

13/9/02

With the compliments of Sir Liam Donaldson, Chief Medical Officer



Department of Health

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Code A

Professor Livesey,

Sir Liam asked me to forward
the attached to you, to note

Many thanks,

Code A

A dark horizontal banner with the words 'Press release' in white, bold, sans-serif font. To the left of the banner are several vertical bars of varying shades of gray.

Press release

2002/0380

Friday 13th September 2002

GOSPORT WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

STATEMENT FROM THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER SIR LIAM DONALDSON

Following the publication of the Commission for Health Improvement report and the police investigation into concerns about the care of elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, the Chief Medical Officer has commissioned a clinical audit of the service concerned.

" Even though both previous investigations found no grounds for serious concern, neither was in a position to establish whether trends and patterns of death were out of line with what would be expected. It was a wish to ensure that all necessary investigation was carried out that led to the decision to carry out this further investigation.

" I have asked Professor Richard Baker from the Clinical Governance Research and Development Unit at the University of Leicester to undertake the audit. The timing of the audit will be agreed in consultation with the police," Sir Liam said.

Note to Editors:

1. Media inquiries only to Alison Pitts-Bland in the Department of Health Media Centre on Code A

[ENDS]