

Bill will 'give new flexibility'

The government's decision to press ahead with a health and social care bill has been met with support from the Registered Nursing Home Association (RNHA).

According to the organisation, the development should mean that those in residential Care Homes have improved access to flexible support and consistent regulation.

Chief executive at the RNHA Frank Ursell noted that fresh regulations could improve care in homes, rather than stretch existing services.

"What is needed is a strong focus on practical outcomes rather than on bureaucratic procedures. In the past, there has been too much emphasis on looking at whether or not care providers were filling in all the necessary forms," he commented.

He added that care providers should be included in the process of creating criteria for analysing the level of care on offer, after it was confirmed that there will be consultation over national minimum standards.

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