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Dear Ms Kinnaird

### **Consultation on Developing the 8 Pillars Model of Community Support**

The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) is the UK's largest professional association and union for nurses with around 420,000 members, of which around 39,000 are in Scotland. Nurses and health care support workers make up the majority of those working in health services and their contribution is vital to delivery of the Scottish Government's health policy objectives.

The RCN welcomes the opportunity to respond to Alzheimer Scotland's advanced dementia

Integrated services must take into account the principles for planning and delivering integrated Health and Social Care<sup>3</sup> contained in the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act. The principles are *intended to be the driving force behind the changes in culture and services required to deliver integration reforms successfully and improve outcomes. They explain what people using services and their carers can expect from integrated services. They also explain the behaviours and priorities expected of organisations and people planning and delivering care and support*<sup>4</sup>. The RCN considers that it would be helpful if the design of the 8 pillars model for advanced dementia included a reference to these principles, which are intended to ensure the quality and safety of care. (See Annex A)

RCN Scotland welcomes the emphasis in the pillars on supporting carers and families as a vital way of supporting people living with dementia. The RCN recently launched the Triangle of Care for Scotland<sup>5</sup> which describes how meaningful involvement and inclusion of carers can lead to better care for people living with dementia. The Triangle of Care has been designed to complement existing policies to improve care for people with dementia in Scotland

- Ensuring that the workforce is adequately trained to respond to higher levels of dementia.

We are therefore keen to see the eight pillars model explicitly demonstrate how it could support the care home sector too.

### **Support for the workforce**

While we welcome the role of a Dementia Practice Coordinator in facilitating holistic care there needs to be further clarity around the position.

It is not clear from the consultation whether this will be a standalone role or if these duties will be in addition to the role of an existing health and social care professional. The latter would require protected time for practitioners to fully carry out the role and meet the needs of people living with dementia.

Anyone providing care to someone with dementia should be suitably trained, in line with the national framework

explicitly, how the 8 pillar model aligns with the fundamental elements of end of life care, as written in this guidance.

It will be important for practitioners, people with dementia and their carers to understand clearly what is meant by end of life care within the context of this model, For example, in t

## **Annex A**

### Integration planning and delivery principles

The integration planning and delivery principles are—

- (a) that the main purpose of services which are provided in pursuance of integration functions is to improve the wellbeing of service-users,
- (b) that, in so far as consistent with the main purpose, those services should be provided in a way which, so far as possible—
  - (i) is integrated from the point of view of service-users,
  - (ii) takes account of the particular needs of different service-users,
  - (iii) takes account of the particular needs of service-users in different parts of the area in which the service is being provided,
  - (iv) takes account of the particular characteristics and circumstances of different service-users,
  - (v) respects the rights of service-users,
  - (vi) takes account of the dignity of service-users,
  - (vii) takes account of the participation by service-users in the community in which service-users live,
  - (viii) protects and improves the safety of service-users,
  - (ix) improves the quality of the service,
  - (x) is planned and led locally in a way which is engaged with the community (including in particular service-users, those who look after service-users and those who are involved in the provision of health or social care),
  - (xi) best anticipates needs and prevents them arising, and
  - (xii) makes the best use of the available facilities, people and other resources