



# Western Health and Social Care Trust

## Press Release

12 June 2008

### **RCN General Secretary Visit's Altnagelvin Hospital**

Speaking at the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) Awards and after his visit to the Western Health and Social Care Trust's Altnagelvin Area Hospital the General Secretary of the Royal College of Nursing (RCN), Dr Peter Carter paid tribute to the efforts of the Western Trust staff.

During his speech at the event, RCN General Secretary, Dr Carter singled out the nursing team at Altnagelvin Area Hospital and the Western Trust as an excellent example of a well-run hospital. He said: "Altnagevlin Area Hospital is well run, spotlessly clean and is well organised." He went on to add that staff have an 'I love my job' attitude and he congratulated the nursing team, the Western Trust and everyone involved at the Hospital on their tremendous approach which was evident during his visit."

Earlier in the day, Dr Carter, met with Western Trust Nurses today, at a special event at Altnagelvin Area Hospital ahead of the RCN Awards ceremony.

When welcoming the General Secretary of RCN, Brendan McGrath, Assistant Director for Nursing with the Western Trust, said: "We warmly welcome Peter to the Western Trust area and are delighted that he has taken the time to come and talk to the nurses at Altnagelvin Area Hospital. The health and social care family is experiencing very challenging times which present many opportunities for all our staff."

He continued: "The Western Trust has a very highly skilled and talented team of nurses who provide exceptional levels of care across many services areas in both hospital and community care environments. Nurses are at the heart of all our services. We must recognise their sterling service and continue with

their development to ensure the Western Trust provides high quality services to the 290, 000 people it serves in Western of Northern Ireland.”

The general Secretary visited staff in A&E and in Wards 31 and 32. Speaking about the visit, Dr Peter Carter, said: “In my role with the RCN I meet nursing staff in hospitals throughout the UK. Today, what has impressed me the most is the level of good management which is self-evident within the Western Trust.”

He continued, “In my experience, nurses will always tell me honestly what they think. The strength of the Western Trust, is demonstrated by the strong level of job satisfaction, long term connectivity, and maintenance of high in-service training standards communicated to me from those nurses with whom I met.”

**Ends.....**

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