

Bishop James Jones KBE
Chair
Gosport Independent Panel
Wellington House
133 – 155 Waterloo Road
London
SE1 8UG

7 February 2018

Dear Bishop Jones,

Re: Certification of Completeness of Search and Provision of material to Gosport Independent Panel

Thank you for your letter dated 24th January 2018.

I can confirm that BMA staff have conducted a proportionate search for relevant materials and have not been able to find anything that we would regard as relevant.

You will note that I have used the word proportionate, when I am conscious you were requesting an exhaustive search. Regrettably our legal department have told me that I cannot use the word exhaustive as an exhaustive search of the BMA's vast archives, which include deleted data that is difficult (but not necessarily impossible) to recover would be required in order for me to provide such an assurance. Such an exhaustive search could not be concluded by the spring of this year even if I were to dedicate several members of staff to work upon it to the exclusion of all other work. I do therefore hope that you understand that it is our genuine belief that we have no materials that are of relevance to the important work of the Gosport Independent Panel and that no disrespect is intended by conducting a proportionate search. If there is anything specific that you would wish the BMA to do I would be happy for a member of your team to come to BMA House to meet with relevant staff members and assist them with searching for the same.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Keith Ward
Chief executive