

CAROLINE DINENAGE MP

Mr Paule Ripley

Code A

15 January 2014

I am writing to you with regard to the ongoing consultation on how best to investigate the unexpected deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital between 1988 and 2000. I understand that you were affected by these events as your contact details have been passed to me by a member of another involved family.

As you will know, in August 2013 the Baker Report into deaths at the hospital was finally published. Since then, the Minister responsible for care and support, Norman Lamb MP, at the Department of Health has made clear his intention to get to the bottom of what happened in accordance with the families' wishes. Mr Lamb has recommended that a panel similar to that used to investigate the Hillsborough Disaster should be set up and I understand that following a meeting with Bishop James who led that panel, the majority of families are in favour of the suggested process.

Diana Kirby, the Minister's Private Secretary, is leading on this case. For more information, you can contact her by phone on **Code A** or by email at **Code A**

I hope that you do not mind me contacting you about this matter and if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with my Parliamentary Assistant, Edwina Iddles, on 0207 219 7078.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Dinenage MP