

**Other Document Form**

Number

1135

Title EMAIL DEH SUPT WATTS TO JCE READHEAD/ACC SMITH 12/6/04  
(Include source and any document number if relevant)

Receivers instructions urgent action Yes  No

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Further actions no(s)

**Code A**

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When satisfied all action raised Office Manager to endorse other Document Master Number Form.

**Code A**

**From:** Williams, David (DCI)  
**Sent:** 14 June 2004 13:59  
**To:** Briscoe, Kevin  
**Cc:** **Code A**; Grocott, David; **Code A**  
**Subject:** FW: Op Rochester

Kevin..

I am on Annual leave for two weeks commencing now..  
 Could you please E mail an 'if asked release' to Steve WATTS once you have discussed with the healthcare Communications officer.. (the name escapes me but I E mailed the details to you last week)..

Should you need to discuss with Steve WATTS hwe is quite happy for you to rng him on hs moble **Code A** Thanks.DW.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** swatts1 **Code A**  
 [mailto:swatts1 **Code A**]  
**Sent:** 12 June 2004 11:35  
**To:** **Code A**  
**Cc:** Williams, David (DCI)  
**Subject:** Op Rochester

**Code A**

Please forward this to Mr Readhead & Mr Smith.

Mr Readhead/ Mr Smith,  
Sirs,

A short update re Rochester; I know 5hat Mr Readhead has and Mr Smith will shortly recieve a briefing on the current status of Rochester enquiry.

In short, we are entering phase 4, there are 9 cases in the upper category that will be examined in detail to ascertain any evidence of criminal culpability. In order to expedite, four cases will be 'fast tracked' with a view to getting files to CPS in Sept/ October, and hopefully decisions from them by Xmas. A further medical expert has been engaged for this work.

In support of this, the size of the Rochester team has been increased, and in the next couple of weeks, interviews of key medical staff will begin in facilities provided at Gosport by the Primary care Trust. An agreed joint 'if asked' press policy will be drawn up against thje press becoming aware of that activity.

Yesterday (11/6), DCI Williams and I met with Ann Alexander and later the Chief Medical Officer, both were briefed and are content. DCI Williams has had separate meetings with the medical authorities who are similarly content.

The families will be informed of the broad strategy in a bulletin to be issued soon.

All stakeholders are therefore aware or soon to be and are content.

The only exception to that is the GMC who are putting us under pressure to release all our material so that they can begin proceedings against the named Doctor. I have resisted this on the basis of advice that it would potentially impact on the enquiry, and that in any event restrictions are in place to prevent that Doctor having the same access to patients and barbiturates, so that public safety is maintained. I have offered to appear before a GMC tribunal and give evidence of the investigation, but this has been declined. I am writingt to the GMC this week indicating that once I have served any documents on medical staff under suspicion, then my concerns will evaporate and at that time I will be happy to serve the same information on them.

This information provided to update you on the progress of the enquiry.  
This is still a positive investigation which is moving forward.

SW