

Tel. 01329-284661	<div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <h1 style="margin: 0;">Code A</h1> </div> <p style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;">3 August 2002</p>
-------------------	---

Mr I Piper  
 Chief Executive  
 Fareham & Gosport Primary Care Trust  
 Unit 180, Fareham Reach  
 166 Fareham Road  
 Gosport  
 PO13 0FH

*Dear Mr Piper,*

Thank you for your letter dated 18 July concerning the CHI report.

You have asked for my views on various issues covered by the report which, alas, are unlikely to carry much relevance as my concerns regarding the presence of intent to dispose of the patients concerned have never really been addressed at all. I am sure you will appreciate that if the Trust is unable to get its act together after all that has been said and done then the Trust itself needs to be scrutinised. I have little doubt that the Gosport War Memorial Hospital is one of the safest and best supervised hospitals in the country at the moment which, it seems to me, the report is seeking to convey.

The intones of your second question are: Can we trust the Trust to remain competent in the future? The answer is I doubt it. As soon as the pressure is off and guards begin to drop it is more than likely that old complacencies will creep in, and in a few years things could be back where they started.

The report paints a glowing picture of what has been achieved as a result of the deaths in the late 1990s as one would expect it should, but glibly sidesteps the root issues as if hiding behind the fact the police have found nothing amiss after their investigation which has been less than competent to say the least.

I read in the local newspaper only last night that the report into the alleged inadequacy of police investigation is being passed to the Chief Constable for decision yet, even now, after all my representations, I for one have still not been interviewed. It seems to me the case is cut and dried whatever the facts, and the Trust will rest cosily behind this.

Unfortunately, the matter will never rest there in the minds of the families concerned, and I have little option to point the finger directly at your office for allowing this to happen in the first place.

I am sorry I cannot be more optimistic or supportive, but I have tried to be honest.

Yours sincerely,

# Code A

C R S Farthing