For the Record – Press Statement

Publication and reporter	Express & Star, Richard Guttridge
Date of article	18.01.18
Headline	**Hospital told to look at nurse obesity**
Paragraph/s relating to The Dudley Group	Obesity levels among nurses at a hospital need to be tackled, a top director has suggested. Health bosses at Russells Hospital in Dudley have been advised to look at the issue of obesity among staff 'in a sensitive way.'
Press enquiry	The Express & Star contacted the Trust after reading in our January Board papers that non-executive director Richard Miner commented on national research into obesity among nursing staff. The minutes in the January Board papers state: Mr Miner, Non Executive Director, advised that he had raised the issue of obesity at a previous Board and commented on the recently published research on obesity levels amongst nursing staff. He suggested that this may be something for the Workforce Committee to look at in a sensitive way. The Director of HR confirmed that part of the new HR Manager's portfolio is to look at health and wellbeing of staff. The reporter asked if there was a problem with obesity levels amongst our own nursing staff.
Trust response	

COMMENT FROM ANDREW MCMENEMY, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES, THE DUDLEY GROUP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

The Trust proactively promotes healthy lifestyles and healthy eating among both our staff and patients. We support staff with a choice of healthy food options in the restaurants and by advertising the fresh fruit and veg stall at the entrance to Russells Hall Hospital. There is also a gym on site with reduced membership rates for staff alongside a number of other initiatives.

We don't believe we have an obesity problem among nursing staff or any other particular staff group. However, we continue to support our staff to make healthy choices.

*** 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
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