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Your ref:

Our ref:

2nd December, 2002

Mr Paul Close CPS Special Casework Section CPS Headquarters 50 Ludgate Hill London EC4M 7EX

Dear Paul

## Re: Gosport War Memorial Hospital

Thank you for meeting with yourself and Robert Drybrough-Smith with DI Nigel Niven and myself on Thursday 28 November. The meeting was very helpful and positive, particularly in developing a future strategy for the investigation into allegations arising in respect of Gosport war Memorial Hospital.

As agreed, I have drawn up a short note of the salient issues covered I in our meeting, they are in my recollection as below;

## Issues;

- 1. There is no prospect of a prosecution on the papers now in the possession of the CPS. (Richards and 4 additional cases submitted by Superintendent Stickler).
- 2. In the absence of further evidence generated as a result of the additional information presented on 19/9/02, there are no additional avenues to follow in respect of criminal offences, but HSE offences may arise.

i.e, is agreed that the additional information generated directly by the 19/9/02 papers and indirectly by the publicity attached to that event, further investigation may reveal evidence of criminal matters.

## Agreed Action;

- 1.Re Interview experts Ford & Munday in detail to clear ambiguities in their reports, obtain witness statements in support of the reports
- 2. Draw together a team of experts under the leadership of Professor Forrest to examine all future material. The team to include experts in; Palliative care, Geriatric care (not Dr Livesay), and to consider a Pathologist if felt appropriate. Professor Forest will deal specifically with Toxicological issues.

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- 3. The team as above to review all 50+ cases now know to Police, to include the case of Mrs Richards and the 4 cases recently submitted to CPS. The team to be given the material produced by LIVESAY, FORD & MUNDAY.
- 4. The expert team to be invited to identify a scientifically sound method of reviewing a representative sample of cases going back to 1991. Professor Baker to be included in this deliberation. The recommendation to be discussed with CPS and / or Council prior to embarking upon it.
- 5. The expert team to comment upon the scientific / evidential need to exhume in cases where there is a buried body.

## Other issues discussed;

1.Dr Grenville, suggested as a potential expert by Ann Alexander should not be included in the team, since it is clear from a meeting with DI Niven that Dr Grenville is an expert in GP practice as opposed to hospital procedures.

We also discussed notifying Ann Alexander, solicitor representing concerned families of the tenet of our meeting. I have written to her and I attach a copy of that letter for your information.

I trust that this is helpful, please do not hesitate to contact me or DI Niven if you have any queries or issues to raise in this regard.

I look forward to meeting with Robert and yourself again as the investigation continues.

Your sincerely

Code A

Steve Watts

Detective Chief Superintendent
Head of CID