

## **GOSPORT MEDICAL COMMITTEE**

Gosport War Memorial Hospital, Bury Road, Gosport, Hants, PO12 3PW

02 DEC 2005

Chairman:

Dr RM Reid

Secretary: Dr G Burlein

Clerical Assistant:

Code A

Please reply to:

Gosport Health Centre

**Bury Road** GOSPORT PO12 3PN

30 November 2005

Mr J Wilderspin Chief Executive Fareham & Gosport Primary Care Trust Unit 180, Fareham Reach 166 Fareham Road GOSPORT PO13 0FW

Dear Mr Wilderspin

At the last meeting of the Gosport Medical Committee the doctors again complained about the unsatisfactory arrangements for parking. There are not enough spaces for regular members of staff and visiting consultants and GPs cannot always park either, and there is no parking set aside for them.

We feel more staff parking should be provided and that visting doctors should be granted privileged parking.

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter received from Wendy Peters.

Yours sincerely

Dr RM Reid Hon Chairman Code A

Enc:

## Forton Medical Centre

Whites Place Gosport Hampshire PO12 3JP Telephone: 023 9258 3333 Fax: 023 9260 1107

Doctors:
P A Beasley
Jane A Barton
E J Peters
M J Brigg
Sarah J Brook
A C Knapman
Golda M Ninan

Our Ref: EJP/VSS

11 October 2005

Ms Ann Smith
Operational Director of Corporate Services
Fareham & Gosport PCT
Unit 180 Fareham Reach
166 Fareham Road
GOSPORT
PO13 OFH

Dear Ms Smith

Following our telephone conversation today I am sorry I have to write this letter but unfortunately I feel that the role of General Practitioners is being made more and more difficult by local circumstances.

Today I was asked to visit a patient on Sultan Ward, this particular patient is an elderly gentleman who is dying of carcinoma of the oesophagus and I was requested to see him because of his agitation and distress. I arrived at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital at about 1300, only to find the staff car park was full. Fortunately I thought there was a car park attendant right next to the staff car park. I therefore stopped and informed him I was a doctor visiting a patient on Sultan Ward and asked him where I could park. I was told the staff car park was full and I must therefore park in the pay car park and must pay. When I reiterated that I was a GP visiting a patient I was told other women have to pay at the car park and therefore I had to as well.

In the past when I have visited the Gosport War Memorial Hospital and the car park has been full I have always been treated with courtesy by a car park attendant who has informed me that as long as I have a valid car parking permit and a Doctor on Call sign displayed in my windscreen then no parking ticket would be issued to me. On this particular occasion I was displaying both the Portsmouth Hospital Parking Permit and a Gosport & Fareham Hospital Parking Permit both with my car registration number and also a large Doctor on Call sign clearly visible on my front windscreen. I contacted the receptionist on duty who told me I could park in the car park and she would issue me with a permit entitling me to park. I must point out that she was extremely helpful and also understanding in this matter, however I found the attitude of this particular car parking attendant who informed me his name was Ken Gwyn, to be both intimidating and indeed threatening.

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In my naivety I still believe that the prime role of medical staff is to provide the best service for our patients. Unfortunately it seems that local conditions are ensuring it is more and more difficult for a General Practitioner to provide such a service at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital, in this particular instance the inflexible and officious attitude of the car park attendant you employ has only serviced to reinforce my views on this matter. I hope having written this letter and vented my frustration that some action can be taken to improve this situation.

Wend Metry

I remain

Yours sincerely

E J PETERS
BSc MBBS DRCOG MRCGP

Cc Dr J Grocock, Chairman of the Gosport War Memorial Hospital GP Committee