

Message

From: MSCS [Code A]
Sent: 05/12/2013 16:41:55
To: 'Charles Farthing' [Code A]
Subject: RE: Gosport War Memorial Hospital

Mr Farthing,

Apologies for the delay in replying to your query.

In the case of the Hillsborough panel investigation, the process revealed new information and led to the re-assessment of evidence, which as a result has enabled prosecutions and other action to go ahead. No panel process can ensure there are prosecutions, because it is impossible to pre-judge the information that might be uncovered. However, the current situation in Gosport is of course that there have been no prosecutions so far. It is necessary to look at the totality of the evidence in a way that does not seem to have happened so far through the various investigations that have taken place: a panel that would do that and would expose that evidence and information to the public gaze would therefore be an extremely helpful step which could enable prosecutions subsequently.

I hope this is helpful.

Best wishes,

[DH.JPG]

Private Office of Norman Lamb MP
 Minister of State for Care and Support

Department of Health, 79 Whitehall, SW1A 2NS
 [Code A]

From: Charles Farthing [Code A]
Sent: 05 December 2013 15:22
To: MSCS
Subject: Fw: Gosport War Memorial Hospital

I am concerned that Caroline Dineage's office is still awaiting my input following the meeting with Bishop James on 21 Nov. I would there be grateful for a reply to my query about legal sanctions that would be available following a Hillsborough-type enquiry (see below).

Kind regards,
 Charles Farthing

----- Original Message -----

From: Charles Farthing [Code A]
To: MSCS<[Code A]>
Sent: Saturday, November 23, 2013 9:06 AM
Subject: Re: Gosport War Memorial Hospital

Thank you for arranging this meeting, which proved to be quite illuminating and worthwhile. One issue upon which I remain unclear, however, is the extent to which a Hillsborough-type panel could ensure that prosecutions occur in the event that it concludes there was corporate manslaughter or similar. Please advise.

Kind regards,
 Charles Farthing

----- Original Message -----

From: MSCS<mailto:[Code A]>
To: 'Charles Farthing' [Code A]
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2013 7:05 AM
Subject: RE: Gosport War Memorial Hospital

Dear Mr Farthing,

Many thanks again for your reply. The meeting with Bishop James will take place this Thursday, 21st November, at 1-3pm at the office of Caroline Dinenage, MP for Gosport. The address is 167 Stoke Road, Gosport, PO12 1SE. There is parking available if you should need it at the White Hart pub.

Please let us know if you need any further information.

Best wishes,

[DH.JPG]

Private Office of Norman Lamb MP
Minister of State for Care and Support

Department of Health, 79 Whitehall, SW1A 2NS

Code A

From: Charles Farthing [Code A]
Sent: 12 November 2013 18:00
To: MSCS
Subject: Re: Gosport War Memorial Hospital

Thank you for the invitation, and yes that date should be okay for my wife and I. Hopefully it will be in daytime, as the evening is booked.

I could also be free any other day that week if you need to re-arrange to fit with others.

Kind regards,
Charles Farthing

----- Original Message -----

From: MSCS [Code A]
To: [Code A]
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 6:36 AM
Subject: Gosport War Memorial Hospital

Dear Mr and Mrs Farthing,

I'm writing in relation to our meeting in September on Gosport War Memorial Hospital (GWMH) and Professor Richard Baker's report. Many thanks again for your time and effort in coming to discuss the issue with me.

At the meeting we talked about what options there are for getting the information on what happened at GWMH out in the open, making it possible for people to be held to account and, hopefully, helping you and your families to get a sense of closure.

I mentioned that one potential option is a panel investigation approach, along the lines of the Hillsborough Independent Panel which investigated the Hillsborough disaster. I hope I'm right in saying that you were tentatively positive about this option.

Since the meeting my officials have been doing further research into the various options, including the panel investigation approach. I have met with Bishop James Jones, formerly the Bishop of Liverpool, who chaired the Hillsborough Independent Panel. He was extremely helpful in describing what they did there and how their experience might help us.

The Bishop has suggested that it might be useful for him to come down to Gosport to meet - without me - with yourself and other families and interested parties. This would enable you to discuss with him the pros and cons of the approach taken by the Hillsborough Independent Panel, how that method of investigation worked and whether it is a route that you would like us to go down for GWMH.

The Bishop will come to Gosport on 21st November, if you and others would like to meet with him. Would you be able to reply to [Code A] to let us know if you would like to be part of that meeting?

If you would like to have a meeting but that date isn't possible for you, please let me know and we will look at alternatives.

With best regards,

Norman Lamb

[DH.JPG]

Private Office of Norman Lamb MP
Minister of State for Care and Support

Department of Health, 79 Whitehall, SW1A 2NS
Code A

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