

From: Gillian Mackenzie; Code A
Sent: Saturday, November 10, 2012 6:39 PM
To: N.Lakhani; Code A
Subject: Inquest

“The inquest will commence at 10.00 am on 3rd December 2012 and I have estimated and scheduled a period of 10 working days for its conduct. The precise venue for the inquest has yet to be finalised but almost certainly, it will take place within a room in Portsmouth Guildhall. My office will be in a position to confirm the venue within the next few days “. I have other correspondence in the same vernacular that staff would find a room.

Those that attended the pr-inquest both legal experts and “paranoid” were concerned that there should be any query that it should not take place either in a Magistrates Court, Crown Court or the Coroner’s Court in the Guildhall and appropriate representations at a higher level have followed. I was informed that I would be sitting next to the Coroner – hardly a normal Court environment ! . We all know what is “allowed” and legal . A legal comment has been made to me - is this going to be another Hillsborough ? (particularly at the amount of evidence which is “not allowed) ” It was pointed out that if only the last four days in Gosport would be allowed and not the whole time, it was illogical and that decision by Mr. Horsley was eventually conceded . The Haslar staff statements and Haslar file are “not allowed at all” – and by the end of the session it was muted that 2 and a half hours on the stand for me was not enough time if I have to be questioned by Horsley, the Health Authority barristers, the Nurses barristers, Barton’s barristers and my own – and perhaps more than 10 days will have to be arranged after an adjournment Considering the inquest was granted in 2009 by Jack Straw at my expense , been postponed time and time again – you would think by now everything had been considered in a professional manner unless..... Gillian . Hope you will pass this to Terri Judd , the Legal Affairs Journalist.