

MDU Services Limited  
230 Blackfriars Road  
London  
SE1 8PJ

For the attention of Mr I S P Barker

Your Ref: ISPB/jh/0005940/Legal

13 May 2008

Dear Mr Barker

**Gosport War Memorial Hospital Inquests/Dr Jane Barton:**

I refer to your letter dated 8 May.

I confirm that I intend in the very near future to open Inquests into the deaths of ten people who died at Gosport War Memorial Hospital:

Mr Arthur Cunningham  
Mr Geoffrey Packman  
Mrs Ruby Lake  
Mrs Sheila Gregory  
Mr Robert Wilson  
Mrs Enid Spurgin  
Mrs Helena Service  
Mr Leslie Pittock  
Mrs Elsie Lavender  
Mrs Elsie Devine

For logistical reasons, the Inquests will be conducted by Mr A M Bradley, HM Coroner for North Hampshire, acting as my Deputy. Mr Bradley intends to conduct all the Inquests simultaneously and at present estimates about a month in court to do this. It seems very unlikely, given the complex arrangements that will need to be made, for the Inquests to take place any earlier than the Autumn.

I note that you represent Dr Jane Barton and will ensure that you are kept informed of developments in relation to the Inquests.

Yours sincerely

David C Horsley  
Tel: 023 9268 8326

Email:  **Code A**

cc Mr A Bradley