

Violence Against Women and Domestic Abuse team
Community Safety Division
Welsh Government
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To whom it may concern

Response to the Consultation on the National Strategy on Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence - A framework for delivery 2016 - 2021

The Royal College of Nursing Wales wishes to express our strong support for this strategy. Tackling violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence is an important goal, and the Royal College of Nursing welcomes the Welsh Government's proactive strategy on this matter.

Overall, the strategy is comprehensive but there is one area we wish to comment on specifically. Whilst we welcome the requirement under the National Training Framework to ensure that frontline staff have the right tools and expertise to identify victims of sexual exploitation, we would suggest that there is also a specific need to strengthen the education and training of health care workers. Our 2016 Congress (which comprises delegates from across the UK representing over 430,000 members) passed a resolution which highlighted that there is a specific need for mandatory domestic abuse awareness training for all healthcare workers, and we believe this should feature as a specific requirement in the strategy.

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Mae'r Coleg Nyrso Brenhinol yn Goleg Brenhinol a sefydlwyd drwy Siarter Frenhinol ac Undeb Llafur Cofrestr Arbennig a sefydlwyd o dan Ddeddf Undebau Llafur a Chysylltiadau Llafur (Cydgrynhoi) 1992. The RCN is a Royal College set up by Royal Charter and a Special Register Trade Union established under the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

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The RCN represents nurses and nursing, promotes excellence in practice and shapes health policies



Yours sincerely

PETER MEREDITH SMITH
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, RCN WALES

Royal College of Nursing Wales

The RCN is the world's largest professional union of nurses, representing over 430,000 nurses, midwives, health visitors and nursing students, including over 25,000 members in Wales. The majority of RCN members work in the NHS with around a quarter working in the independent sector. The RCN works locally, nationally and internationally to promote standards of care and the interests of patients and nurses, and of nursing as a profession. The RCN is a UK-wide organisation, with its own National Boards for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The RCN is a major contributor to nursing practice, standards of care, and public policy as it affects health and nursing.

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