C W P Newell Esq Director, Casework CPS Headquarters

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Our ref: RKD/TS/526-14/1408

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30 JUL 2002

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RE: ENQUIRY INTO GOSPORT WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

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30/2/02.

- 1 Please find enclosed a copy of a letter from Deputy Chief Constable Ian Readhead who mentioned the matters that he has set out in his letter to me, earlier this week.
- 2 Having made enquiries in the Area, it seems as though the original investigation into what occurred at Gosport War Memorial Hospital was considered in the Casework Directorate because of the allegation that a doctor in the course of his professional duties unlawfully killed some of his patients. This, of course, is a matter for Headquarters referral.
- In the light of that and in the light of the fact that four further enquiries have now been undertaken by Hampshire Constabulary in respect of the same or similar allegations, I think that it is probably appropriate that these matters are also referred into the Casework Directorate.
- 4 You will note from Mr Readhead's letter that there is one further sensitivity in this matter, namely that the supervisory officer has given the impression to his senior officers and to regulatory bodies that the advice of the CPS has already been obtained in respect of these four additional investigations. That is clearly not the case in so far as Hampshire and the Isle of Wight CPS has not provided advice to the police but it is just possible that advice was given in respect of these four matters by Casework Directorate.
- 5 If you are content, I shall advise Ian Readhead to forward the papers that he has asked Superintendent Stickler to prepare directly to your nominated officer. On the last occasion it would appear as though this was Paul Close.

Chr