

PRESS RELEASE

Friday 30th December 2016

Think twice before coming to Russells Hall Hospital's A&E

Patients are asked to think carefully before coming to the Accident and Emergency Department at Russells Hall Hospital unless they have a serious or life-threatening condition.

The hospital has seen unprecedented pressure on its emergency services and so we are asking patients to use the NHS 111 telephone service, local pharmacists, walk in centres and their GPs rather than coming to hospital.

Patients who do come to hospital with minor conditions may have a very long wait as the most poorly patients will be seen and treated first.

“We have seen extreme pressures on our services with large numbers of hospital admissions and would urge patients to think twice before using the A&E department at Russells Hall Hospital,” said acting chief executive Dr Paul Harrison.

“We know patients recover better out of hospital and are working hard with partners including Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group, Dudley Social Services and Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Trust to discharge patients who are medically fit as quickly as possible. This helps us free up resources to deal with the large number of new patients attending the hospital”

*****ENDS*****

For more information, please call Alice Ford, Communications and Staff Engagement Officer for The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust on (01384) 244403