

Hampshire and Isle of Wight 
Strategic Health Authority

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Ms B Gilbert

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Dear Ms Gilbert

I am writing to ensure that you are aware of recent developments concerning the Gosport War Memorial Hospital, and to express my regret that in this instance it was not possible to inform you before this matter became public.

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Strategic Health Authority has received advice from Hampshire Constabulary that the continuation of NHS investigations into inpatient care and treatment in the past at Gosport War Memorial Hospital could potentially compromise the ongoing police investigation.

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Strategic Health Authority, along with the East Hampshire Primary Care Trust and Fareham and Gosport Primary Care Trust, has carefully considered the implications of this advice. It has therefore been agreed that NHS investigations will be put on hold pending the completion of the police investigation. Given the indefinite suspension of the NHS investigations, Ian Piper and Tony Horne will resume their normal duties as Chief Executives of the Primary Care Trusts.

The NHS will continue to support the police with their ongoing investigation.

I would like to reassure you that it remains a core concern of the Strategic Health Authority to seek, where possible, to keep you informed of key developments in a timely fashion and preferably before they are reported in the media. However, this is not always possible in this complex and changing issue. I would also like to reiterate our commitment to a full and robust investigation of your concerns, hence our decision to put on hold our NHS investigation following police advice and also our decision to seek their advice regarding the position of the Chief Executives given the decision to put on hold the NHS investigation.

My office is always happy to take calls from you about these matters. Alternatively, if you prefer, you can leave a message or a comment on our comment line on 023 8072 5433.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Gareth Cruddace
Chief Executive

Chairman: Peter Bingham
Chief Executive: Gareth Cruddace