

Hampshire and Isle of Wight 
Health Authority

Fareham and Gosport 
Primary Care Trust

Media Information

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Gosport War Memorial Hospital

**Issued jointly by Gareth Cruddace, Chief Executive, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Health Authority
and Ian Piper, Chief Executive, Fareham and Gosport Primary Care Trust**

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Health Authority and Fareham and Gosport Primary Care Trust can confirm that the Chief Medical Officer, Sir Liam Donaldson, has commissioned a clinical audit of the care of elderly patients at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

We welcome this audit as an opportunity to ensure that all possible investigation has happened at the Hospital, and to confirm the findings of the recent CHI investigation which had some serious concerns about services in 1998 but concluded that policies and procedures are now in place to ensure safe standards of care at the hospital.

We are pleased that an acknowledged national expert, Professor Richard Baker from the Clinical Governance and Research Unit at the University of Leicester, has been asked to undertake this audit and we will be giving him every support.

We sympathise with the relatives and recognise that people have unanswered questions. We hope that the outcome of this audit will provide the definitive answers that relatives, NHS staff and the people of Gosport are looking for.

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Notes for Editors: Contact Information

- Further enquiries can be addressed to the press office of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Health Authority on 023 8072 5419.
- The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Health Authority is the statutory organisation responsible for performance management of NHS organisations for 1.8 million people in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Subject to the necessary legislation being in place it will become the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Strategic Health Authority from 1 October 2002.
- The Fareham and Gosport Primary Care Trust is the statutory organisation responsible for planning and commissioning NHS services and improving health for about 190,000 people in Fareham and Gosport.
- More information about the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Health Authority is available from www.hiow.nhs.uk