

Mr C S Farthing

Code ANew Court (S2), 1 Barnes Wallis Road, Segensworth
Fareham, Hampshire PO15 5UA

DX: 132290 Fareham 5

D: Code A

T: +44 (0) 1489 579990

F: +44 (0) 1489 555180

E: Code A

www.blaw.co.uk

12 August 2008

Our Ref: 078964/000016/JCW/FREE IN/HG

Your Ref:

Dear Mr Farthing

**Gosport Inquest
Pre-Inquest Hearing on Thursday 14 August 2008**

I am pleased to write with an update.

As you are aware, the pre-inquest hearing is due to take place on Thursday 14 August 2008. At this, various important issues will be determined, including:

- Identifying interested parties.
- Determining if the inquest proceeds as one hearing.
- Jury.
- Timing of the inquest in relation to the General Medical Council hearing.
- Witnesses.
- Representation.
- Venue.
- Time estimate.

Of note is that seven other relatives have come forward who are not included within the Coroner's list. We have circulated a questionnaire to them to ascertain their basic details. We will consider with the Coroner whether other families can be included and keep you updated about this.

It will be important to consider funding issues. This is particularly so since we have asked a barrister to attend and will, in due course, consider whether to obtain our own independent expert evidence. My advice, therefore, is that we should apply for legal aid on the grounds of "exceptional funding".

We will still need to submit details as to financial means. I enclose the following forms from the Legal Services Commission:

1. Means 1 – please can you complete this form in as much detail as possible.
2. L17 – if you are still working, please can you ask your employer to complete and stamp this form.
3. Means 2 – if you are receiving income support or any of the other benefits listed on this form, then you do not need to complete the Means 1 and you can complete this instead.

Please can you complete the forms as a matter of urgency and return them to Anita Perry at our offices. We look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely

John White

Enc