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RESTRICTED-INVESTIGATIONS

(**DH**) Department of Health

Dr Simon Tanner Director of Public Health NHS London Southside 105 Victoria Street London SW1E 6OT

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15 July 2008

Pear Dr Tannel,

GOSPORT WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

I spoke to you very briefly last week about the continuing issues concerning Gosport. The Coroner now has the consent of the Justice Minister to proceed to hold Inquests in around twelve cases and I understand that he will start on them shortly. The GMC have suspended their procedures pending those Inquests and I gather that the NMC consider they intend to take no further action, as at present do the Police. Similarly, the Healthcare Commission consider the matter presently closed.

I have to advise the CMO on whether there are any outstanding issues that have not been covered or will not be covered by the many organisations already involved. One concern centred on whether sufficient examination had been made of the original concerns raised by the nursing staff at Gosport. I know that local investigations were made and an external review undertaken and that the NMC were involved then.

My inclination remains as I said to advise the CMO that there are no outstanding issues that we currently need to look at and we should now await the results of the Inquests. Should anything come out of that then we would consider if any further action is necessary, otherwise the is no

useful purpose in re-examining issues that have already been fully and properly addressed.

I know this is all a long time ago but I would be grateful for any advice you have to offer and in particular your take on how those earlier concerns were addressed.

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COLIN PHILLIPS

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