Fareham and Gosport MES

Primary Care Trust

Unit 180, Fareham Reach 166 Fareham Road Gosport PO13 0FH

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Hampshire Constabulary Fareham Police Station Quay Street Fareham Hampshire PO16 0NA

9 September 2004

Dear

Code A

RE: GOSPORT HOSPTIAL INVESTIGATION

Thank you for your letter of 6 September 2004 bringing me and the Primary Care Trust up to date on the 'Category 2' cases.

I note the interest of the GMC, which is to be expected, but they only have an interest in doctor's professional standards. There are some nurses who worked on the wards affected by the investigation who have been 'referred' to the Nursing and Midwifery Council. These investigations are held in abeyance I believe pending the outcome of police investigations. Will you be asking the same question, re sharing information, of the NMC should they have an interest in the nursing aspect of such cases? This would presumably be under the same conditions as those set out for the GMC.

Can I assume that, other than the above, no further details of these cases will be passed to interested relatives or their legal representatives?

Turning to 'Category 3' patients (those were cause of death provides 'course for concern'), are you able to bring me up to date on the number, processes and timescales in terms of any/all of them being approved by the CPS for prosecution?

You will understand the feelings of staff still working at the hospital, including GP's affected want to see an end to the investigation and any indication of how and when this may happen would be helpful. Our last meeting indicated that the decision of the CPS to proceed on the 'most likely' group of cases would be taken this month.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Alan Pickering Deputy Chief Executive