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## Code A

From: Sent:

Williams, David M 13 March 2006 11:31

To:

Code A

Cc: Subject:

Code A FW: let Edmondstone 167.06 13 March 06

For info..DW

From:

Niven, Nigel

Sent:

13 March 2006 11:20

To:

Grocott, David; Williams, David M

Subject:

FW: let Edmondstone 167.06 13 March 06

FYI

From:

Sent:

Code A 13 March 2006 09:42

To:

Niven, Nigel

Subject:

let Edmondstone 167.06 13 March 06



let Edmondstone 167.06 13 Marc...

Nigel

For your info

Code A

Code A

Management Assistant to Paul Kernaghan CBE QPM

Chief Constable

Code A or 79- 1201

Code A

Hampshire Constabulary
Police Headquarters
West Hill
WINCHESTER
Hampshire
SO22 5DB

Tel: 0845 0454545

Fax: 01962 871204

Paul R. Kernaghan CBE QPM LL.B MA Chief Constable

Your ref:

Our ref:

CC/BDS/smg/167.06

13 March 2006

Dr W M Edmondstone



## Dear Dr Edmondstone

Your letter dated 5 February 2006 refers.

I have noted your comments in relation to various incidents involving different police forces as reported in the national media recently. I understand that these have contributed to the view of the police and the direction of policing you articulate in your letter.

Regarding the investigation, Hampshire Constabulary has been involved in a long running enquiry into the circumstances surrounding the deaths of 94 patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital between 1990 and 2000. This investigation is about to draw to a close. During the investigation, over 600 healthcare professionals have provided witness statements and have fully co-operated with the police.

In the majority of cases the healthcare afforded to patients has been found to be either fully satisfactory or sufficient to fall short of criminal negligence. As a consequence these cases have been referred to the General Medical Council or the Nursing and Midwifery Council for their final disposal. The police investigation has taken place concurrently with healthcare reviews conducted by the Commission for Health Improvement and the Chief Medical Officer. Less than 10 per cent of the cases now remain under investigation and the full enquiry is expected to conclude by April 2006.

So far, you have provided two written statements to the enquiry team. I trust that your decision regarding further support for the investigation is not based upon your experience of the police or policing in Hampshire. The circumstances of the deaths of 94 patients at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital can not in my view be likened to any of the other nationally reported incidents you refer to. Further, I can not see the bearing they have on the Gosport investigation.

On behalf of the Senior Investigating Officer, Detective Superintendent Williams, I ask you to reconsider your position in respect of the Gregory case. I can arrange for an officer from the investigation to make final contact with you to discuss a way forward.

Yours sincerely

Paul Kernaghan Chief Constable