

**Broughall, Debbie**

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**From:** Code A  
**Sent:** 05 March 2009 12:01  
**To:** Kiran Bhogal  
**Cc:** Broughall, Debbie; Williams, Elaine  
**Subject:** RE: FOI-393 Freedom of Information Act Request from BBC TV in Southampton  
**Importance:** High

Hi Kiran

I am forwarding to you below the response to an FOI request regarding the 1991 documents. I believe Debbie sought your opinion on our proposed response.

The enquirer is now asking if the documents have been revealed to the coroner, and I am not sure of that. From the files that we are holding here it would appear that he hasn't, but I haven't looked at every page we have, and he may have other evidence in addition to what we are holding. Do you know if he has them? Have you any advice for us?

Regards

Code A

Project Officer (GWMH)  
 NHS Hampshire

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**From:** Broughall, Debbie  
**Sent:** 05 March 2009 11:26  
**To:** Williams, Elaine; Code A  
**Subject:** FW: FOI-393 Freedom of Information Act Request from BBC TV in Southampton

Elaine / Mary

FYI – and some feedback please.

Thank you

Kind regards

Debbie

Debbie Broughall  
 Freedom of Information Officer  
 NHS Hampshire  
 Aldershot Centre for Health  
 Direct Dial Tel: Code A  
 Area Office Fax: Code A

Email: Code A

**NHS Hampshire Freedom of Information email:** Code A

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**From:** Greg Clark-SO [mailto:Code A]  
**Sent:** 05 March 2009 11:20  
**To:** Broughall, Debbie  
**Subject:** RE: FOI-393 Freedom of Information Act Request from BBC TV in Southampton

Dear Debbie Broughall,

10/03/2009

Thank you for a prompt response. Can I clarify three matters before proceeding further?

In rejecting my first request for the 1991 Internal management report you place an exemption under Section 31 (c) of the Act. In reaching this decision, can you specifically tell me whether you have established if the report has been disclosed to the Coroner for the forthcoming inquests?

You say that any post-inquest release of this information would have to be considered at a later date. Please could you explain why this cannot be considered now. With the conclusion of the inquests estimated to be just six or seven weeks away, one solution would be to examine releasing information on the day the inquests conclude.

If I wish to appeal against the refusal to release information, which email address can I use? The leaflet only gives a postal address.

Regards

Greg Clark

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Greg Clark, Assistant News Editor  
"South Today" BBC1 Weekdays 6.30pm

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**From:** Broughall, Debbie [Code A]  
**Sent:** 04 March 2009 10:33  
**To:** Greg Clark-SO  
**Subject:** FOI-393 Freedom of Information Act Request from BBC TV in Southampton

Dear Mr Clark

I am writing to confirm that Hampshire Primary Care Trust (PCT) has now completed the search for the information you requested on 4 February 2009 under the Freedom of Information Act, where you asked for an internal management report from 1991 examining drug prescribing practices at Gosport War Memorial Hospital and subsequent management minutes discussing the report and any action programme.

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**Request for an internal management report from 1991 examining drug prescribing practices at the hospital.**

Hampshire PCT considers that, as this document forms part of the papers for the forthcoming inquests relating to Gosport War Memorial Hospital, its disclosure in the public domain at this stage would be likely to prejudice the administration of justice. Having considered the Public Interest Test the PCT is placing an exemption under Section 31(c) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 where the administration of justice includes inquisitorial processes (such as inquiries and Coroner's courts).

**Request for any subsequent management minutes discussing the report and any action programme.**

Hampshire PCT considers that this information was recorded as part of internal review/investigation and release at this stage would prejudice a fair hearing and, having considered the Public Interest Test is placing an exemption under Section 30(2)(a)(i) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Hampshire PCT considers that it is possible this information could be released once the inquests are concluded, however this would need to be re-considered at a future point in time.

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If you have any queries about this email, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference

10/03/2009

number above in any future communications.

If you wish to request a review of our decision or make a complaint you should write to Customer Services, Hampshire Primary Care Trust, Omega House, 112 Southampton Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO50 5PB.

If you are not content with the outcome you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot make a decision unless you have already exhausted the Hampshire Primary Care Trust's Freedom of Information complaints procedure. In line with the Information Commissioner's guidance when the provision of information is refused please see the following link to the ICO leaflet "*Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations - When and how to complain*":

[http://www.ico.gov.uk/upload/documents/library/freedom\\_of\\_information/practical\\_application/ico\\_foi\\_eir\\_how\\_1](http://www.ico.gov.uk/upload/documents/library/freedom_of_information/practical_application/ico_foi_eir_how_1)

Further information about the Freedom of Information Act can be sourced on the Information Commissioner's website: <http://www.ico.gov.uk/>

Yours sincerely

Debbie Broughall

Debbie Broughall  
Freedom of Information Officer  
Hampshire PCT  
Aldershot Centre for Health  
Hospital Hill  
Aldershot  
Hampshire GU11 1AY

Direct Dial Tel: [Code A]  
Area Office Reception Tel: [Code A]  
Area Office Fax: [Code A]

Email: [Code A]

**Hampshire PCT Freedom of Information Email:** [Code A]

**From:** Greg Clark-SO [mailto:[Code A]]  
**Sent:** 04 February 2009 18:30  
**To:** FOI (HPCT)  
**Subject:** Freedom of Information Act Request from BBC TV in Southampton

Dear Sir or Madam

I am writing to make a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request relating to previous investigations of events at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

I am specifically seeking a copy of an internal management report from 1991 examining drug prescribing practices at the hospital. The existence of this document was first publicly made known in 2002 when it was apparently handed to Hampshire police as part of their investigation into a number of deaths at the hospital. At that time (approximately September 2002), the then chief executive of Fareham & Gosport Primary Care Trust, Ian Piper and Tony Horner, then chief executive of East Hampshire Primary Care Trust temporarily stepped down from their positions. I've included that detail in the hope it helps you identify the specific document because I do not know what it was officially called or who commissioned it.

For similar purposes of clarity, the report I am seeking is NOT the Commission for Health Improvement report from July 2002.

I would like a copy of the 1991 report together with any subsequent management minutes discussing the report and any action programme. I would anticipate that these documents would include references to named individuals. If that is likely to cause Data Protection Act problems, I would ask you to redact the

10/03/2009

names rather than withhold the entire document. I would argue that with the inquests opening shortly into the deaths of ten patients at the hospital which is likely to examine drug prescribing practices on the wards, the balance of the public interest test in favour of releasing this information - even with redactions - outweighs any qualified exemptions you may be considering.

I do not know whether the 1991 report is included in the disclosure bundle for the forthcoming inquests. If it is, I would ask you to provide the report as it is already, or soon will be, in the public domain. That would remove any justification not to release the document. If the report is not in the disclosure bundle, I would urge you to still make a decision in principle about releasing the information. While I have been advised that it is not possible to prejudice inquest proceedings, your organisation may take a different view so the debate would then become about the timing of an FOI publication, perhaps to coincide with the conclusion of the inquests.

My preferred format to receive this information is by email sent to: **Code A**  
 If you need any further information from me in order to deal with my request, please use the email above or call me on **Code A**. I would be grateful if you could confirm that you have received this request.

Thank you very much in advance.

Greg Clark

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Greg Clark, Assistant News Editor  
 "South Today" BBC1 Weekdays 6.30pm  
 Broadcasting House, Havelock Road  
 Southampton, Hampshire SO14 7PU  
 Tel.: **Code A**  
 Fax: **Code A**  
 email: **Code A**

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