

**For the Record – Press Statements**

<b>Publication</b>	Express and Star
<b>Date of article</b>	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May 2015
<b>Reporter</b>	Heather Large
<b>Headline</b>	250 jobs go at NHS in Dudley
<b>First paragraph/s of article</b>	<p>MORE than 250 posts have been lost at Dudley's hospital trust during the past year in a bid to save £7.5million.</p> <p>Two hundred positions have been scrapped by not filling vacancies as they have arisen and work is also under way to find alternative roles for a further 13 staff. Five workers have already been redeployed. Health chiefs at the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, which runs Russells Hall Hospital, are trying to balance the books in the wake of Government funding cuts.</p>
<b>Press enquiry</b>	<p>The Express and Star asked the Trust to confirm the number of redundancies in 2014/15 - according to the Chief Executive's Report for the last board meeting, the number was expected to be no more than 60.</p> <p>They asked the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Can we confirm the number of redundancies in 2014/15?</li> <li>2. Is there an estimated figure for 2015/16?</li> </ol>
<b>Trust response</b>	
<p><b>COMMENT FROM PAULA CLARK, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE DUDLEY GROUP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST</b></p> <p>Voluntary redundancies totalled 33 and those staff left by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015. A further 26 posts were identified for compulsory redundancy as part of our workforce reduction programme for 2014/15.</p> <p>Of the 26, eight posts were made compulsory redundant and left the organisation on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015. A further five have been successfully redeployed. We continue to seek redeployment opportunities for the remaining 13 staff, some of whom are already on a trial period for redeployment.</p>	

As vacancies arise, we are proactively matching the skills required for the post with those of staff on the redeployment register and will continue to do this until their notice period expires.

We have also permanently removed 200 posts out of the funded budget by actively reviewing vacancies all year as they arose. All these measures have allowed us to make the necessary £7.5 million savings whilst safeguarding as many jobs as possible.

We continue to assess workforce requirements for the coming years based on service demand.

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