

**For the Record – Press Statement**

<b>Publication and reporter</b>	Express & Star, Richard Gutteridge.
<b>Date of article</b>	26/01/17
<b>Headline</b>	<b>Hospital parking fines overturned</b>
<b>First paragraph/s of article</b>	New figures showed not one penalty was upheld when challenged by irate drivers. The staggering statistics mean every person who took the time to appeal their fine from Russells Hall during 2015/16 ended up not having to pay a penny. Just over a quarter of drivers fined – 358 – appealed.
<b>Press enquiry</b>	<p>The Express &amp; Star contacted the Trust relating to published figures showing the number of successful appeals against parking charge notices during 2015/16. They asked the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are there problems with the way parking charge notices are handed out at Russells Hall Hospital and across the Trust?</li> <li>• Have any changes been made as a result?</li> </ul>

**Trust response**

**COMMENT FROM DR PAUL HARRISON, ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE DUDLEY GROUP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST**

We are advised by Summit Healthcare (Dudley) who provides our parking facilities that 358 successful appeals against fixed penalty notices were made between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

The vast majority of these appeals were from members of staff using the staff car parks for failing to display a valid parking permit. On checking our permit holder database to establish they had a valid permit, the fixed penalty notices were overturned by the Trust.

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

**Notes for editors**

For further information please contact Jackie Dietrich, Communications Manager for The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust via 01384 244403 or email [communications@dgh.nhs.uk](mailto:communications@dgh.nhs.uk)