

DRAFT

R K Daw
 Chief Crown Prosecutor
 CPS Hampshire & Isle of Wight
 DX: 34149 Eastleigh

Our Ref: LB3/108/01

Your Ref: RKD/TS/526-14/1408

ENQUIRY INTO GOSPORT WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

1. Your minute of 29 July 2002 to Chris Newell together with the copy letter from Hampshire Constabulary to you have been passed to me.
2. I enclose for your information copy letter which I sent to the police on 7 August 2001 following the earlier submission of papers by the police for consideration in respect of the death of Gladys Mabel Richards.
3. As mentioned in the correspondence the police attended conferences with David Perry of Counsel. I have absolutely no hesitation in saying that the police totally agreed with the advice that there was insufficient evidence to provide a realistic prospect of a conviction. Indeed following a conference with Counsel, at which Professor Livesley attended the police were only too thankful that no proceedings had been commenced.
4. I met with the police, and Bill Wheeldon, at Ludgate Hill on 20 July 2001 when various aspects of the matter were discussed in detail. The police mentioned, in passing, that they would continue with other enquiries into other deaths at the hospital. In particular they were seeking other experts reports on those matters and possibly obtain evidence from Professor Ford and Doctor Monday. If anything came of those enquiries further papers would be submitted to the CPS for consideration. The police asked that no action be taken by the CPS until the police had determined what steps, if any, they were going to take in any further enquiries.
5. Suffice it to say there has been no correspondence from the police since my letter of 7 August 2001 and no further evidence in respect of the late Gladys Richards or any ~~further~~ additional investigations ~~has been~~ submitted by the police to me.
6. ~~Obviously it would always remain a matter for the police to determine whether they investigated other matters or submitted files to the CPS for consideration.~~
have

7. I enclose some copy correspondence with Mrs Mackenzie. It may be helpful if the police could comment on the issues raised in her letter of 1 July 2002 and to submit any further evidence for consideration. *I have not written to the police* x ?
8. Obviously if further enquiries have been undertaken by the police in respect of other cases, upon which advice is sought, then, assuming they are matters for Headquarters referral, the papers should be sent to Casework Directorate. It may be better if they are routed through your office.
9. I shall be on leave until mid August. If matters arise *before* then Rob Drybrough-Smith is aware of all the issues.

Paul Close
Casework Directorate
July 2002

Code A