



# PAPER

Tabled at Meeting

# Report to the Meeting of the Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

# Board of Directors

April 2012

For Approval

**Report**

All Trusts are required to annually publically declare their compliance position with the Eliminating Mixed sex Accommodation standards. Last year Oxford Health (2011/12) declaration stated that the Trust was compliant most areas and would be compliant following completion of some building work on three wards. This work has been completed and the Trust is due to make its annual declaration.

**Recommendation**

The Board of Directors are requested to approve the publication of full compliance with EMSA standards using the Department of Health’ standard statement

**Author and Title:** Caroline Birch, Deputy Director of Nursing

**Lead Executive Director:** Ros Alstead, Director of Nursing and Clinical Standards

A risk assessment has been undertaken around the legal issues that this paper presents and there are no issues that need to be referred to the Trust Solicitors.

This paper provides assurance and evidence against the Care Quality Commission Outcomes: 1 Respecting and involving people who use services and 16 Assessing and monitoring the quality of service provision

Declaration on Eliminating Mixed Sex Accommodation (EMSA)

**Introduction**

All Trusts are required to annually publically declare their compliance position with the Eliminating Mixed sex Accommodation standards. Oxford Health’' 2011/12 declaration stated that the Trust was mostly compliant but had the following work to be completed before full compliance could be confirmed;

* Zoning of bedrooms into single gender areas and clearer signage in the John Hampden Unit, Stoke Mandeville. This was due for completion by June 2011.
* In Wenrisc Ward, Witney zoning of male and female areas was being completed at the time of declaration. Improvements in access to bathing facilities were planned.
* Provision of additional bathing facilities for females on Peppard Ward, Townslands, Henley on Thames was being pursued with the estate owner, Oxfordshire PCT.

The work detailed above was completed in year.

In addition to the work required above and ensuite facility has been created in Cotswold House (Oxford) to enable the ward to take one male patient, previously male patients would have routinely been transferred to Cotswold House (Marlborough). Improvements have also been made to Ashurst ward to enhance the safety, privacy and dignity of female patients admitted.

**NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement 2011/2012 Self Assessment**

The NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement provides a number of resources and tools that acute and mental health organisations can use to help in the delivery of same-sex accommodation. The NHS Institute Privacy and Dignity (P&D) tool is a self-assessment questionnaire outlining key principles of privacy and dignity. It addresses same-sex accommodation as a subset of the wider privacy and dignity agenda. The tool provides guidance and a self-assessment checklist to help Trusts identify mixed-sex accommodation ‘hotspots’.

Oxford Health adapted the tools provided by the NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement and produced 2 slightly different self assessment checklists; one for completion by mental health inpatient wards, Forensic units, Eating Disorders & CAMHS wards/units and the second for completion by Oxon Community Hospitals.

The self assessment checklists were completed by ward managers in February 2012. This self assessment is still in draft and subject to usual committee approvals but does not indicate any significant concerns within the Trust. There was however a number of breaches which were reported last year, particularly earlier in the year before all work was completed.

**Reported Breaches of EMSA standards 2011/2012**

 “A ‘breach’ is when a provider does not meet the general obligations for same sex accommodation set out in their Delivering Same Sex Accommodation (DSSA) plan. A breach occurs each time there is a mixed-sex occurrence, that is, when a patient shares sleeping accommodation, toilets or bathrooms with a patient of the opposite sex, or when a patient has to pass through opposite sex accommodation to reach their own toilets and bathrooms. All breaches have to be reported to Commissioners however where this is agreed to be clinically justifiable within the guidelines the Commissioner can waive the penalty.

There were a total of 20 reported breaches to the Health & Safety Team from the Mental Health Division and nil breaches from Community Services Division

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Month | Ward  | Number of Breaches | Total Breaches |
| April 2011 | Cromwell Harding | 24 | 6 |
| May 2011 | Cotswold Hse OxfordHighfield Wilts | 11 | 2 |
| June 2011 | HardingKimmeridgeCotswold Hse OxfordHighfield Wilts | 1111 | 4 |
| July 2011 | Highfield | 1 | 1 |
| August 2011 | Highfield Oxon | 1 | 1 |
| September 2011 | Highfield OxonHighfield OxonHighfield Oxon | 111 | 3 |
| October 2011 | FiennesHighfield Oxon | 11 | 2 |
| November 2011 |  |  |  |
| December 2011 | Highfield Wilts | 1 | 1 |
| January 2012 |  |  |  |
| Febraury 2012 |  |  |  |
| March 2012 |  |  |  |
| Total  |  |  | 20 |

**Recommendation**

In light of completion of the environmental work required to deliver care within the EMSA standards as indicated in the Trust declaration last year, and the favourable self assessment returns from wards The Board of Directors are requested to approve the publication of full compliance with EMSA standards using the Department of Health’ standard statement as indicated below.

Declaration of Compliance 2011/2012

Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust are pleased to confirm that we are compliant with the Government's requirement to eliminate mixed-sex accommodation, except when it reflects personal choice.

We have the necessary facilities, resources and culture to ensure that patients who are admitted to our community in-patient units will be in single rooms which have en-suite facilities or will be close to designated same-sex toilets and bathrooms.

If our care should fall short of the required standard, we will report it. We will also set up an audit mechanism to make sure that we do not misclassify any of our reports.