bells very often, rapid access clinics to fast track surgical patients and excellent practice that targeted patients' specific needs in an empathetic manner.

We are particularly disappointed to have received an overall rating 'Requires Improvement' under safety especially as the inspection team found good practice around safety including safety huddle boards on inpatients areas, our use of a safety dashboard and the work we do around prescribing antibiotics.

We take all necessary measures to care for our patients in a safe environment to reduce risk and prevent harm and we are pleased the CQC found no areas of major concern.

We hope it provides assurance to our patients and our staff that the Chief Inspector of Hospital, Professor Sir Mike Richards, believes we are not far off achieving a Good rating and that he has confidence that we are addressing the issues highlighted by the inspection.

\*\*\* ENDS \*\*\*

#### **Notes for editors**

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