

Gosport Independent Panel Minutes of the Panel Meeting 24 May 2016

Venue Wellington House, London, SE1

Present

Panel

Bishop James Jones (Chair, Gosport Independent Panel, BJJ)
Colin Currie (CC)
David Hencke (DH)
Duncan Jarrett (DJ)
Jim Smith (JS)
Bill Kirkup (BK)
Deborah Sturdy (DS)
Kate Blackwell (KB)
Christine Gifford (CG)

Secretariat

Louise Dominian (Secretary, LD)
Sarah Armstrong (SAr)
Tracy Ofeosi (TO)
Peter Burgin (PB)
Code A
Andy Fitt (AF)
Judy Joslin (JJ)

Code A

Leila Ghahary (LB)

	Agenda Item	Summary of discussion	Actions
1.	Introduction and Welcome	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. He noted this was the first meeting since the announcement of the Hillsborough Coroner's verdict. It is an encouraging sign for Gosport families. It was noted that there are parallels between Hillsborough and Gosport but there is not an exact read across. The verdict could increase families' confidence in the Panel and also their expectations.	
2.	Minutes of 19 April Panel meeting and matters arising	<p>Panel members should ensure they are content with the minutes as recorded. The Panel minutes will eventually form a public record.</p> <p>The minutes of the Panel Meeting on 19 April were agreed.</p> <p><u>Matters arising</u> Further clarification will be sought on the use of the term "Convener" (Page 5 – April 2016 Panel minutes refers).</p>	<p>a) BJJ signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.</p> <p>b) Code A to share the material which defines the role of the Convener with Panel members in July.</p>

		The Panel will consider the Networks "Associations Chart" covering local networks in September.	c) DH to provide the "Associations Chart" for it to be considered at September's Panel meeting.
3.	Family Liaison GIP/Paper 19.1	<p><u>Family engagement</u></p> <p>A new family came forward this month. This seems to have been as a result of the letter the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) sent to families in January. To date (as of 24 May) the Panel is now in contact with families relating to 102 deceased people.</p> <p>A significant amount of material has been collected from families. The expectation is that the majority of material will be collected from families by the end of July.</p> <p><u>May's Family Liaison Meeting</u></p> <p>There will be six families attending the May Family Liaison for the first time. More families will be represented at May's Family Liaison Meeting compared to the families at February's Family Liaison Meeting. 67 people relating to 45 families have confirmed attendance.</p> <p>The Panel agreed the final agenda for May's Family Liaison Meeting. The presentation on redaction will support the process of returning family material which is planned from mid -June onwards. Families with larger quantities of material have been prioritised.</p> <p><u>July's Family Liaison Meeting</u></p> <p>The Panel discussed the options for July's Family Liaison Meeting. The Panel agreed any decision over the July meeting must have the support and confidence of families. Their views will be sought on the options.</p> <p><u>Update on Tracing</u></p> <p>The Panel was updated on the outcome of the tracing activity undertaken by the Family Team to verify the contact details of the 55 family</p>	d) The Panel to seek families' views at May's Family Liaison Meeting on options for the Family Liaison Meeting in July.

		<p>members involved in Operation Rochester who are not in touch with the Panel. The Family Team have been able to verify that 34 out of 54 families continue to reside at the addresses held through the searches conducted.</p> <p>Further work is being conducted to understand families' engagement with Operation Rochester. This will assist in tailoring the letter from the Chair to those families which have been traced.</p> <p>A specification is being prepared to outsource the tracing work for the remaining families, where the addresses have not been verified, to an external reputable tracing agency.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the Family Team for their hard work on tracing families.</p>	<p>e) JJ to send the letter from the Chair to the relatives which have been traced.</p>
4.	<p>Access Workstream Progress Report</p> <p>GIP/Paper 19.2</p>	<p>The Panel was updated on progress with the collection of material from organisations with a focus on the position with organisations that have yet to provide any of their material.</p> <p>The response from the majority of stakeholders has been positive with evidence of a change of attitude in some key stakeholders.</p> <p>The GMC are keeping to the agreed timetable for collection of their material. The Panel noted that a positive meeting had been held with the GMC to discuss material that might be legally privileged. A working arrangement has now been agreed and the underpinning principles are being developed.</p> <p>The Panel is pursuing additional material from Hampshire Police and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS).</p> <p>Material is expected from Haslar Hospital this month.</p> <p>The search of Southern Health boxes continues.</p> <p>The BBC has been asked to reconsider its decision that it will only provide material that it has not broadcast on receipt of a court order. The Panel agreed to adopt a different approach if no progress is made. The Chair will write to Tony Hall, the Director-General of the BBC to seek his support to access the material.</p>	<p>f) CG and PB to consider and update the Panel on whether the Chair should write to the Director-General of the BBC.</p>

		<p>The process of returning material to organisations has started. Organisations are being asked to retain material until they are told to dispose of it, and to identify any material for redaction which they do not wish to put in the public domain.</p> <p>The Panel will be updated in June on the overall progress of the Access workstream. The update will include the timescale for completing collection of material and the volume of material uploaded onto Relativity.</p>	<p>g) CG and AF to update the Panel in June on overall progress across the Access workstream</p>
5.	<p>Review Workstream Progress Report</p> <p>GIP/Paper 19.3</p>	<p>The Panel was updated on the progress of the four workstrands – Networks, Regulatory, Clinical Ascertainment Phase (CAP) and Investigation.</p> <p>The Panel discussed the paper on Making sense of the numbers (Appendix 1).</p> <p>The Panel noted that none of the previous investigations had identified all potentially relevant patients for further investigation.</p> <p>Further work is required to understand the numbers involved and the resource implications for all the teams in identifying patients potentially and actually in scope.</p> <p>The Panel agreed to adopt the following twin track approach to support the identification of relevant patients that may be in scope:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient by patient review within the CAP will continue for patients currently identified in scope. • Potential patients will be identified from relevant sources including Professor Baker’s database. • Potential patients will be triaged to establish whether they are in scope. <p><u>Networks workstrand</u></p> <p>The Panel discussed the proposal in the draft Networks strategy to contact authors of documents– mainly newspaper reports and articles - to verify context and circumstances which led to their publication.</p>	<p>h) The Review Team to adopt the twin track approach to identify patients that potentially could be in scope and update the Panel in July.</p>

		<p>The Panel agreed that a draft protocol should be developed to cover the processes for review of documentation for the Networks strand including those from a media source. It would cover any circumstances where further documentation on information was required.</p> <p><u>Regulatory workstrand</u></p> <p>Regulatory work continues to focus on the Coroner's Inquest material and the CPS material. The Panel will consider the emerging issues at the Panel meeting in June.</p> <p><u>Clinical Ascertainment Phase workstrand (CAP)</u></p> <p>The Panel was updated on the work of the CAP team. The Panel noted the progress in moving to interdisciplinary review in the last six weeks. Plans are being developed to integrate the CAP and the Comparative Analysis Document (CAD).</p> <p><u>Investigative workstrand</u></p> <p>The Panel was updated on progress with the review of the Senior Investigative Officer Policy Logs and the allocation of CADs for individual patients.</p> <p>The Gosport Working Family Tree paper on NHS structural changes is being revised and will be brought back to a future Panel meeting.</p>	<p>i) DH and the Review Team to develop a Networks workstrand protocol for the Panel's consideration in July.</p> <p>j) SW to revise the Gosport Working Family Tree paper on NHS structural changes for the Panel's consideration at the Panel meeting in September.</p>
6.	<p>Highlight Report and High level plan</p> <p>GIP/Paper 19.4</p>	<p>This was covered within the Workstream updates in items 3-5 above.</p> <p>The Panel was updated on the plans to commission the final Disclosure website. A user testing phase is being developed to support the development of the final website.</p> <p>The Panel noted the increased use of the Hillsborough website following the release of the Coroner's Inquest verdict.</p> <p>The "Purdah period" before the EU Referendum commences on 27 May. The Government's Referendum recess period is from Wednesday 15 June to Monday 27 June.</p>	<p>k) LD and Code A to engage the developers of the Hillsborough website for lessons learned.</p>

7.	Forward Look GIP/Paper 19.5	<p>The Forward Look has been updated to reflect the agreed changes to the schedule of 2016 Panel meetings.</p> <p>The 2017 Panel meeting dates are provisional and for planning purposes only at this stage.</p> <p>The Panel members agreed to consider if any changes were needed to their Register of Interests declarations.</p>	l) TO to circulate the respective Register of Interest declarations to Panel Members.
8.	AOB	<p>The Chair acknowledged the progress made and thanked everyone for their commitment. He noted that there was much work and a long way to go.</p> <p>The meeting ended at 1.05 pm</p>	

Code A

19/7/16