

Dr Linda Patterson, Medical Director  
Commission for Health Improvement  
Finsbury Tower  
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RIR/cmp

Dear Dr Patterson

Thank you for your letter of 5<sup>th</sup> February and for setting out CHI's position on good and open practice, a principle with which I would concur.

I have considered your position and I have discussed the issue with senior colleagues, both within the Trust and the Health Authority. We remain concerned about contacting the recently bereaved and that this would almost certainly undermine public confidence in Gosport War Memorial Hospital. In view of this I am not agreeable to the relatives being contacted but I do assure you that any contact with relatives regarding the audit in your report will be handled by the Trust or, by its successor, Fareham and Gosport Primary Care Trust.

It is our intention to anonymise the notes and I am happy that the process is handled by Julie Miller and Fiona Cameron, working together.

Thank you for your reassurance re confidentiality within CHI.

Yours sincerely

**Dr R I Reid**  
**Medical Director**