

nr. G.M. Mackerzie

Mrs Gladys M Richards

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19 September 2002

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Dear Mrs Richards

Thank you for the copy of your letter of 28 August 2002 addressed to the Attorney General. I have been asked to reply to you.

As I indicated to your sister, Mrs MacKenzie, in my letter of 31 July 2002 the papers submitted to the Crown Prosecution so far relate only to the investigation of the death of your late mother. However, I understand that the Hampshire Constabulary are preparing additional papers which they intend to submit for consideration in the very near future. I will of course consider what impact if any that additional material has upon the investigation into your late mother's case.

It is not possible at this stage to comment on the nature of the papers which the police propose to submit or the extent to which they will contain evidence which may affect the decision regarding the circumstances of your late mother's death.

Once the papers have been received they will be reviewed immediately and hopefully matters will become clearer. I must point out that the investigation of criminal allegations is a matter for the police and neither the Crown Prosecution Service nor the Attorney General have either the facilities to conduct investigations or the authority to direct the police in respect of such matters. I note that you have already made the Chief Constable of Hampshire aware of your concerns by copying your letter to him.

Yours sincerely

Paul Close Casework Directorate