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With Compliments



Coroner's Office The Guildhall Guildhall Square Portsmouth PO1 2AJ

Fax: 023 9268 8331

Det. Supt. David Williams Major Crime Department Fratton Police Station Kingston Crescent Portsmouth Hampshire PO2 8BU

11 August 2008

Dear Det. Supt. Williams

Mrs Gladys Richards Deceased:

I enclose a copy of a letter received by my office whilst I was absent on holiday. The letter is from Solicitors acting for Mrs Richards' daughter, Mrs Mackenzie.

From my understanding of the evidence presented to me as a result of Operation Rochester is that Mrs Richards' death could not be ascribed to anything other than natural causes. This view coincided with that of the Police and CPS in not including her death in the ten cases where criminal proceedings were contemplated. Hence, I decided not to open an Inquest on her death.

Before I respond to the Solicitors, please may I have your further observations on the contents of their letter relating to the circumstances of Mrs Richards' death? In particular, please may I have your comments on the paragraphs I have highlighted?

An early reply would be much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

David C Horsley Tel: 023 9268 8326 Email: Code A

Enc

cc Mr A M Bradley 🗸