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Our ref: ISPB/kes/0005940/Legal
Your ref: PO/JD/021302jb.doc
26 March 2002

Dr Peter Old
Acting Chief Executive
Isle of Wright Portsmouth & South East
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Dear Dr Old

Re: Dr Jane Barton

As I believe you are aware, I act for Dr Barton, and write with reference to your letter to her of 13 February 2000. I anticipate you will be aware of the fact that Dr Barton's position was considered by the Interim Orders Committee of the General Medical Council on 21 March 2002. The Interim Orders Committee of course had available to it the relevant documentation in the matter, including your letter of 14 February to her. I anticipate you will also be aware of the outcome of that hearing – that the Committee determined they were not satisfied that it was necessary for the protection of members of the public, in the public interest or indeed in Dr Barton's own interest that an Order has been made imposing any conditions on her Registration or indeed that her Registration should be suspended. Indeed, the Committee, having given full consideration to the case over a period lasting almost an hour and a half, took only five minutes to reach its conclusion. As you will no doubt appreciate, the Interim Orders Committee of the General Medical Council does not make a decision that there should be no conditions on a Registration on the basis that other safeguards are in place. The Committee is clearly cognisant of the fact that whatever arrangement might be in place in relation to one given Health Authority, it would be open to a Registered Medical Practitioner to practise elsewhere unless the Interim Orders Committee imposed what it considered to be a suitable restriction.

It is in these circumstances then that the Committee, having given this matter full and proper consideration, determined that in fact no restriction upon Dr Barton is appropriate.

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Page 2 of 2

With the benefit of that consideration and determination of the Interim Orders Committee I am concerned therefore on Dr Barton's behalf to invite you to review the voluntary arrangement which presently exists, and conclude that it can be discontinued.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Code A

Ian S.P. Barker
Solicitor