

## **Equality and Diversity in the Lancashire Local Area Agreement**

The Lancashire Partnership is committed to promoting equality and diversity in the Lancashire Local Area Agreement (LAA). Although we do not have a national indicator around equality, we do have a requirement within the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) to meet the needs of people who experience inequality; disadvantage; or discrimination; and people whose circumstances make them vulnerable. This means that all the actions across each of the 7 themes within Lancashire's LAA need to benefit people in these groups as well as the wider community.

In order to assess our progress, the CAA asks the following 3 overarching questions at audit time:

- How well do local authorities express community needs and aspirations?
- How well are outcomes and improvements needed being delivered?
- What are the prospects for future improvement?

In addition to audit requirements, each of the statutory partners within Lancashire's LAA has legal responsibilities in terms of equality. This means that they have to demonstrate how they are promoting equality in their work areas and in their partnership arrangements, which is another driver for ensuring equality is embedded across the LAA.