

Mixed sex accommodation declaration of compliance for 2017 – 2018

East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust is pleased to confirm that we are compliant with the Government's requirement to eliminate mixed-sex accommodation, except when it is in the patient's overall best interest, or reflects their personal choice.

We have the necessary facilities, resources and culture to ensure that patients who are admitted to our hospitals will only share the room where they sleep with members of the same sex, and same sex toilets and bathrooms will be close to their bed area. Sharing with members of the opposite sex will only happen when clinically necessary (for example where patients need specialist equipment such as in Intensive Care Units, High Dependency Units, Coronary Care Units, and acute stroke bays) or when patients choose to share, for example a patient may choose a more convenient admission date for day surgery knowing that a gender specific list is not running.

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

<http://www.ekhuft.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/about-us/documents-and-publications/statements-and-declarations/#same-sex>

31st March 2017