

**MATTRESS AUDIT TOOL**

<b><u>Bed No</u></b>	<b><u>Mattress Type</u></b>	<b><u>Q1</u></b>	<b><u>Q2</u></b>	<b><u>Q3</u></b>	<b><u>Q4</u></b>	<b><u>Q5</u></b>	<b><u>Q6</u></b>	<b><u>Q7</u></b>	<b><u>Q8</u></b>	<b><u>Q9</u></b>	<b><u>Q10</u></b>	<b><u>Comments</u></b>
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## **MATTRESS AUDIT GUIDANCE QUESTIONS**

- Question 1 - A minimum of 5 inches deep (12.5cm)**
- Question 2 - Fitted with a waterproof cover**
- Question 3 - Free of stains**
- Question 4 - Free of tears**
- Question 5 - Free of dipping (*see note 1*)**
- Question 6 - Has the mattress passed the water test? (*see note 2*)**
- Question 7 - Is the mattress labelled?**
- Question 8 - Is the bed frame mesh?**
- Question 9 - Is the bed frame free of contamination with blood and other body fluids?**

**Items 1 – 6 are essential criteria**

**(Failure of one or more means mattress should be condemned)**

### **NOTE 1 – Hand Compression Assessment**

1. Adjust the height of bed so that it is the same level as the tester's head of trochanter (hip).
2. Link hand to form a fist and place them on the mattress.
3. Keep elbows straight and lean forward, applying the full body weight to the mattress.
4. Repeat the hand compression along the entire length of the mattress.
5. Note any variation in the density of the foam including whether the base of the base of the bed can be felt through the foam.
6. The mattress should be condemned if it is found to bottom out or if the foam is found to be stained, damp or odorous.

(Dunford 1994)

### **NOTE 2 – Water Penetration Test**

1. Undo the zip and place a sheet of absorbent tissue between the cover and the foam.
2. Using the fist, indent the mattress to form a shallow well and pour tap water (about half a cup) into the well.
3. Agitate the surface with the fist for one minute to increase contact and then mop up water.
4. Inspect tissue for water marking.
5. Repeat procedure on reverse side of the mattress.
6. The cover should be replaced if it is found to fail the above test or it is damaged.

(Dunford 1994)