

Private and confidential  
Lesley Richards

**Code A**

24 March 2010

PRE/19/12053/Code A

*Please quote the above reference in all future correspondence.*

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Dear Ms Richards

### **Registered nurses at Gosport War Memorial Hospital**

The NMC has been reviewing the documentation on file that it has prior to the case being reconsidered by the Preliminary Proceedings Committee (PPC) next month.

In September 2002, we wrote to you and your sister to advise you that the PPC had adjourned consideration of its case to await the outcome of investigations by the Crown Prosecution Service.

I need to explain about the history of consideration of matters relating to consideration of registered nurses at Gosport War Memorial Hospital:

In September 2001, the Preliminary Proceedings Committee of the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing and Midwifery (UKCC), the regulating body before the NMC came into being in April 2002, considered a referral made by Hampshire Police following a report it had commissioned by an expert witness, Professor Livesley. This related to the care of your mother, Gladys Richards.

No allegations were made against any practitioner, although three nurses were named within the referral. The PPC declined to proceed with the case. The PPC was not obliged to give reasons for its decisions at that time.

The UKCC did not write to you at the time as you were not the complainant in the case, nor had you made any complaint.

In September 2002, the NMC's PPC considered separate referrals by five members of the public and some additional information from Hampshire Constabulary before adjourning consideration of its case to await the outcome of investigations by the Crown Prosecution Service. This is the matter that will be reconsidered by the PPC next month.

You should be aware that, while there are ongoing matters being considered by the PPC, it cannot consider any allegation concerning the treatment of your mother. This is because it has considered issues relating to this in September 2001 and has declined to proceed.

I am aware that your sister, Gillian Mackenzie, has maintained telephone contact with members of the directorate's staff concerning this and I am sorry that this has issue has not been clarified with you until now.

If you would like to discuss this matter further please contact the case officer assigned to this matter **Code A**

Yours sincerely

Ian Todd  
Director, Fitness to Practise