

Portsmouth Health Care NHS Trust  
Received  
22 DEC 1999  
General Manager, Fareham / Gosport

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL  
Dr. A. Lord,  
Department of Medicine for  
Elderly People,  
South Block,  
Queen Alexandra Hospital.

LH/YJM

21st December, 1999

4378

Dear Dr. Lord,

**Police interest in Gladys Richards (deceased)**

You will remember that I wrote to Detective Chief Inspector Burt asking for confirmation of the focus of the police investigation. Attached is a copy of the reply I received from him.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Humphrey  
Quality Manager

Also sent to Dr. J. Barton

Silent copy to: Mrs. N. Pendleton  
Mr. W. Hooper



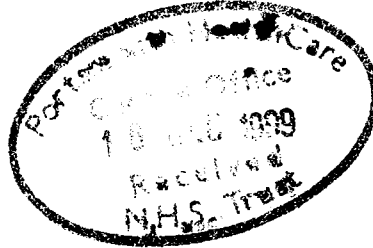
# H A M P S H I R E      C o n s t a b u l a r y

**Paul R. Kernaghan QPM LL.B MA DPM MIPD**  
**Chief Constable**

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Mrs L. HUMPHREY  
 Quality Manager  
 Portsmouth Health Care NHS Trust  
 Central Office  
 St James' Hospital  
 Locksway Road  
 PORTSMOUTH,  
 Hampshire. PO4 8LD

Dear Lesley,

I am writing to you in reply to your letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> December 1999.

I quite understand the involvement of the MDU. When serious allegations are made all parties would be well advised to reflect on the issues and seek the best possible advice. I hope you will understand that I am not in a position, at this stage in my investigation, to provide you with copies of any documentation relating to the allegations which are being made.

I can confirm that both Code A and Code A who are the daughters of the late Mrs Richards, have expressed wide ranging concerns about the standard of care which their mother received at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital. It is possible that these concerns, when taken as a whole, may well have a bearing on the case. However, I think it would be appropriate, at this stage, to suggest that it is the decision which was taken on the 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> August 1998, to retain Mrs Richards at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital as opposed to referring her, once again, for treatment at the Royal Hospital Haslar, which represents a key feature of the allegations.

Yours sincerely,

**Code A**

Ray Burt  
 Detective Chief Inspector