



Department of Health
Investigations and Inquiries Unit
Room 543B Skipton House
80 London Road, London SE1 6LH

Code A

From: Michael Evans

To: *Dr Simon Tanner*

Fax no: **Code A**

Pages (including this): 2

Date: 13 September 2002

Message:

For information

Please see the attached press release issued by the Department of Health this afternoon.

IMPORTANT

The information contained in this fax sheet or attachments may be confidential. If you receive this fax in error please contact the sender, above, who will arrange its return. Thank you.

2002/0380

Friday 13th September 2002

GOSPORT WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**STATEMENT FROM THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER SIR LIAM DONALDSON**

Following the publication of the Commission for Health Improvement report and the police investigation into concerns about the care of elderly patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital, the Chief Medical Officer has commissioned a clinical audit of the service concerned.

" Even though both previous investigations found no grounds for serious concern, neither was in a position to establish whether trends and patterns of death were out of line with what would be expected. It was a wish to ensure that all necessary investigation was carried out that led to the decision to carry out this further investigation.

" I have asked Professor Richard Baker from the Clinical Governance Research and Development Unit at the University of Leicester to undertake the audit. The timing of the audit will be agreed in consultation with the police," Sir Liam said.

Note to Editors:

1. Media inquiries only to **Code A** in the Department of Health Media Centre on 020 7210 5230.

[ENDS]