

Equality performance EDS2 2019 – working with stakeholders

Health equality and patient experience was in the spotlight following a recent grading workshop event held by Bexley CCG in December 2019.

Members of our Equality, Patient Experience and Engagement assurance committee (EPEC), patient council and staff heard directly from commissioners about the CCG's work to ensure that the services we buy and provide are appropriate for, and inclusive of, our diverse local population.



We use the NHS Equality Delivery System (known as EDS2) a tool to measure equality performance. This is an assessment framework for health services that aims to bring together evidence and perspectives of local stakeholders.

As Part of the CCG's statutory compliance duty around equality legislation and human rights, the CCG identified key colleagues to provide baseline evidence for each EDS2 goal and its outcomes by answering the questions relevant to the CCG, and where possible taking into account due regard for protected characteristics.

The panel received an overview of our EDS2 self-assessment, together with supporting evidence. The introduction was followed by a discussion with the panel, who informed the grading for the first two goals: better health outcomes and improved patient access.

Through discussion the group shared ideas with the CCG, checked if the picture (with the evidence) described matched real-life experiences and agreed on grades that everyone in the group was comfortable with. A follow on session is taking place with the CCG staff network in January to review and grade goals 3 and 4 of the framework which focus on workforce and leadership.

At the close of the meeting Neil Kennett-Brown, NHS Bexley CCG's managing director, delivered a well-received speech in which he thanked delegates for their work over the past year and renewed the CCG's commitment to equality and patient experience.

The results of both sessions will be considered by the CCGs EPEC assurance group in January and the Quality Safety Sub-Committee as part of an Equality update in February 2020. The final results will be published in the CCG's Annual Equality report.