

Dear all

I did not send the questions to the DCC in advance so as to prevent the possibility of 'text book' answers being prepared in advance which are far from adequate. I hope this is to everybody's agreement.

Due to time constraints and the emotiveness of the situation we are in, can I ask that everybody holds any additional questions or issues you have until the end of the prepared questions. I appreciate that the Deputy will answer some of these questions in a way which does not completely satisfy any or all of us, but please let him have his say so that we can move onto the next question. Then we can open up the discussion to raise any additional questions or issues that may have arisen.

I am sure everybody will be pleased that so many of us have been able to attend the meeting, but as its such a large group we need to keep as much control on the meeting as possible and show the DCC that we can work together and that we will not be beaten on this.

Thanks again.

Emily

Questions for meeting with Deputy Chief Constable Readhead, Wednesday
September 11th 2002.

1) In the evidential test used by crown prosecutors it states that "crown prosecutors must be satisfied that there is enough evidence to provide a realistic prospect of a conviction"

So how do you justify your proposed course of action when

- i) No families have been interviewed. As an example, Mr Mike Wilson received letters from four different officers over a period of 15 months advising him that an officer would come to interview him. Nobody ever came.
- ii) No staff from the hospital have been interviewed
- iii) And with the exception of expert medical opinions on only four cases, no other investigation appears to have taken place?

2) By following this proposed course of action are you 'cuffing' the investigation?

3) What additional evidence do you actually have to send to the CPS in the absence of any further investigation?

4) You say that the CHI report will form part of the information being sent to the CPS but this is not a report based on a criminal investigation but is a civil document already in the public domain. Why are you so reliant on the CHI report when it cannot be used as evidence in a criminal court?

5) Can you explain why the case of Gladys Richards has been used to guide your actions in other cases? Why hasn't each case been dealt with individually as stated in point 2.1 of the code for crown prosecutors?

6) How were the four cases chosen for an expert medical opinion and why were they only cases from 1998 and why were palliative care cases included in these reports?

7) Can you justify why when people made allegations regarding the unlawful killing of their relatives Hampshire Constabulary ignored them or advised them that no action will be taken?

8) How many more cases do you need before you consider this worthy of a full investigation?

9) If these deaths occurred in a private nursing home would your actions be the same? As an example, we are sure you are aware by now of the Thames Valley Police investigation regarding the Long Care homes which was published in the Police Review of 1998.

10) How is it that CHI were mislead, and in turn the public, into thinking that two full investigations took place in November 1998 and February 1999 when the Police Complaints Authority upheld complaints regarding investigative failures? How can we be so sure that the CPS haven't been or will be mislead in the same way?

11) Why are you waiting for a response from the CPS before making a decision on the appropriateness of James' actions? Since when have the CPS been involved in disciplinary procedures against officers in the force or is this a cover up of the alleged incompetence of one of your officers?