



Mental Health Act Commission

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29 January 2004

Mr I Piper
Chief Executive
Fareham & Gosport Primary Care Trust
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166 Fareham Road
Gosport
Hampshire
PO13 0FH



Dear Mr Piper

MENTAL HEALTH ACT COMMISSION REPORT BACK VISIT TO FAREHAM AND GOSPORT PRIMARY CARE TRUST ON 20 JANUARY 2004

A visit was made to the Trust on 20 January 2004 to report back on the findings of the Commission over the period 2001-2003.

A report is attached to this letter.

Commissioners found that this is a well run Trust with good staff and facilities.

The Mental Health Act documents and consent to treatment forms are being well completed.

Commissioners were informed that improvements have been made to the environment of Thomas Parr House. This is a short stay assessment unit and clients rarely stay for longer than 3 months.

The new building at Admiral House has proved very successful.

The Trust and their staff must be complemented for their persistence in enabling the one detained patient to lead as good a life as possible without recourse to heavy doses of medication.

This is a useful training environment for staff.

Yours Sincerely

Code A

Code A

Barbara Brooks
Visiting Services – Team Leader





**MENTAL HEALTH ACT COMMISSION REPORT BACK TO FAREHAM
AND GOSPORT PRIMARY CARE TRUST FOR THE YEARS 2001-2003
ON 20 JANUARY 2004**

1. VISITS TO THE TRUST

Four Commission visits have been made over the 2 year period. The first in September 2001 was to the Portsmouth Healthcare NHS Trust.

The remaining visits were to this Trust and took place in September 2002, January and August 2003.

The Trust covers the Learning Disabilities Units, Thomas Parr House and Admiral House (formerly Beresford Lodge).

2. MENTAL HEALTH ACT ISSUES

The statutory documents and Mental Health Act forms have been well completed throughout the 2 year period.

The only deficit found was that in the case of one patient on a Form 39 there was no record by the statutory consultees that they had been consulted by the Second Opinion Appointed Doctor (SOAD). *Training for this role was recommended.*

3. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

THOMAS PARR HOUSE

The environment of this unit was criticised by Commissioners over several visits. The Commission have been informed that a number of improvements have been made.

BERESFORD LODGE

In 2001 there had been a seriously worrying deterioration in the conditions in which the one detained patient was being kept. His behaviour had become extreme and staff were working in an unacceptable environment.

Commissioners are very pleased to report that the new building, called Admiral House, has seen a vast improvement in the arrangements for the 2 patients. The behaviour of the detained patient has improved together with staff morale.



The unit was designed for three patients but in August 2003 it had not been possible to recruit enough staff to accommodate more than 2.

4. CONCLUDING COMMENTS

Commissioners are always impressed by the dedication of the staff who care for these extremely challenging patients.

The greatly improved environment, particularly at Beresford Lodge, is to be commended.