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13 July 2009

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Ms Sarah Lewis
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1FL, Sanctuary Buildings
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Dear Ms Lewis

Promoting the Health and Wellbeing of Looked After Children - revised statutory guidance

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the above consultation document. With a membership of almost 400,000 registered nurses, midwives, health visitors, nursing students, health care assistants and nurse cadets, the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) is the voice of nursing across the UK and the largest professional union of nursing staff in the world. The RCN promotes patient and nursing interests on a wide range of issues by working closely with Government, the UK parliaments and other national and European political institutions, trade unions, professional bodies and voluntary organisations.

Nurses working with children in care met to discuss the guidance, recognising the importance of ensuring that children receive a high quality health assessment in order to improve and promote their health and wellbeing. Information sharing was felt to be a critical factor, coupled with the need for mandatory national paperwork determined by the Government in conjunction with designated professionals. In the event that such a development is pursued we look forward to being actively engaged in this work and the ongoing implementation of the guidance in due course.

Please find collated responses to the consultation questions from our members on the attached form. I hope that you will find these useful.

Yours sincerely

Professor Peter Carter
Chief Executive and General Secretary