

## Baker Report – statement

XXXXX at NHS Fareham & Gosport Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) said: “We welcome the publication of Professor Richard Baker’s report, and hope that this helps to bring closure to the families of those patients whose deaths in the 1990s have been the subject of numerous enquiries and investigations.

“We will need time to study the detail of Prof Baker’s report, completed in 2002, to fully assess whether any action is required by the CCG. Although we are reassured that it is our understanding that the Baker report was shared with the Police, General Medical Council and Coroner to enable them to fully pursue their enquiries.

“Previous investigations have included three by the police, all of which found that there was insufficient evidence to support any prosecution. In addition, the Commission for Health Improvement (CHI) – the health regulator at the time – published a report with recommendations in 2002, all of which have been met.

“Much has changed at Gosport War Memorial Hospital in the last decade, in line with clinical developments across the country. Investment totalling £16.5 million has also been spent modernising the hospital.

“The CCG, which has been in operation since April 1, works closely with providers of healthcare services at the hospital, and monitors the quality of care that patients receive. Regular quality review meetings also take place with the trusts whose staff provide that care, and staff receive mandatory care every year.

“I am confident that the issues highlighted in previous reports have been fully addressed, and that patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital receive care of the highest order.”

**ENDS**

### Notes to Editor:

1. It is recognised that national methods of capturing mortality data do not give a helpful picture of mortality in community or mental health hospitals, in part because relatively low bed numbers in individual sites can prevent meaningful statistical analysis. Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust, which provides physical and mental health services at the hospital, is looking at working with the Health and Social Care Data Centre to consider ways to make quantitative analysis of mortality rates more meaningful.

2. The CHI was satisfied at the time of its report that Gosport War Memorial Hospital had adequate policies and guidelines in place governing the prescription and administration of pain-relieving medication to older patients, and that these policies and procedures were being adhered to. This remains the case.
3. NHS Fareham & Gosport Clinical Commissioning took over responsibility for commission healthcare for residents of the two towns on April 1, 2013, following the abolition of primary care trusts.