

# Community Cohesion

- Equality of opportunity, access, treatment and services
- Engagement and participation
- Respect for diversity and social trust
- Meaningful interaction across groups
- Solidarity and collective community action.

*From 'What Works' in Community Cohesion*  
Research Study conducted for Communities and Local Government  
Commission on Integration and Cohesion (2007) *Our Interim Statement*.

# Community Cohesion

Stakeholders gave explicit feedback about their understandings of 'community cohesion'...

- Positive relationships between faith communities, ethnic groups, the able bodied and people with disabilities, people from different geographical areas and of different age, gender and sexual orientation
- interaction between people from different backgrounds
- recognition and appreciation of difference
- civic engagement and participation
- sense of ownership and genuine stake in the community
- sense of belonging to the area
- different communities learning from each other
- responsive public services to which all groups have equal access
- economic well-being and empowerment
- living safely and feeling safe
- equal voice (everyone having the opportunity to participate, influence decisions)
- civic pride (closely linked to sense of belonging, but goes beyond this; feeling proud to be part of a community/neighbourhood)

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