

For the Record – Press Statement

Publication and reporter	Express & Star, Nathan Briant Free Radio, Robert Trigg
Date of article	03/12/16
Headline	Express & Star: Hospitals chiefs want total ban on smoking
First paragraph/s of article	Black Country and Staffordshire health bosses want to ban smoking from their sites to help improve the health of patients and staff.
Press enquiry	The Express & Star and Free Radio contacted the Trust following a statement issued by Public Health England's Chief Executive about all NHS sites being completely smoke free. The Trust was asked to confirm its current position and whether it was considering going smoke-free in the future.
Trust response	
<p>COMMENT FROM DR PAUL HARRISON, ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE DUDLEY GROUP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST</p> <p>The Trust is committed to supporting the health and wellbeing of all staff and visitors to our premises by ensuring a smoke free environment in the direct vicinity of our buildings.</p> <p>We do our best to enforce our Smoke Free Policy which states the smoking of cigarettes and e-cigarettes is only permitted in designated smoking shelters at our three hospital sites.</p> <p>We also offer advice to staff and patients on the risks of smoking and actively encourage them to stop smoking with the help of nicotine replacements.</p> <p>We are in early discussions to create to a totally smoke-free environment and we will be consulting with our staff and patients on the best way to achieve this.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*** ENDS ***</p> <p>Notes for editors</p> <p>For further information please contact Jackie Dietrich, Communications Manager for The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust via 01384 244403 or email communications@dgh.nhs.uk</p>	