Close Paul

From:	Code A		
Sent:	14 February 2005 18:15		
To:	Code A		
Cc:	<u> </u>	Code A	
Subject:	FW: Portsmouth News		

Mr WATTS as discussed..

I have informed the key stakeholders, and the FLO continues to update the FGM's.

I will write to the remaining FGM's this week (there are 22) explaining that the article could mislead the situation. (if not read very carefully).

Nigel ..

Tuesday.. Please draft the FGM update as previously discussed incorporating the following passage..

On the 14th February 2005 the Portsmouth Evening News published an article that intimated that files in respect of 28 cases had been passed to the CPS. It is unfortunate that the NEWS suggested this to be the case, particularly as the police have refused to be drawn on numbers generally given that this type of sensationalist speculative reporting could ultimately have an adverse effect both on the outcome of the investigation in terms of prosecution and securing the ongoing co-operation of Healthcare staff which to date has been first class. We continue to investigate the circumstances surrounding patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital during the 1990's and to liaise with the Crown Prosecution Service in this respect. This liaison will continue throughout 2005 during which papers will be incrementally passed for their consideration.

It is not likely that any decision as to outcome will be made until later in the year. We continue to receive the fullest co-operation from the Fareham and Gosport Primary Care Trust and the Healthcare Staff involved.

Thanks DW.

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Williams, David M
            14 February 2005 17:58
> Sent:
       .....
           Code A
> To: 🤄
 Subject:
           FW: Portsmouth News
  Code A as discussed..
>
> Det Supt WILLIAMS said..
> We continue to investigate the circumstances surrounding patient
 deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital during the 1990's and to
> liaise with the Crown Prosecution Service in this respect. This
> liaison will continue throughout 2005 during which papers will be
> incrementally passed for their consideration.
> It is not likely that any decision as to outcome will be made until
> later in the year. We continue to receive the fullest co-operation from
> the Fareham and Gosport Primary Care Trust and the Healthcare Staff
 involved.
> DW.
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> From: Williams, David M > Sent: 14 February 2005 16:37 > To: Code A Code A FW: Portsmouth News > Subject:

Code A

> I received a telephone call from Code A of the news this morning > who informed that that they were going to print today on the back of a > letter sent by the DCC to Nigel Winterhouse MP for Eastbourne > providing a brief update in respect of the case.. It seems that a family group member Mrs MACKENZIE forwarded a copy of the letter to the evening News..

> The passage from the letter of interest to the news was as follows..

> As I explained in my last letter to you on 28th January, 2004, the > Constabulary have utilised a number of medical experts in order to assist us in assessing the quality of treatment provided by staff at > Gosport War Memorial Hospital. As a result of that process, cases > were put into three categories according to the advice of those > medical experts on whether or not in their opinion there had been > compliance with medical procedures which complied with the rules that > existed at that time. We had then concentrated our investigation on > those cases which have raised most concern with the medical experts. > We have obtained many hundreds of statements from staff who worked in > the hospital at that time and interviews have also been conducted with > doctors. A small number of cases will be put through the Crown > Prosecution service within the next two months in order to test > whether or not the conduct of medical care at the hospital raises > issues of criminal conduct by individuals associated with the > administration of care.

> An article appeared this afternoon in the Portsmouth News relating to > the police investigation known as Operation Rochester. This article > suggests that that our investigation was focusing on 28 patient > deaths and further intimated that case papers relating to those cases > had been submitted to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS). These are > the words of the Portsmouth Evening news not the police, who refused > to be drawn on numbers and timescales, but commented that the CPS were > unlikely to make a decision on culpability of Healthcare professionals > until they had reviewed all of the evidence and the investigation > remained ongoing.

> Can I suggest that in the event of any other media interest that we > refer to our media release of November 2004 (attached).. And add that > a considerable body of work needs to be completed throughout 2005 > before any decision is likely to made as to the final outcome of this investigation.

<<Operation Rochester - more families informed>>

Thanks. Dave WILLIAMS.

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2