

Field Fisher Waterhouse LLP
Portland Tower
Portland Street
Manchester
M1 3LF

For attention of Ms T Hall

Your Ref: ALW/00492-15579/7365557 v1

28 April 2008

Dear Ms Hall

Gosport War Memorial Hospital Inquests/Dr Jane Barton:

I refer to your letter dated 23 April and our telephone conversation of 28 April.

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.

Of course, neither Mr Bradley nor I would wish to prejudice in any way the GMC's hearing on Dr Barton. I am copying your letter to him so that we can all liaise on a more definite hearing date for the Inquests.

Yours sincerely

David C Horsley
Tel: 023 9268 8326

Email: Code A

cc Mr A Bradley