

WESSEX REGIONAL OFFICE

General Secretary
Christine Hancock
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Her Majesty the Queen
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22 November 1991

Mrs I Evans
Patient Care Manager
Gosport War Memorial Hospital
Bury Road
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Hants
PO12 3PWROYAL
COLLEGE OF
NURSING

Dear Mrs Evans,

I refer to your memorandum to staff at Redclyffe Annexe dated 7th November 1991 and Keith Murray's letter to you dated 14th November 1991. I believe it is important that I reinforce the RCN's position as indicated to you in Mr Murray's letter.

This office was aware of the concerns that had been expressed by staff earlier this year and other discussions that had taken place with yourself as the Manager. It had been understood that the concerns raised would be addressed and the RCN had anticipated that clear guidance/policy would be promulgated as a result of the very serious professional concerns Nursing Staff were expressing.

It is now a matter of serious concern that these complaints were not acted upon in the way that had been anticipated and that Management are, some months after those discussions now seeking formal allegations. I would reinforce Mr Murray's position that this is not acceptable and the RCN is not prepared to be drawn into what could emerge as a vindictive witch hunt that would divide Nursing Staff, Medical Staff and Management. The complaints were adequately reported to Management earlier this year and you have received further evidence by way of Gerrie Whitney's report dated 31 October 1991. We now expect a clear policy to be agreed as a matter of urgency.

If it is not possible for Management to achieve this, the RCN will need to seek further instructions from its membership to pursue this matter through the grievance procedure on the basis that Management have failed to manage this situation properly.

Yours sincerely

Steve Barnes
RCN Officer - Wessex

C.C: Keith Murray

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