PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

10 May 2002

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Our ref: 27/pp

Dear Margaret

RE: CHI INVESTIGATION INTO THE GOSPORT WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Thank you for your letter of 7 May 2002 in which you raise your Members' wishes to understand the payment arrangements for the cost of the CHI investigation.

I am unaware of any appeal by either the Portsmouth Healthcare NHS Trust or the Fareham & Gosport PCT regarding the cost of the investigation.

I have enclosed a letter from the Department of Health (DoH) dated 30 October 2001 which sets out that the costs of a CHI investigation are levied by the DoH, not CHI and are funded from the local health economy. Though the letter was addressed to the Portsmouth Healthcare Trust, I have spoken to the DoH today who explained that the costs will be met by the health authority, or if no longer in existence when the bill is calculated, by the strategic health authority. I hope this provides sufficient clarification for your Members.

On a second issue, please find enclosed extracts from the draft investigation report which relate to the CHC. I am sending you this extract to enable you to check for **factual accuracy only**. CHI will decide whether any amended text will be incorporated into the final report. Could you please ensure that the extract is treated as strictly confidential.

Yours sincerely

Julie Miller

Investigations Manager