

## **RCM Visit Reaffirms Hospital's Commitment to Maternity Care**

**A Senior Official from the one of the world's largest midwifery organisations will be visiting South London Healthcare Trust on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July, not only to meet staff and patients, but also offer support for its award-winning service.**

Staff at South London Healthcare NHS Trust are preparing to welcome Cathy Warwick CBE, Chief Executive of the RCM, to see the latest developments in their Maternity Services.

Since her last visit to launch the Trust's online information portal for Women's Services, [www.caringforwomen.co.uk](http://www.caringforwomen.co.uk), SLHT has not only celebrated the 1000<sup>th</sup> birth in its Oasis Birthing Centre located at the Princess Royal Hospital in Orpington, but staff at the centre were named 'Team of the Year' at the RCM's Annual Midwifery Awards.

'I always enjoy visiting South London Healthcare NHS Trust, but it will be especially enjoyable to catch up with the current holders of one of our most prestigious awards,' says Cathy, 'In the last couple of years, SLHT has introduced some fantastic initiatives, won numerous accolades and in many ways have set an example to the rest of the country.'

There is no doubt that such a high profile display of confidence from an organisation representing the majority of the UK's midwives is more than welcome, as Chief Midwife Donna Ockenden, explains:

'It is no secret that the Trust is going through a time of both change and intense scrutiny, so Cathy's visit means a great deal to all of us. We are so grateful for her time, support and hope it reassures women of our commitment of maintaining a quality service with the highest standards of care.'

'We have had a number of high profile visits this year, including Labour Leader Ed Miliband and Shadow Health Secretary Andy Burnham, who were most complimentary about the service we offer, but to be given such visible encouragement from our professional body is most reassuring.'