

Mr N Matthews
Coroners Unit
Ministry of Justice
8th Floor
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ

5 January 2009

Dear Mr Matthews

Possible Inquest into the death of Mrs Gladys Richards:

I refer to my letter dated 17 November 2008 and your response of 9 December 2008.

As the Gosport War Memorial Hospital Inquests are due to commence on 18 March 2009, time is now very short for Mrs Richards' relatives – and my deputy who is conducting these Inquests on my behalf – to prepare for an Inquest into Mrs Richards' death, if such an Inquest is to take place in sequence with the other Inquests. Hence it is vital that I have a decision at the earliest opportunity as to whether I shall be permitted to open an Inquest into her death.

Yours sincerely

David C Horsley
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Code A

cc Mrs G MacKenzie
Mr A Bradley