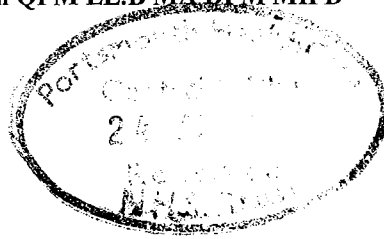




H A M P S H I R E C o n s t a b u l a r y

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



Criminal Investigation Department
Police Headquarters
West Hill
Winchester
Hampshire
SO22 5DB

Our Ref. : HQ/CID/DCI/2001

Your Ref. :

Tel. : 0845 045 45 45
Ext. : 79-2215

23 April 2001

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

Dear Lesley,

Gladys RICHARDS Deceased

Following the recent media interest in this case several people have contacted the Police expressing concerns about relatives who have died whilst being cared for at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital. In each case we have told the caller that their details will be noted and that an officer will visit them in due course to establish the nature of their concerns.

This is in accordance with current policy which places the investigation 'on hold' pending a decision from the Crown Prosecution Service in the case of Mrs RICHARDS.

Furthermore I note that the media provided you with details of three such cases namely;

- Edna PURNELL
- Leonard GRAHAM
- Jack WILLIAMSON

I confirm that the families of each of the above have also contacted the Police and these names feature among a total of nine stemming from calls received to date. You confirmed that you have secured the three relevant files in your possession.



HAMPSHIRE Constabulary

We had a useful discussion around whether it would be appropriate to provide you with details of the other callers, at this stage. My only interest in doing so would be to seek an undertaking that all records are securely retained in case we decide to apply for access to particular files in the future.

In view of the fact that these people have yet to be properly interviewed, and in the light of assurances already provided by Mr Millett in his letter of the 27th November 2000, I do not propose to seek any further undertakings at this stage.

On your part you reflected on your position and concluded that to request details of the other persons who have contacted us may be deemed inappropriate in terms of maintaining the integrity of the Trust's position.

We have agreed, therefore, that whilst I will not provide you with details of any callers at this stage we will continue to work closely together in the interests of resolving this issue in a fair and timely way and with the interests of all parties in mind.

Yours sincerely,

Code A

Ray Burt
Detective Chief Inspector