

**For the Record – Press Statement**

<b>Publication and reporter</b>	Express & Star, Richard Guttridge
<b>Date of article</b>	23/06/16
<b>Headline</b>	<b>Hospital maternity unit investigation</b>
<b>First paragraph/s of article</b>	<p>An investigation has been launched into maternity care at Russells Hall Hospital following complications during births.</p> <p>Patients affected, including a mother whose baby died, have been contacted by hospital bosses who said ‘a retrospective review’ of ‘maternity unit incidents’ is to be launched.</p>
<b>Press enquiry</b>	<p>The Express and Star contacted us to say they had received a press release from a firm of solicitors about a retrospective review into Maternity Services at Russells Hall Hospital.</p> <p>Question: Can we provide a comment?</p>
<b>Trust response</b>	

**STATEMENT FROM PAULA CLARK, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE DUDLEY GROUP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST**

The Dudley Group is undertaking a retrospective review of a selection of maternity unit incidents, where patients may have experienced unexpected complications, to ensure our investigations process and the care of patients is to the highest standard. This is in response to a request from NHS England seeking assurance about learning from incidents.

We are looking at cases over a two year period and carrying out an in depth review of 25 out of the 9,000 births during that time. This review is taking a closer look at the process to investigate incidents, to ensure that we learn lessons and share that learning appropriately for the benefit of patients going forward.

We recognise this is going to be a difficult time for families and we will be liaising closely with them to ensure they have an opportunity to be involved in the review. We are working with local partners including the CCG and Healthwatch Dudley to provide oversight and openness through a quality improvement board.

We would like to reassure all users of our maternity unit that we are committed to providing the best service and that we learn from all incidents.

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