District and community nursing services in England: a call to action

 More placements for nursing students are required in the community covering health and social care settings. This must be supported with appropriate mentoring and supervision. 	
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Improved career pathway

There should be a clearly de ned career pathway for district and community nursing. This will help
to improve the appeal of working in the community. Existing misconceptions (such as students
having to work for two years in a hospital setting before moving to a job in the community) as well
as false perceptions about the nature of community care nursing roles must be addressed.

IT resources

• It is important that the supply of hardware – which is generally reported as adequate – should be accompanied by strategies to ensure it is used e ectively. Examples of good practice, where IT is enhancing mobile working, need to be shared via an e ective forum for networking and learning dissemination. Nurses must be given appropriate training.

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

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