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Grocott, David

From:

Clare Strickland Code C

Sent:

18 May 2009 14:17

To:

Grocott, dave

Subject: RE: Gosport War Memorial Hospital Freedom Of Information requests.

Dear D/Insp Grocott

Thank you very much for informing us of your position. I will forward this to the relevant person at the NMC.

Regards

Clare Strickland
Senior lawyer (hearings)
In-house legal team
Code C

From: dave.grocott

Code C

Sent: 07 May 2009 15:14

To: Clare Strickland

Cc: r Code A 1@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Subject: Gosport War Memorial Hospital Freedom Of Information requests.

Clare.

Operation Rochester: Gosport War Memorial Hospital

You will be aware that HM Coroner Andrew Bradley has recently concluded 10 inquests relating to patients from GWMH. The verdicts in those inquests were death due to natural causes, all be it that in some cases the administration of opiate medications was considered to have contributed more than minimally or negligibly to the death.

I have just received the first of what I imagine to be a number of formal requests for information under the terms of the Freedom of Information act. I wanted to communicate with you my position as the SIO regarding information requests.

The police investigation has concluded and in due course we will have to consider what we are prepared to publish. At present I am aware that there are further hearings to take place, Fitness to Practice hearings, possible further inquests etc. To that end my decision which has been ratified by the Chief Constable is as follows.

I intend to publish such material as is requested and appropriate in line with the Freedom of Information Act once all hearings connected with the investigation have been concluded. To inform this process I will create a publishing strategy which should address the immediate needs and concerns of family members connected with the investigation. I reasonably expect the publication of material to occur no sooner than January 2010 once all hearings have concluded.

This being our position, any requests for information will be passed to our FOI office at police headquarters. An exemption to release material will be sought and probably applied under Section 22 of the FOI act.

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As the NMC holds similar if not identical information to the police I would be obliged if you could pass my email to the relevant department. I would like to think that there might be a similar response from yourselves?

Once everything has finished we can and will respond to requests but in the meantime I don't want anything to adversely affect any other agency hearings. I shall be passing similar information to the GMC.

Please feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss or clarify anything further.

Regards

Dave
D/Insp Dave Grocott
Serious Crime Review Team
Hampshire Constabulary

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