

## **Ocular Hypertension (OHT) Community Scheme wins Belfast Trust Chairman's Awards**

Project ECHO NI is delighted to be involved in the partnership working for the Northern Ireland primary care optometry delivered Ocular Hypertension Review and Monitoring Service. Hospice UK and Project ECHO NI have supported a network of community optometrists and hospital clinicians in delivering a transformative and innovative service, recognised and acknowledged in the recent 1<sup>st</sup> Place Award at the Belfast Trust Chairman's Awards.

The service allows patients to access their clinical reviews safely and effectively in the community from optometrists who have access to support, education and subject-specific discussions with experts and peers through their participation in an ECHO glaucoma knowledge network. With the help of Project ECHO NI, community optometrists are supported to provide a service for these patients which was previously only delivered in the hospital setting through a system-wide approach to service transformation and improvement.

Raymond Curran, Head of Ophthalmic Services said, "I am so proud to have been involved in the commissioning of this project. It is an example of best practice capacity-building, integration, and managing the patient in the most appropriate setting, closer to home."