

For the Record – Press Statement

Publication and reporter	Express & Star, Alex Ross
Date of article	11.12.17
Headline	Hospital misses target on A&E
Paragraph/s relating to The Dudley Group	Russells Hall Hospital is still failing to meet A&E waiting time targets – but is not performing as badly as other hospitals in the region.
Press enquiry	<p>The Express & Star contacted the Trust in relation to October's A&E waiting times as they were an improvement on September's performance.</p> <p>The Trust was asked the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was there a reason for the improvement? • Is the national 95% four-hour target realistic for the Trust?
Trust response	
<p>COMMENT FROM DIANE WAKE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE DUDLEY GROUP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST</p> <p>We always do our best to make sure patients attending our Emergency Department are seen as quickly as possible and continue to see, treat, admit or discharge the vast majority of patients within four hours.</p> <p>Our combined performance in October for all types of emergency attendances, which is measured as part of the national four-hour target, was 90.1%, an improvement on September's performance of 87.7%. However at times performance is fragile and we struggle with the high numbers of ambulances arriving at the same time which adds to the peaks in our demand.</p> <p>Patients are always prioritised in order of clinical need to make sure that acutely unwell patients receive the urgent medical attention they require as soon as possible.</p> <p>We continue to work closely and robustly in collaboration with our health and social care colleagues from across the region to ensure our patients receive safe and appropriate care at all times.</p> <p>In partnership with the Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group (Dudley CCG), we have invested £2.6m in a brand new Emergency Treatment Centre which is currently being built. This new facility will mean better assessment by appropriate clinicians and less pressure on A&E, supporting reduced waiting times and a better experience for our patients.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*** ENDS ***</p>	

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