

## Equality and Diversity Council Meeting 30 January 2018

### Supporting system architecture: Update on EDS2

#### Background and purpose

One of the three areas of EDC workplan focuses upon continuous improvement on equality and the refresh of EDS2. Building on previous EDS2 evaluation reports tabled at EDC, progress on this workstream started in October 2017. This paper provides an update on progress to date.

#### Progress summary

Building on the independent evaluation of the EDS (November 2012) and NHS Employers' EDS2 engagement report (March 2016), as well as other ongoing engagement with the system on implementation of EDS2, work to review the current EDS2 has commenced. This refresh will include ensuring that the revised EDS2 framework is aligned to:

- a. the key policy priorities for the NHS – including those in the NHS FYFV
- b. the current and emerging healthcare architecture.

The refreshed framework will cover the nine protected groups under the Equality Act 2010, and will be designed to continue to help organisations to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). The refreshed framework will also help organisation to focus on those issues that matter most to local patients, communities and the workforce.

As the lead for this workstream, the chair will engage with senior NHS leaders from across England, ensuring a spread from regions, type of trusts; CCGs and the healthcare ALBs. This will take place until May 2018. Concurrent with this process will be the work on refreshing the current framework.

An initial design of the refreshed EDS2 framework will be tabled at the July 2018 meeting of the EDC. This will be followed by engagement and testing of the framework with key stakeholders from across the system.

#### Key points to consider and next steps

1. Need to ensure consistent alignment with the three EDC workstreams – a meeting between the three workstreams leads being planned.
2. EDC members maybe approached for input as part of the refresh process.
3. The current EDS2 continues to be embedded within key policy leavers for NHS organisations. It will therefore be communicated to the system that it is business as usual for organisations with regards to EDS2 implementation, until the refreshed framework is made available.

#### Recommendation and action requested

The EDC is asked to note progress.

**Melanie Walker**  
January 2018