

For the Record – Press Statement

Publication and reporter	Express & Star, Luke Bartlett
Date of article	22.08.17
Headline	60 nurses hired to tackle staffing crisis
Paragraph/s relating to The Dudley Group	<p>Health chiefs at Russells Hall Hospital have hired an extra 38 nursing graduates, 12 children’s nurses and 10 midwives over the last few weeks.</p> <p>It comes after The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, which runs the hospital, held an ‘unsuccessful’ recruitment drive in the Philippines. Bosses say there is still a major staffing shortage and another attempt to fill roles will take place at the Pensnett Road site on Thursday.</p>
Press enquiry	The Trust was contacted by the Express and Star in relation to how successful previous methods of nurse recruitment have been and how The Dudley Group plans to recruit more nurses in the future.
Trust response	
<p>COMMENT FROM SIOBHAN JORDAN, INTERIM CHIEF NURSE, THE DUDLEY GROUP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST</p> <p>One of my main priorities since joining the Trust as interim chief nurse earlier this year has been to carry out a full review of staffing levels across all our services. This review is still in progress but will see nurse staffing levels increase across the hospital and the community and so we are recruiting to nursing vacancies across all our clinical specialties.</p> <p>Unfortunately, our visit to the Philippines was not successful and we are now focusing our search closer to home, with the hopes of attracting some of the fantastic home-grown talent we know is out there.</p> <p>We do, of course, welcome applications from nurses of all nationalities and already have a vibrant community of international nurses here in Dudley. We know there are many people who are qualified nurses in their home countries who, due to differences in the registration process here in the UK, are currently working as support workers or care assistants.</p> <p>We are committed to helping these nurses return to practice and have launched a dedicated International Pre-registration Nurse Programme to support them in gaining Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) registration. This is a paid programme and, on completion, they will receive a permanent contract with the Trust.</p>	

Despite a widely recognised national nurse and midwife shortage across the NHS, we have successfully recruited 38 new nursing graduates, 12 new children's nurses and 10 new midwives in the last few weeks. To support our permanent workforce, we also have a team of dedicated health professionals who prefer to work more flexibly on our staff bank.

We're always looking for staff to join our bank and anyone interested in joining us can get in touch using the details on our website. All our vacancies are also available at www.dudleygroup.nhs.uk/latest-vacancies or on the NHS Jobs website.

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Notes for editors

For further information please contact Alice Ford, Communications and Staff Engagement Officer for The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, via 01384 244403 or email communications@dgh.nhs.uk