

TRUST BOARD

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| Date of Meeting: 08/03/2011 | | Enclosure: 10 |
| | | Agenda Item No: 10.2 |
| Title of Report: Delivering Same Sex Accommodation (DSSA) | | |
| Aims: This report provides an update of progress on the most recent Department of Health Guidance on Delivering Same Sex Accommodation (DSSA). | | |
| Summary: The report summarises the progress made in the delivery of same sex accommodation and provides an update on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring & Patient Experience. • NHS Cumbria peer review of Cumberland Infirmary & West Cumberland Hospital. • Department of Health peer review of Cumberland Infirmary. • Monthly reporting to Department of Health on Mixed Sex Accommodation. • Chief Executive Officer declaration 2011. • Essence of Care and Clinical Indicators. • Future requirements. | | |
| Specific implications for consideration (Financial/Workforce/Risk/Legal/Race Equality etc): | | |
| Financial | Complete | |
| Workforce | N/A | |
| Other | Reputation of the Trust. Privacy and Dignity. | |
| Recommendations: The Trust Board is asked to note the report. | | |
| Document previously approved by: N/A | | |
| Prepared by: Lesley Carruthers, Deputy Director of Nursing | | Presented by: Chris Platton, Acting Director of Nursing, Quality & Governance |

**TRUST BOARD
DELIVERING SAME SEX
ACCOMMODATION (DSSA)
MARCH 2011**

1. INTRODUCTION

North Cumbria University Hospitals Trust is committed to providing patients with same sex accommodation.

Every patient has the right to receive high quality care that is safe, effective and which respects their privacy and dignity.

North Cumbria University Hospitals Trust has eliminated mixed sex accommodation with the exception of clinical need in critical care areas as per the Department of Health (DoH) guidance.

2. MONITORING

North Cumbria University Hospitals NHS Trust (NCUHT) continues to monitor and provide assurance on the Trust's compliance on Delivering Same Sex Accommodation (DSSA) which includes:

- DSSA - A mixed sex occurrence policy and procedure.
- Monthly completion and submission of Patient Survey's to NHS Cumbria.
- DoH monthly DSSA returns.
- Monitoring of Clinical Need breaches, ITU (Cumberland Infirmary and West Cumberland Hospital & CCU (Cumberland Infirmary).
- Privacy and Dignity audit via Essence of Care (EoC) and Clinical Indicators.
- Monitoring and reporting complaints/concerns received relating to mixed sex accommodation.
- Peer review by NHS Cumbria completed at Cumberland Infirmary and West Cumberland Hospital.
- Peer review by DoH completed at Cumberland Infirmary and planned for West Cumberland Hospital in March/April 2011.

- Chief Executive updated declaration from March 2011.
- DSSA compliance statement declared on NCUHT website

3. **PEER REVIEW**

NHS Cumbria have completed peer reviews on each site relating to the implementation and compliance of DSSA at Cumberland Infirmary and West Cumberland Hospital. The feedback from the reviews on both sites was very complimentary to the staff and the work completed by the Trust in delivering same sex accommodation. Additional picture signage was requested which would support existing signage. The DoH peer review at Cumberland Infirmary also received excellent feedback and the review at West Cumberland Hospital is planned for March/April 2011.

4. **FUTURE REQUIREMENTS**

- All Trusts have to continue to publish via their website the process for reporting breaches internally and externally to NHS Cumbria.
- Continue patient experience monitoring and provide monthly mixed sex accommodation reports to NHS Cumbria and DoH.
- Report to Trust Board on the Delivering Same Sex Accommodation (DSSA).
- Communications leaflets are to continue to be provided for staff and patients.
- DSSA awareness included in staff induction/mandatory training.
- Staff should have a clear understanding of DSSA and have the ability to explain to patient, carers and relatives.

5. **CONCLUSION**

NCUHT is fully compliant and has not breached mixed sex accommodation on general wards/departments. All breaches included in the DoH exemption criteria are due to clinical need which is reported monthly to NHS Cumbria and the Department of Health. Monthly audits of Patient experience surveys and DSSA compliance will provide assurance that the Trust maintains its compliance as per DoH DSSA guidance.

6. RECOMMENDATION

The Trust Board is asked to note the report.

Chris Platton
ACTING DIRECTOR OF NURSING, QUALITY & GOVERNANCE