



Dr Peter Carter OBE
General Secretary & Chief Executive
of the Royal College of Nursing

Dr Peter Carter OBE is the General Secretary & Chief Executive of the Royal College of Nursing (RCN); the world's largest professional union of nurses and health care support workers. The RCN has a membership of

400,000 nurses, midwives, health visitors, nursing students, cadets and health care support workers.

Before assuming the post of RCN General Secretary & Chief Executive in January 2007, Peter spent almost twelve years as the Chief Executive of the Central and North West London NHS Trust (CNWL). It is one of the largest mental health trusts in the UK, with an operating budget of over £200 million and an international reputation. In Peter's final year the Trust was awarded a rating of *excellent* for quality of care and *good* for use of resources. The Trust was the recipient of several awards related to standards of patient care and innovative staff initiatives. In January 2007, CNWL was voted in a poll by readers of the *Nursing Times* as the best mental health trust to work for in the UK.

Peter commenced his career by training as a psychiatric nurse at Hill End Hospital in St Albans for six years. He moved on to work at the then regional adolescent unit at Hill End Hospital, where he undertook further training in family therapy and crisis intervention. Peter is also a general nurse and trained at St Albans City Hospital and the Institute of Urology in London. In addition, he has held a number of clinical and managerial posts in Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and London.

Peter is a graduate and a member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development. He has a Masters Degree in Business Administration and a PhD – both from the University of Birmingham.

Peter has medico legal experience in a wide range of health related litigation issues, specialising in bio-mechanical injuries, homicides and suicides. Peter's PhD thesis is entitled "Understanding reasons why nurses abuse patients in their care" and has lectured extensively on this issue. He has also lectured on leadership issues.

Peter was awarded the OBE for services to the NHS in the 2006 New Year's Honours List.

Since becoming General Secretary & Chief Executive of the RCN, Peter has restructured his top team and re-focused the organisation to address outstanding issues. The RCN's new strategic plan will be launched at Congress 2008.