

Hospital sorry for 'do not resuscitate' order on patient with Down's



Apology: The hospital in Margate where Mr Waters was treated PICTURE: SWNS

A HOSPITAL placed a 'do not resuscitate' order on a patient because he had Down's syndrome.

The family of Andrew Waters was not told about the 2011 order – which listed his learning difficulties as the reason for the note on his medical file.

Now East Kent Hospitals NHS Trust has apologised and admitted breaching his human rights.

Mr Waters died in May at the age of 53 from an unrelated cause.

Staff had decided he should not be resuscitated while he was being

by **BEN MITCHELL**

treated at the Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Hospital in Margate, Kent, four years ago.

His brother, Michael Waters, who took legal action on behalf of his sibling, said: 'I still feel very angry about this, especially the fact my brother's Down's syndrome was put as the reason for the order.'

A trust spokeswoman said: 'We apologise unreservedly for the distress caused.'



Anger: Andrew Waters's Down's syndrome was used as reason for order PICTURE: PA