



Protected characteristics



We work with members of the [Public Engagement Network](#) to gain a broader understanding of the health and social care landscape in England, highlighting where inequalities exist across the country.

We do this by reaching out to people with protected characteristics who may be at risk of facing inequalities, including:



- People who are vulnerable as a result of their circumstances, with a focus on:
 - people with experience of the criminal justice system
 - people experiencing homelessness
 - people who are sex workers
- People from the gypsy and travellers' communities
- People with drug and alcohol problems
- People from minority ethnic communities, particularly people whose first language is not English
- People who are Asylum seekers and refugees
- People from LGBT+ communities
- People with physical/sensory disabilities
- Children and young people with health needs, including mental health and care needs
- People with mental health issues, including those with experiences of detention under the Mental Health Act
- People with a learning disability
- Autistic people
- Older people with complex health needs or who lack capacity, using primary and home care, and those subject to deprivation of liberty safeguards.

