

## Key messages from the RCN Northern Ireland Board meeting

2 December 2024

- 1 In her opening remarks, the Board Chair thanked retiring member Laura McClintock for her service to the Board. She also congratulated RCN Northern Ireland Executive Director Professor Rita Devlin in respect of the recent conferment of the title of Honorary Professor of Practice by the Queen's University of Belfast.
- 2 The Board received a further verbal briefing and update on the RCN pay campaign in Northern Ireland. The Board noted with concern the continuing absence of a formal 2024-2025 Agenda for Change pay award and the current position whereby the Health Minister has stated that backpay can only be funded with effect from 1 July 2024 instead of from the beginning of the current financial year. This arrangement would, if implemented, fail to restore pay parity with the rest of the UK. It was noted that a further meeting between the health trade unions and the Health Minister is now scheduled for 10 December 2024. In parallel with this process, the RCN and the British Medical Association [BMA] are meeting

- 7 The Board noted the RCN's recent decision no longer to hold an active presence on the X social media channel. It was confirmed that the RCN UK