

Hampshire and Isle of Wight



Strategic Health Authority

Gakley Road  
Southampton  
SO16 4GX

# Facsimile Cover Sheet

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To: LUCY DOCHERTY  
MARGARET SCOTT  
From: Adrian Osborne

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Subject:

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Chief Executive: Gareth Cruddace



# HAMPSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Paul R. Kernaghan QPM LL.B MA DPM MIPD  
Chief Constable

Western Area Headquarters  
12-18 Hulse Road  
Southampton  
Hampshire  
SO15 2JX

Our Ref. Operation Rochester

Tel. **Code A**  
Fax.

Your Ref.

7<sup>th</sup> February 2003

Mr G Cruddace  
Hampshire & I.O.W NHS Strategic Health Authority  
Oakley Road  
Southampton  
SO16 4GX

Dear Mr Cruddace,

**Re: Gosport War Memorial Hospital**

I am writing with regard to your letter to Detective Chief Superintendent Watts dated 4<sup>th</sup> February 2003 and to my meeting with Richard Samuels held the same day. Mr Watts has asked me to reply to your letter on his behalf. Your letter specifically relates to two issues, namely the legal advice provided to the police and the police view in respect of Mr Horn and Mr Piper resuming their former roles.

Firstly, I am able to confirm that we have received the written advice awaited from the independent Barrister. I am further able to tell you that it fully addresses the concerns raised by the police and endorses the position articulated by Mr Watts to the Chief Medical Officer on the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2003.

In respect of Mr Horn and Mr Piper, whilst we are grateful to have our opinion sought, we would emphasise that the decision to allow both men to return to their former duties is entirely a matter for yourselves, as was the decision to redeploy them in the first instance. Should you choose to allow Mr Horn and Mr Piper to resume their former roles, it seems to us that the suggested measures proposed within your letter provide adequate safeguards.

Therefore we are able to confirm that we, the police, have no objection to both men being allowed to return to their former duties – but again, would emphasise that the decision to do so must remain with yourselves.

Yours sincerely **Code A**

**Code A**

Nigel Niven  
Detective Inspector 7445