

12/6 copy to L.H.

Our Ref: DAR-PCT001-0275511 - David Roche
 Your Ref: LG
 11 June 2001



**Beachcroft
 Wansbroughs**
 SOLICITORS

Lorna Green
 Business Manager
 Portsmouth Healthcare NHS Trust
 St James' Hospital
 Locksway Road
 PORTSMOUTH
 PO4 8LD



Dear Lorna

Gladys Richards Deceased

I write following our telephone conversation on 1 June 2001. I regret that from my enquiries it appears that there is no immediate prospect of a CPS decision in this case. Ian Barker, Dr Barton's solicitor at the MDU, spoke to the Crown Prosecutor responsible for the case on 1 June 2001. He was advised that DCI Burt is no longer in charge of this investigation. We do not know the name of his replacement. However, that replacement has indicated to the CPS that he intends to make further enquiries. In view of this indication, the CPS understandably cancelled their conference with Counsel scheduled to take place during the course of last month.

It is not clear to Ian Barker and I what further enquiries the Police need to make in this case. We wondered whether they intend to follow up lines of enquiries in relation to other cases which were the subject of recent press publicity. If so, it is not clear to Ian Barker and I why this should postpone a decision in this case.

Ian Barker and I agreed that the position was most unsatisfactory given that this case concerns medical/nursing treatment given nearly three years ago.

Please do not hesitate to telephone me if there is anything else which you would like me to do at this stage.

Yours sincerely

Code A

D J ROCHE

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