

For the Record – Press Statements

Publication	Express and Star
Date of article	13 th August 2014
Reporter	Heather Large
Headline	Dudley hospital jobs at risk in £12m cuts
First paragraph/s of article	Jobs are at risk at Dudley’s hospital trust as part of a widespread review of non-clinical posts as it looks to save up to £12 million. Bosses are reviewing the positions of temporary staff, those on fixed-term contracts, and bank and agency workers.
Press enquiry	Heather Large at the Express and Star said she had an anonymous email saying the Trust is looking to reduce its workforce to help reduce costs – a review is apparently taking place of all non-clinical positions. Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can she confirm this is correct? • What are the reasons behind it? • How many jobs are at risk? • Follow up question: do we have any idea of the numbers needed?
Trust response	
<p>COMMENT FROM PAULA CLARK, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE DUDLEY GROUP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST</p> <p>In common with all NHS trusts in England we are doing everything we can to meet the government’s four per cent efficiency savings while at the same time providing high quality patient care.</p> <p>Pay is our biggest cost and so we are looking at ways of reducing staffing while, at the same time, protecting permanent staff employed by the Trust.</p> <p>We are reviewing non-clinical posts furthest away from frontline patient care and these include temporary staff, those on fixed term contracts, and bank and agency</p>	

as well as looking at reducing overtime and recruitment to non-clinical vacancies.

The Trust is also offering staff the opportunity to apply for a Mutually Agreed Resignation Scheme (MARS) during August and September 2014. This scheme allows individual employees to leave their employment for a set severance payment.

At all times our focus will be on the impact on patients and, therefore, no decision will be made without each proposed post loss going through our Quality Impact Assessment Panel to ensure no cuts will be made if they impact on patient care and safety.