

Trust Board Meeting**DATE:** 28 March 2012**TITLE:** Delivering Same Sex Accommodation**SPONSOR:** Maria DaSilva
Chief Operating Officer**REPORT FROM:**
*Fiona Smith, Director of Planning & Programmes***PURPOSE OF REPORT:** Board review and approval of the organisation's same sex accommodation declaration.**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Trust is expected to make a self declaration of compliance against Department of Health (DH) guidance on delivering same sex accommodation (DSSA). Breaches are termed as mixed-sex 'occurrences' – i.e., occasions when men and women have to share the same sleeping or sanitary accommodation – "*Mixed-sex occurrences should always be considered as exceptions rather than the norm and staff must always be able to provide clinical justification for any mixed-sex occurrences*". The DH have left the local NHS to make final decisions about what constitutes clinical justification of mixed-sex accommodation for an individual patient and have provided guidance to assist with such local determination. As in previous years this is agreed in partnership with commissioners.

The Trust's commitment to delivering single sex accommodation is attached for the Board to review. It includes the actions that the organisation will take on an ongoing basis to ensure compliance. Single sex accommodation compliance is monitored for every admission and reported by the bed managers on a daily basis and through dashboard reports to Trust Board monthly. Following the extensive capital works undertaken in 2010/11 the Trust has been compliant with the guidance. For 2011/12 there were 9 unavoidable breaches in June 2011 that were reviewed by commissioners and no penalties have been applied.

Declaration should be published on the Trust's website by 31 March 2012. Failure to either declare compliance or achievement of non-compliance will result in financial penalties being enforced through the trust's contract with its commissioners.

PROPOSED ACTION: For approval**APPENDICES:** None**DECLARATION**

In completing this report, I confirm that the implications associated with the proposed action shown above have been considered – any exceptions are reported in the Supporting Information:

Implications for the NHS Constitution, CQC registration

Financial, regulatory and legal implications of proposed action

Risk management, Annual Plan/IBP

Moving Ahead – how does this report support any of the Trust's 5 Strategic Goals