



PRESS STATEMENT

18 November 2015

Diversity and inclusion is key at all levels across the NHS

Responding to today's report by The King's Fund and commissioned by NHS England, [Making the difference: diversity and inclusion in the NHS](#), Saffron Cordery, director of policy and strategy, NHS Providers, said:

"The drive for a diverse NHS workforce is about more than being seen to do the right thing and we welcome today's report from The King's Fund as it builds on the NHS' core values, including respect and dignity, compassion, and inclusion. Given the diversity of the NHS workforce, these values have particular significance and there is increasing evidence of a strong link between having a diverse NHS workforce, in which all staff members' contributions are valued, and good patient care.

"Diverse teams bring different skills, experience and knowledge to the table. NHS Providers' race equality report, [Leading by example: the race equality opportunity for NHS provider boards](#), recognises this attribute and sets out the business case for change, including examples of trusts who have taken steps to improve race equality within their workforces.

"It's important this is integral to the NHS because care is far more likely to meet the needs of all the patients it serves when its staff are drawn from diverse communities across the country, and when all our frontline staff are themselves free from discrimination."

Ends

Notes to editors

See our [programme](#) for a #HealthyNHS, setting out priorities for four areas – funding, workforce, regulation and NHS providers.

About NHS Providers

- NHS Providers is the membership organisation for NHS acute hospitals, community, mental health and ambulance services
- NHS Providers acts as the public voice for those NHS trusts, helping to deliver high quality care by promoting shared learning, providing support and development and shaping the strategic system in which our members operate
- NHS Providers has more than 90% of all NHS foundation trusts and aspirant trusts in membership
- Follow NHS Providers on twitter @NHSPROVIDERS and Chris Hopson, chief executive, @ChrisCEOHopson
- A full list of NHS Providers' press releases and statements can be viewed in the news section of our homepage www.nhsproviders.org
- Contact Geethani Piyasena, media relations, 07711 376 267