

**For the Record – Press Statements**

<b>Publication</b>	The Sun
<b>Press enquiry</b>	<p>News Team press agency, working on behalf of The Sun, contacted the Trust about a claim made in a Telegraph online article about the use of volunteers and admin staff in hospitals in the West Midlands without DBS clearance to help in clinical areas.</p> <p>News Team asked whether the following paragraph related to The Dudley Group and what our process is for DBS checking staff and volunteers.</p> <p><b><i>"Hospitals in the West Midlands have been forced to recruit 140 volunteers and draft in admin staff to help health workers, even though they have not had criminal records checks."</i></b></p> <p>The full article can be found here:  <a href="http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/healthnews/11330180/AandE-crisis-foreign-nurses-and-untrained-volunteers-drafted-in-to-plug-dangerous-shortfall.html">http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/healthnews/11330180/AandE-crisis-foreign-nurses-and-untrained-volunteers-drafted-in-to-plug-dangerous-shortfall.html</a></p>
<b>Trust response</b>	
<p><b>COMMENT FROM PAULA CLARK, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE DUDLEY GROUP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST</b></p> <p>The paragraph in the Telegraph article re CRB checks does not relate to The Dudley Group.</p> <p>The need for Trust staff to have a DBS check is assessed on a post by post basis and those identified as requiring DBS clearance will not start in post until this is complete.</p> <p>All Trust volunteers have DBS clearance appropriate to their role and our volunteer recruitment process adheres to the NHS Employee Identification Scheme which ensures photo ID is verified prior to starting in post.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*** ENDS ***</p>	