

**Directorate of Operations  
Medicine**

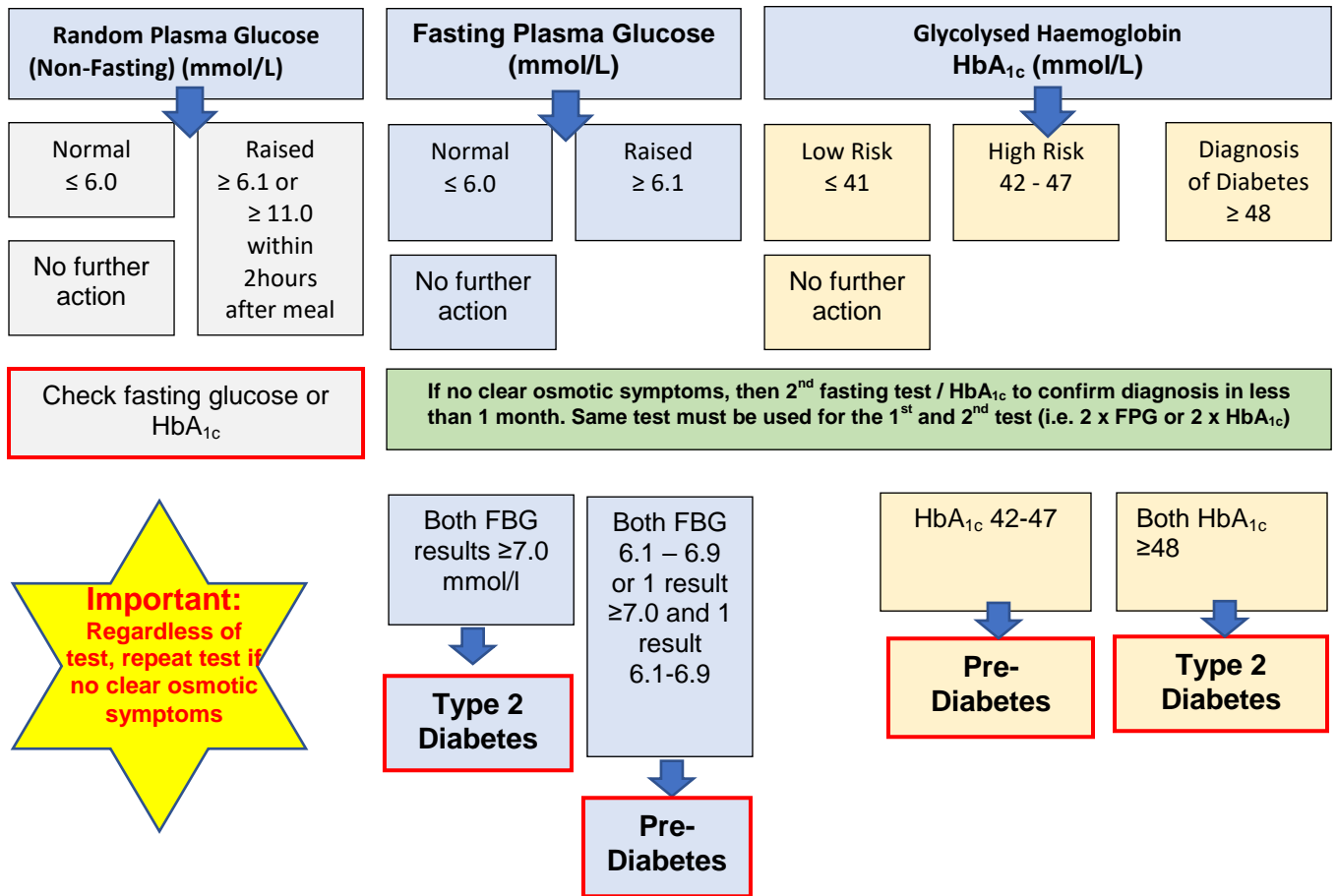
# **CARE PATHWAY FOR TYPE 2 DIABETES MANAGEMENT**

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## Diabetes diagnosis pathway

**Consider Screening** in the following groups:  
 Risk Factors – Obesity, Ethnicity – Black / South Asian, Age over 40, High risk of CVD, Hypertension, Family History of Diabetes, Previous Gestational Diabetes, Steroid Use, PCOS  
**Symptomatic Patients** – Polyuria, Polydipsia, Weight Changes, Nocturia, Urinary Incontinence, Fatigue, Lethargy, Frequent Infections, Sepsis, Blurred vision  
**If Acutely Unwell** – check CBG & Ketones for suspected Type 1 Diabetes



**PRE-DIABETES**

**Impaired Fasting Glucose: Fasting venous plasma glucose ≥ 6.1 - < 7.0 mmols/l. An important opportunity for the individual to address lifestyle issues and potentially reverse their diagnosis.**

**Refer to local diabetes prevention programme and / or on-line hard copy educational motivational resources.**

CBG - Capillary Blood Glucose, CVD - Cardiovascular Disease, PCOS - Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome, FPG - Fasting Plasma Glucose, FBG - Fasting Blood Glucose

## Care pathway for glucose lowering therapy in Type 2 Diabetes

**METFORMIN & strong lifestyle measures, including diet, activity & smoking cessation**

1<sup>st</sup> Line

**Type 2 Diabetes: HbA<sub>1c</sub> ≥ 48mmol/L (repeated if asymptomatic)**

Individualised HbA<sub>1c</sub> or Default HbA<sub>1c</sub> < 58

2<sup>nd</sup>

**Established ASCVD or HF or CKD**

**No Established ASCVD or HF or CKD**

Established ASCVD

Heart Failure

CKD

Weight Loss

Minimising Hypo

Elderly Frailty

Minimising Cost

GLP1RA<sup>1,2</sup> /SGLT2

SGLT2i<sup>4</sup> / GLP1RA

SGLT2i<sup>4</sup>

GLP1RA<sup>1,2</sup>

DPP4i

DPP4i<sup>6</sup>

SU

Individualised HbA<sub>1c</sub> or Default HbA<sub>1c</sub> < 58

3<sup>rd</sup> Line

SGLT2i<sup>4</sup> / GLP1RA

GLP1 RA<sup>1,2</sup>/SGLT2i

GLP1RA<sup>1,2</sup>

SGLT2i

SGLT2i

SGLT2i

TZD<sup>7</sup>

Individualised HbA<sub>1c</sub> or Default HbA<sub>1c</sub> < 58

4<sup>th</sup> Line

Analogue basal or biphasic Insulin<sup>5</sup>

TZD<sup>7</sup>

GLP1RA

GLP1RA

Basal Insulin

Individualised HbA<sub>1c</sub> or Default HbA<sub>1c</sub> <58

Individualised HbA<sub>1c</sub> > 64

Individualised

ASCVD - Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease  
 HF – Heart Failure  
 CKD – Chronic Kidney Disease  
 GLP1RA- GLP1 receptor Agonist (injectable or oral)  
 SGLT2i – SGLT2 inhibitor or Gliflozin  
 DPP4i – DPP4 inhibitor or Gliptin  
 TZD – Thiazolidinedione or Glitazone  
 SU – Sulphonylurea  
 Carb - Carbohydrate

Basal or biphasic insulin<sup>5</sup> or if patient motivated, consider secondary care referral for carb' based Multiple Injection Therapy.

Basal Insulin at lowest effective dose

Analogue basal or biphasic Insulin<sup>5</sup>

**Failure of 4<sup>th</sup> line-therapy and HbA<sub>1c</sub> above personalised target – consider referral to secondary care diabetes service for advice and / or One Stop Diabetes Clinic.**

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## Annotation for Care pathway for glucose lowering therapy in Type 2 Diabetes

1. GLP1 Receptor Agonists: Liraglutide (Victoza), Exenatide bd (Byetta), Exenatide qw (Bydureon), Lixisenatide (Lyxumia), Dulaglutide (Trulicity), Semaglutide Injectable (Ozempic), Semaglutide tablets (Rybelsus).
2. GLP1 RA with proven CVD benefit: Liraglutide (LEADER Study), Semaglutide Injectable (SUSTAIN 6 Study) & Dulaglutide (REWIND Study).
  - a. Dulaglutide: Cardiovascular protective in prior and no prior CVD (REWIND Study).
  - b. Oral Semaglutide (Rybelsus) - SOUL Study ongoing and not expected to complete until 2024.
3. GLP1 receptor agonists with proven weight loss benefit: Best to least order – Semaglutide > Dulaglutide > Exenatide qw > Liraglutide > lixisenatide.  
*Note: Dulaglutide now available at (higher) 3.0 and 4.5mg weekly doses.*
4. SGLT2 inhibitors with proven CVD benefit – Canagliflozin, Dapagliflozin, Empagliflozin.\*  
SGLT2 inhibitors with evidence for reduction in hospitalisation for Heart Failure (HHF) in secondary (CV) prevention: Canagliflozin, Dapagliflozin, Empagliflozin.  
SGLT2i inhibitor with reduction in hospitalisation for heart failure (HHF) in patients with no prior CV event – Dapagliflozin, Empagliflozin.  
SGLT2 inhibitor with proven benefit in Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD): Canagliflozin, Dapagliflozin, Empagliflozin.  
SGLT2 inhibitor Ertugliflozin (Steglatro) also marketed within the UK.  
SGLT1/2 Inhibitor Sotagliflozin (Zynquista) not considered in the pathway at the present time as not on local formulary.

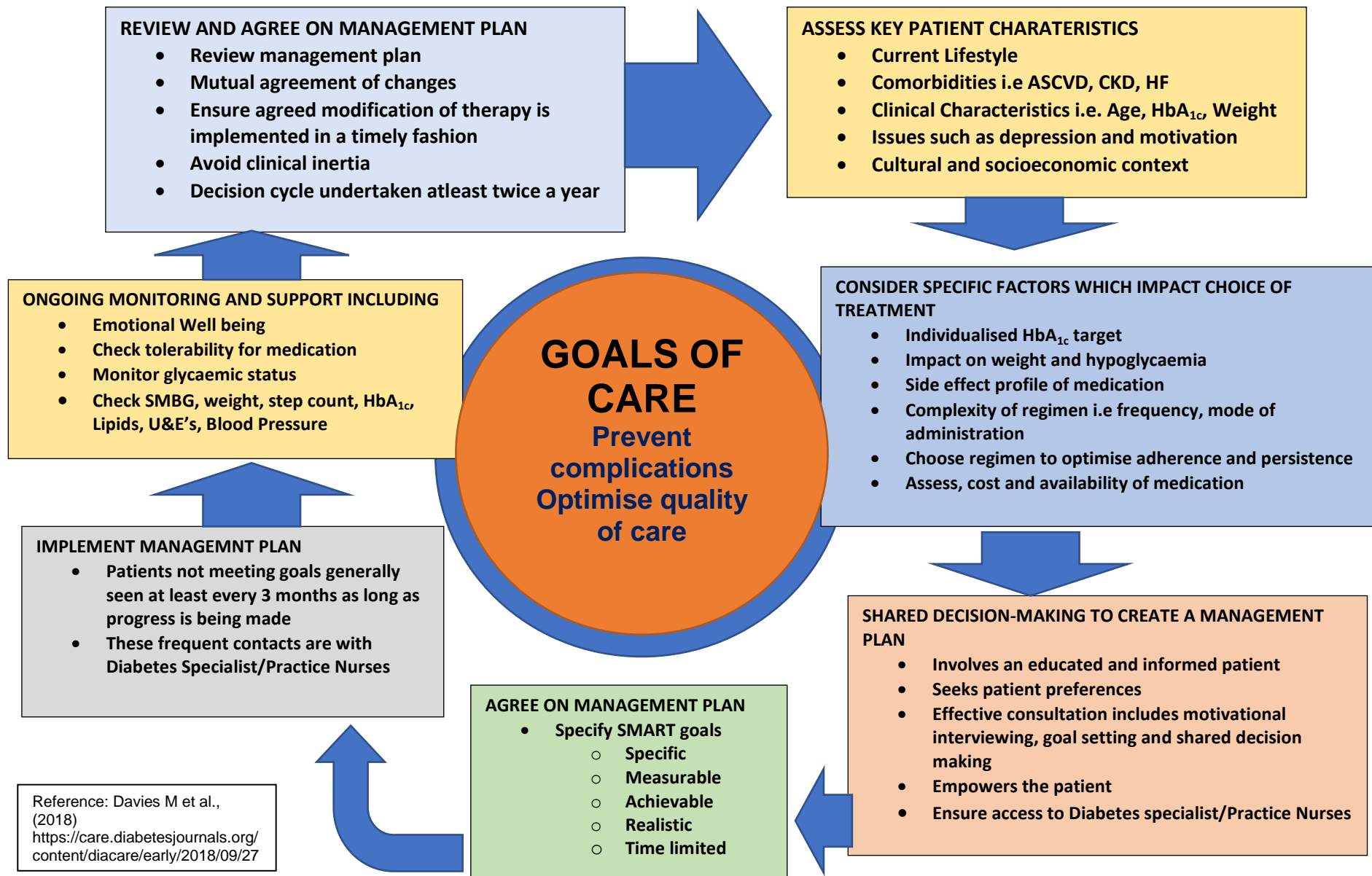
**\*Important note: SGLT2i's are described above in alphabetical order not in 'strength of evidence' or 'preferential use' order.**

5. Analogue insulins: Basal - Degludec (Tresiba) U100 or Glargine (Lantus), Abasaglar. Biphasic insulins – Novomix (30). Humalog Mix (25) Humalog Mix (50).
6. Note Saxagliptin - slight increased risk of hospitalisation for heart failure.
7. Thiazolidines: Pioglitazone – smaller dose is better tolerated, not studied for CVD benefits, watch for fluid retention and discontinue if problematic.

**References:**

Note: Individual Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) for GLP1 RA and SGLT2i describe glucose lowering and weight loss efficacy and also key findings from Cardiovascular Outcomes Trials (CVOT's) and in relation to SGLT2i also renal outcome studies. Please consult respective SmPC for eGFR cut-off.

## DECISION CYCLE FOR THE PATIENT CENTRED GLYCAEMIC MANAGEMENT IN TYPE 2



## Type 2 Diabetes Management Pointers

### Treatment of Hyperglycaemia

1. Start with Metformin and lifestyle measures and gradually titrate up
2. If unable to tolerate the Metformin go to level in the flow chart
3. Only prescribe one agent from each class
4. Substituting agents is unlikely to improve the glucose control.
5. Addition of third agent to a combination of 2 oral hypoglycaemic agents taken at maximally tolerated doses is to be considered for Cardiovascular benefit and to prevent hypoglycaemia or in frail and elderly patients
6. For a person on dual therapy with HbA<sub>1c</sub> >75mmol/L consider adding biphasic insulin

### Individualised Care

1. Follow the pathway as above
2. Consider the following approach
  - a. Age – less stringent HbA<sub>1c</sub> targets with increasing age
  - b. Body weight
  - c. Complications
  - d. Duration of disease

### Avoiding Clinical (Therapeutic) Inertia

1. Robust evidence exists\* that diabetes treatment lags behind need, with HbA<sub>1c</sub> frequently drifting higher over time as beta cell decline progresses and potentially insulin resistance increases. Barriers from both health professionals may be time, resources, confidence in 'next step' decision making and perhaps collusion with patient reluctance to move forward. Barriers from patients may relate to 'pill burden', belief that more medication means 'worse diabetes', side-effects or perceived side effects of medication, over-optimism regarding impact of lifestyle approaches. Potential interventions may be:
  - a. Risk vs benefit discussions: No perception of risk, no benefit of intervention.
  - b. 3 month review of HbA<sub>1c</sub> around treatment intensification.
  - c. Informal contracting: "Let's agree an HbA<sub>1c</sub> target for 3 months' time and if not achieving target, can we agree to move to the next step of intensification?"

### Patient Education

1. Offer DESMOND structured education programme

### Physical Activity

1. Improves glucose control and lowers cardiovascular risk
2. Encourage to perform 150 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity in a week or personalised, stepwise increase in patient's current activity levels, or personalised strategies.

### Lipid Management

1. Follow the local guidance

### Anti-platelet therapy

1. Do not offer antiplatelet therapy for adults with type 2 diabetes without prior cardiovascular event (ASCEND Study)

### HbA<sub>1c</sub> Measurement

1. Every 3 months – until HbA<sub>1c</sub> is achieved & stable after changing therapy
2. Every 6 months – once the HbA<sub>1c</sub> level is stable on glucose lowering therapy

### Self-monitoring of blood glucose (SMBG) – NICE recommendations – Use local guidance

**Do not** routinely offer SMBG for adults with type 2 diabetes unless:

- the person is on insulin **or**
- there is evidence of hypoglycaemic episodes **or**
- the person is on oral medication that may increase their risk of hypoglycaemia while driving or operating machinery **or**
- the person is pregnant or is planning to become pregnant.

Consider **short-term** SMBG (and review treatment as necessary):

- When starting treatment with oral or intravenous corticosteroids **or**
- To confirm suspected hypoglycaemia

Be aware that adults with type 2 diabetes who have acute intercurrent illness are at risk of worsening hyperglycaemia and review their treatment as necessary

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\* Andreozzi, F., Candido, R., Corrao, S. *et al.* Clinical inertia is the enemy of therapeutic success in the management of diabetes and its complications: a narrative literature review. *Diabetol Metab Syndr* **12**, 52 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13098-020-00559-7>



Renal Function						Hepatic Impairment		
Drug	CKD 1 & 2 (eGFR>60)	CKD 3a (eGFR 59-45)	CKD 3b (eGFR 44-30)	CKD 4 (eGFR 29-15)	CKD 5 (eGFR<15)	Mild	Moderate	Severe
Metformin / Metformin MR			Review					
Gliclazide				Use Lowest effective dose				
Glimiperide				Use lowest effective dose				
Pioglitazone					Not in dialysis			
Dapagliflozin (See heart failure below)					Do not initiate if eGFR <15			
Canagliflozin		Initiate at 100mg od.	If Albumin Creatinine Ratio (ACR) ≥ 30, initiate 100mg at eGFR >30ml/min continue to ESRD. If ACR <30, discontinue 100mg at 30ml/min.					
Empagliflozin (See heart failure below)		Do not initiate, discon' eGFR <45	Discontinue					
Ertugliflozin		Do not initiate, discon' eGFR <45	Discontinue					

**EMPAGLIFLOZIN** 10mg od in Heart Failure:

For treatment of **heart failure** in patients with or without type 2 diabetes mellitus, Empagliflozin 10 mg may be initiated or continued down to an eGFR of 20 ml/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup> or CrCl of 20 ml/min. (Empagliflozin SmPC accessed 24/09/2021)

**DAPAGLIFLOZIN** 10mg od in Renal impairment :

No dose adjustment is required based on renal function. It is not recommended to initiate treatment with Dapagliflozin in patients with an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) < 15 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>. (Dapagliflozin SmPC accessed 24/09/2021)

**DAPAGLIFLOZIN** 10mg od in Heart failure:

Dapagliflozin (Forxiga) is indicated in adults for the treatment of symptomatic chronic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction. The recommended dose is 10mg Dapagliflozin once daily. (Dapagliflozin SmPC accessed 24/09/2021)

Renal function						Hepatic Impairment		
Drug	CKD 1 & 2 (eGFR>60)	CKD 3a (eGFR 59-45)	CKD 3b (eGFR 44-30)	CKD 4 (eGFR 29-15)	CKD 5 (eGFR<15)	Mild	Moderate	Severe
Sitagliptin	100mg	100mg	50mg	25mg	25mg			
Linagliptin	5mg	5mg	5mg	5mg	5mg			
Saxagliptin	10mg	5mg	2.5mg	2.5mg Use with caution			Use with Caution	
Vildagliptin	100mg	50mg eGFR<50	50mg	50mg	50mg Limited Experience			
Alogliptin	25mg	12.5mg eGFR<50	12.5mg	6.25mg	6.25mg			
Repaglinide				Use with caution	Use with caution			
Insulin				Dose Adjustment	Dose Adjustment	Dose Adjustment	Dose Adjustment	Dose Adjustment

Renal Function						Hepatic Impairment		
Drug	CKD 1 & 2 (eGFR>60)	CKD 3a (eGFR 59-45)	CKD 3b (eGFR 44-30)	CKD 4 (eGFR 29-15)	CKD 5 (eGFR<15)	Mild	Moderate	Severe
Lixisenatide		Use with Caution eGFR<50	Use with caution					
Liraglutide								
Exenatide			Conservative dose escalation					
Exenatide QW		Not recommended if eGFR<50						
Dulaglutide								
Semaglutide (Injectable and oral)								
Albiglutide								

## 1.0 Equality Act (2010)

- 1.1 Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust is committed to promoting a pro-active and inclusive approach to equality which supports and encourages an inclusive culture which values diversity.
- 1.2 The Trust is committed to building a workforce which is valued and whose diversity reflects the community it serves, allowing the Trust to deliver the best possible healthcare service to the community. In doing so, the Trust will enable all staff to achieve their full potential in an environment characterised by dignity and mutual respect.
- 1.3 The Trust aims to design and provide services, implement policies and make decisions that meet the diverse needs of our patients and their carers the general population we serve and our workforce, ensuring that none are placed at a disadvantage.
- 1.4 We therefore strive to ensure that in both employment and service provision no individual is discriminated against or treated less favourably by reason of age, disability, gender, pregnancy or maternity, marital status or civil partnership, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or transgender (Equality Act 2010).

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Where a member of staff has a safety or other concern about any arrangements or practices undertaken in accordance with this guideline, please speak in the first instance to your line manager. Guidance on raising concerns is also available by referring to the Trust's Freedom to Speak Up Policy and Procedure (DCP126). Staff can raise concerns verbally, by letter, email or by completing an incident form. Staff can also contact the Trust's Freedom to Speak Up Guardian in confidence by email to [nlg-tr.ftsuguardian@nhs.net](mailto:nlg-tr.ftsuguardian@nhs.net). More details about how to raise concerns with the Trust's Freedom to Speak Up Guardian or with one of the Associate Guardians can be found on the Trust's intranet site.

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