

Date 05.12.19

For local media

## **PRESS RELEASE**

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust has introduced smoking marshals at its Russells Hall Hospital site to help enforce its smoke-free policy.

The Trust, which runs Russells Hall Hospital and Guest and Corbett outpatient centres, went smoke-free on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019 to promote a healthier lifestyle to all.

The marshals will be on-site Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm to carry out daily patrols of the Russells Hall Hospital site. They will be asking anyone seen smoking to move off-site, and they will also be providing information and support to staff who wish to stop smoking.

Diane Wake, chief executive of the Trust, said: “As a healthcare trust, we clearly wish to promote a healthy environment. Since launching our smoke-free policy on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June, we have inevitably still been experiencing smoking on our sites whilst staff, patients and visitors adjust to this new change.

“We believe that implementing smoking marshals to help patrol our site is the next positive phase of enforcing our smoke-free policy, and we ask everyone to respect them during their duties.”

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For more information, please call Emily Pillar, Communications and Patient Information Officer for The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, on (01384) 456111 extension 1423 or email [emily.pillar@nhs.net](mailto:emily.pillar@nhs.net)

### **Caption for photograph:**

Andrew Rigby, head of development and property management for the Dudley Group (left) and Paul Duffy, general manager for Summit Healthcare (Dudley) Limited (right) with the smoking marshals.