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HAMPSHIRE CONSTABULARY

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Your Ref.

13th April 2004

Professor R Forrest

Code A

Dear Robert,

Thank you for your letter of the 5th April 2004 regarding Dulcie Middleton and Leonard Graham.

As you know, the approach we have adopted to this investigation is multi layered. In the first instance the Clinical Team, headed by yourself, were tasked with the analysis of patient notes and provided a screening categorisation. Thereafter, the findings of the Clinical Team were subject to review by an expert independent to this Clinical Team and at this stage the concerns of the deceased relatives were taken into consideration.

This process has been, in part, completed. However, we have been caused delay due to some discrepancies being identified in the patient record copying process. This is being remedied. The current stage of our investigation is to focus on those cases identified by the Clinical Team as having the serious concerns (category 3) and reviewing the investigative process in respect of the cases that provoked less concerns (category 2)

We are already aware of the concerns of both Mrs Graham and Mrs Bulbeck. Their relatives cases fall within category 1. Their initial concerns were taken into consideration by the independent expert before they were notified of the outcome of the analysis. Since being notified they have challenged the conclusions and have raised further issues. DS **Code A** has recently visited them in person and discussed the cases. I have resubmitted their concerns for a further review and await the outcome of that process.

At this point it is not our intention to submit the concerns of relatives to the Clinical Team. Should this position change I will notify you and the Clinical Team members. I would therefore request that you do not pass on the information sent to you by Mrs Graham and Mrs Bulbeck.

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It is now likely that you will receive further correspondence from the above and other family group members. I would therefore prefer that you confine any future correspondence in respect of Operation Rochester to an acknowledgement and to inform the correspondent that you will forward the letters to me for my consideration.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss this or any other matter.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Nigel Niven
Deputy Senior Investigating Officer
Operation Rochester