



Other Document Form

MC7

Number: TS26

Title EMAIL DSOPT WILLIAMS TO ACTO Re ARTHUR CUNNINGHAM

(Include source and any document number if relevant)

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Further action no(s)		
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Code A

From: Williams, David
Sent: 07 June 2007 08:23
To: Snuggs, Benjamin
Cc: Code A
Subject: FW: Gosport War Memorial - OP Rochester (CC's reference 133.07)

Ben..

Did we get a response from Peter VIGGERS?

Regards..DW.

From: Williams, David
Sent: 16 May 2007 16:11
To: ACPO Mailbox
Cc: Watts, Steve
Subject: RE: Gosport War Memorial - OP Rochester (CC's reference 133.07)

Ben..

The letter refers to Arthur CUNNINGHAM..and his stepson Mr Stewart-Farthing (hyphenated surname)

I can confirm that the Operation ROCHESTER team conducted a full investigation into the circumstances surrounding the death of Arthur CUNNINGHAM at Gosport War Memorial Hospital on 26th September 1998.

Unfortunately Mr CUNNINGHAM is assessed to have been suffering progressive illness resulting in his terminal decline. The Police investigation took evidence from 35 Healthcare professionals in this particular case. The Crown Prosecution Service were sure that upon the basis of the evidence provided that the prosecution test had not been met. Indeed this was a case within which the healthcare expert witnesses agreed unanimously that the patient was in terminal end phase of life.

The police report to the CPS into the death of Arthur CUNNINGHAM has formed the basis of evidence to both the Coroner Mr David HORSLEY (Portsmouth) and the General Medical Council who will now assess whether there is a sufficiency of evidence to launch a Professional Conduct Committee hearing. Upon that basis the evidence is not available for release under the freedom of information act.

In response to the enquiry around the Professor BAKER report he was asked by the Chief Medical Officer to undertake a statistical analysis of mortality rates at Gosport War Memorial Hospital during the period under investigation (the 1990's)

His report has been embargoed by the Chief Medical Officer Sir Liam DONALDSON but the evidential content in terms of the police investigation was relevant to just one of the final ten cases (not CUNNINGHAM) and was fully reported to the CPS who took it into account.

The SIO Detective Supt WILLIAMS had a personal meeting with Mr Stewart- Farthing on Wednesday 16th May 2007 to discuss issues of concern.

The SIO would be very happy to meet with Mr VIGGERS to impart a fuller briefing if required..

Regards..DW.

From: ACPO Mailbox
Sent: 16 May 2007 10:37
To: Williams, David
Subject: Gosport War Memorial - OP Rochester (CC's reference 133.07)
Importance: High

David

Thank you for the information you provided re the above. I attach a copy of the Chief's letter to Mr Viggers for your information.

<< File: let Viggers' 133.07 8 may 07.doc >>

<< File: 133.07.pdf >>

Please can you let me have some lines in response to the other matter Mr Viggers has raised in the attached letter, concerning Arthur Buckingham so the Chief can update him about this too.

Thanks, Ben

DCI Ben Snuggs
Staff Officer to the Chief Constable
Internal: 79-1229
(m):