

**For the Record – Press Statement**

<b>Publication and reporter</b>	Express & Star, Marion Brennan Free Radio, Megan Jones
<b>Date of article</b>	24.06.17
<b>Headline</b>	<b>Hospitals ‘among the worst for stillbirths’</b>
<b>Paragraph/s relating to The Dudley Group</b>	Three Black Country hospital trusts have been named among the worst in the country for stillbirths and babies dying within 28 days of being born.  Diane Wake, chief executive for The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust said: “Any stillbirth or neonatal death is a tragedy for the families involved and, whenever one occurs within the trust, a team of senior midwives, obstetricians and other clinicians carries out a full review into the circumstances.”
<b>Press enquiry</b>	The Dudley Group received enquiries relating to the Trust being listed as one of the top 21 organisations for perinatal mortality according to the latest MBRRACE-UK report. The Trust was asked to comment.
<b>Trust response</b>	
<p><b>COMMENT FROM DIANE WAKE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE DUDLEY GROUP NHS FOUNDATION TRUST</b></p> <p>Any stillbirth or neonatal death is a tragedy for the families involved and, whenever one occurs within the Trust, a team of senior midwives, obstetricians and other clinicians carries out a full review into the circumstances.</p> <p>This report relates to births in 2015 and, since then, our local reporting shows that our perinatal mortality rate has reduced. For the 2016/17 financial year, our crude perinatal mortality rate was 4.89 (down from 7.37 in the MBRRACE-UK report on 2015 births) and our adjusted rate was 3.11* (down from 5.72).</p> <p>The West Midlands has a known high risk population and a challenging demographic. Here in Dudley, we care for a large number of high risk women, often with long-term conditions, who present with complications.</p> <p>We would like to assure all users of our maternity services and neonatal unit that we are committed to providing the best care possible and we will use the recommendations in today’s report to help us continue to make improvements.</p>	

\*\*\* ENDS \*\*\*

**Notes for editors**

- \*3.11 is the adjusted figure as per local adjustments and is based on the most up to date report available at the time of reporting, the previous MBRRACE-UK report into 2014 births. As a result, these figures may not be directly comparable.
- Perinatal mortality rate combines both stillbirths and neonatal deaths

For further information please contact the Communications Department for The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust via 01384 244403 or email

[communications@dgh.nhs.uk](mailto:communications@dgh.nhs.uk)