

**For the Record – Press Statement**

<b>Publication and reporter</b>	Express & Star, Jordan Harris
<b>Date of article</b>	30/12/16
<b>Headline</b>	<b>Hospitals make 800 pest control call-outs</b>
<b>First paragraph/s of article</b>	HOSPITALS across the region have made more than 800 pest control call-outs over the last five years, new figures have revealed.
<b>Press enquiry</b>	The Express & Star contacted The Dudley Group in relation to pest control callouts made during 2015/16.
<b>Trust response</b>	
<p><b>COMMENT FROM DR PAUL HARRISON, ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE DUDLEY GROUP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST</b></p> <p>The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust takes pest control very seriously in order to maintain a clean and healthy environment for our patients, visitors and staff.</p> <p>We have a pest control manager at the Trust who ensures that our pest control programme helps to keep pest incidents to a minimum and that any issues are dealt with immediately.</p> <p>We have a continuous programme of inspections in all areas where food is produced or consumed. Rigorous checks are carried out every week internally and every month in the external grounds. This allows us to detect any issues quickly and eradicate any pests in the appropriate manner.</p> <p>During 2015/16, of the 20 call outs to the Trust, 13 were reported with no activity being detected. There were seven occasions where garden ants were detected at Corbett Outpatient Centre and Guest Outpatient Centre and were dealt with immediately.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>*** ENDS ***</b></p> <p><b>Notes for editors</b></p> <p>For further information please contact Chace Smith, Communications Assistant for The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust via 01384 244403 or email <a href="mailto:communications@dgh.nhs.uk">communications@dgh.nhs.uk</a></p>	