

**For the Record – Press Statement**

<b>Publication and reporter</b>	HSJ, Shaun Lintern
<b>Date of article</b>	07.04.17
<b>Headline</b>	<b>GMC warns against 'unreasonable withdrawal' over IR35</b>
<b>Paragraph/s relating to The Dudley Group</b>	<p>The General Medical Council has warned that any locum doctors engaging in “unreasonable withdrawal” from work could exacerbate pressure on health services and potentially risk patient safety.</p> <p>Other trusts have also since come forward to confirmed the tax changes have affected them, including The Dudley Group Foundation Trust. A spokesman said: “As expected we have a small number of gaps in our rota which we have been planning for over the last few months with our staff to ensure we continue to provide safe, effective care.”</p>
<b>Press enquiry</b>	<p>HSJ contacted the Trust relating to new IR35 regulations for temporary staff. The HSJ had received reports about examples of staff refusing to work due to the regulations coming into force.</p> <p>The Trust was asked if it had heard about any locums refusing to work shifts due to the new regulations and what was being done to mitigate any gaps in rotas to maintain safety.</p>
<b>Trust response</b>	
<p><b>COMMENT FROM DIANE WAKE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE DUDLEY GROUP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST</b></p> <p>As expected we have a small number of gaps in our rota which we have been planning for over the last few months with our staff to ensure we continue to provide safe, effective care.</p> <p>In order to mitigate the risks we have worked with individuals to either bring them onto our own staff bank, a temporary fixed term contract or substantive posts</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>*** ENDS ***</b></p> <p><b>Notes for editors</b></p> <p>For further information please contact Liz Abbiss, Head of Communications and Patient Experience for The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust via 01384 321013 or email <a href="mailto:communications@dgh.nhs.uk">communications@dgh.nhs.uk</a></p>	