

**For the Record – Press Statement**

<b>Publication and reporter</b>	Express & Star, Heather Large
<b>Date of article</b>	23/07/15
<b>Headline</b>	More midwives taken on to cut agency cost
<b>First paragraph/s of article</b>	Sixteen midwives have been recruited to meet a shortage at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital and reduce the need for agency staff.
<b>Trust response</b>	
<p><b>COMMENT FROM PAULA CLARK, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE DUDLEY GROUP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST</b></p> <p>Following recent interviews, 16 midwives (13.8 whole time equivalents) were offered positions at the Trust. Recruitment to the Maternity Unit is on-going. We will continue to use the Trust's staff bank, as well as community and specialist midwives, to cover short-term vacancies.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*** ENDS ***</p> <p>For further information please contact the communications team for The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust via (01384 456111) or email <a href="mailto:communications@dgh.nhs.uk">communications@dgh.nhs.uk</a></p>	
<b>Press enquiry</b>	<p>The Express &amp; Star contacted the Trust about midwife shortages which was an item in the Trust's July Board papers. The Express &amp; Star had noted that 14 midwives had been recruited and there were 19 vacancies to fill.</p> <p><b>Questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the Trust plan on recruiting any more midwives?</li> <li>• What are the plans to meet the shortages in future?</li> </ul>