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Dear Mr Rome

### **Final consultation on the independent review of learning disability and autism in the Mental Health Act.**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the final consultation from the Independent Review of Learning Disability and Autism in the Mental Health Act.

Clearly, this is a significant document in both scope and potential implications. We understand that the Review has been charged with addressing concerns from those with experience of existing provisions around learning disability/intellectual impairment. The RCN supports work to explore both the issues faced by those who may be, or feel they have been, adversely affected by current provisions, and to find effective solutions where improvements can be made.

However, we have also listened to concerns from nursing staff, and medical colleagues, regarding the conclusions of the Review as presented in this consultation document. These include the accuracy of the portrayal of the existing clinical and legal contexts in Scotland; the unintended consequences of the proposed legislative reforms for people with a learning disability at times of extreme vulnerability, and the implication ting staff in

NHS Scotland over the past 2 years. Learning Disability nursing also currently carries a 3% vacancy rate. The context in which essential person-centred care can be provided is under pressure and it would be helpful to acknowledge this and consider more fully the workforce implications of potential reforms to

