



## Stakeholder and Local Involvement Network (LINK) Equality Delivery System (EDS) 2012: How we got our grades



we **respect** each other  
we have a **can do** attitude  
we strive for **improvement**  
we take **pride** in the service we provide  
we are welcoming, friendly and **caring**  
we put **patients** at the heart of everything we do

## How did we go about this?

All lead personnel including the Board of Directors, FT Governors, divisional meetings, the equality diversity and human rights strategy group, its sub groups and the equality local champions had training on the new Public Sector Equality Duty and the NHS EDS.

Countess of Chester Hospital (CoCH) established a collaboration with 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations, carers and internal stakeholders, to get sign up from across most of the protected characteristics, to grade evidence we would be submitting to them, against the 18 EDS outcomes.

CoCH met with the West Cheshire Local Involvement Network (LINK) who agreed to host a verification event at Cheshire LINK in February 2012, to analyse and agree a final grade, based on those received from the internal and external stakeholder sessions.

CoCH co-formulated a training programme with the Cheshire PCT Cluster lead and subsequently co-facilitated a training session in January, for 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations, to prepare them for grading EDS submissions.



CoCH facilitated eight stakeholder EDS grading events with 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations, Carers, Volunteers, Foundation Trust (FT) Governors and Staff representatives between late January and mid-February. A verification event was hosted by Cheshire Local Involvement Network (LiNK) to finalise our EDS grading.

The stakeholder sessions involved:

- TransForum & Unique Transgender (TG) - 23/1/12
- Countess Equality Local Champions - 30/1/12
- Irish Community Care Merseyside (ICCM) - 30/1/12
- Alzheimer's Society - 2/2/12
- Chester Halton & Warrington Race and Equality Centre (CHAWREC) - 6/2/12
- Hospital Volunteers - 7/2/12
- Chester Accessibility Action Group (CAAG) at DIAL House Chester - 9/2/12
- Countess FT Governors - 14/2/12

Verification date for Cheshire Local Involvement Network (LiNK) was held on 20/2/12

