Delivering Same-Sex Accommodation
Declaration of compliance

We are proud to confirm that mixed sex accommodation has been virtually eliminated in all our hospitals.

Every patient has the right to receive high quality care that is safe, effective and respects their privacy and dignity. The Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust is committed to providing every patient with same sex accommodation, because it helps to safeguard their privacy and dignity when they are often at their most vulnerable.

We are proud to confirm that mixed sex accommodation has been virtually eliminated in our trust. Patients who are admitted to any of 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 by exception based on clinical need, for example where patients need specialist equipment such as in Intensive Care, or when patients choose to share, for instance when undergoing haemodialysis.

The assessment of compliance has been based on the principles agreed by the Department of Health and includes the actions taken to achieve compliance, the assurance systems in place to monitor compliance, the management of breaches and the communications to patients and the public about privacy and dignity.
What does this mean for patients?
Other than in the circumstances set out above, patients admitted to Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust can expect to find the following:

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<th>Same sex-accommodation means:</th>
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<td>• The <strong>room where your bed is</strong> will only have patients of the same sex as you</td>
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<td>• Your <strong>toilet and bathroom</strong> will be just for your gender, and will be close to your bed area</td>
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It is possible that there will be both men and women patients on the ward, but they will not share your sleeping area. You may have to cross a ward corridor to reach your bathroom, but you will not have to walk through opposite-sex areas.

You may share some communal space, such as day rooms or dining rooms, and it is very likely that you will see both men and women patients as you move around the hospital (e.g. on your way to X-ray or the operating theatre).

It is probable that visitors of the opposite gender will come into the room where your bed is, and this may include patients visiting each other.

It is almost certain that both male and female nurses, doctors and other staff will come into your bed area.

If you need help to use the toilet or take a bath (e.g. you need a hoist or special bath) then you may be taken to a “unisex” bathroom used by both men and women, but a member of staff will be with you, and other patients will not be in the bathroom at the same time.

**The NHS will not turn patients away just because a “right-sex” bed is not immediately available**

What are our plans for the future?
Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust will continue to monitor compliance with single sex accommodation. Staff will remain pro-active in monitoring this.

How will we measure success?
Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust will monitor this through CQC in-patient surveys, exception reporting to NHS Leeds, local surveys, patient engagement and reports to the Trust board.

What do I do if I think I am in mixed sex accommodation?
We want to know about your experiences. If you have any comments or concerns please contact the Trust Patient Relations Department.

Contact details are:-

- Tel: (0113) 2066261
- Minicom: (0113) 2066018
- Fax: (0113) 2066146
- E mail: patient.relations@leedsth.nhs.uk

Out of office hours the Patient Relations Department has a 24 hour answer phone.