

MP to raise hospital inquiry

THE long-running controversy over dozens of deaths at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital is set to be raised in parliament.

Tory MP Nigel Waterson, whose Eastbourne constituents include the daughter of an elderly woman whose death is being investigated by Hampshire police, will ask questions about the length of the police investigation.

Families have privately expressed frustration about the police inquiry, after being told they might have months more to wait before finding out which cases, if any, will go to court. Officers began their current probe last year.

Gillian MacKenzie, whose mother Gladys Richards died at

the Gosport hospital in August 1998, has pressed Nigel Waterson to take up the case.

'There have now been seven expert medical opinions obtained by the police in my case at the tax payers' expense but I am not to be told of the outcome for a considerable time,' she said.

'The police should be relieving stress, not causing it.'

Officers are currently looking into 61 cases where families have complained that their relatives were treated badly at the hospital.

Mr Waterson confirmed that he hoped to raise the matter in the House of Commons next week, after the party conferences were over.

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