

With Compliments

**Code A**



Andrew-

Please could you call me  
about this ?

D  
28/4.

Coroner's Office  
Room T20  
The Guildhall  
Guildhall Square  
Portsmouth  
PO1 2AJ

Fax: 023 9268 8331

Field Fisher Waterhouse LLP  
Portland Tower  
Portland Street  
Manchester  
M1 3LF

For attention of Ms T Hall

Your Ref: ALW/00492-15579/7365557 v1

28 April 2008

Dear Ms Hall

**Gosport War Memorial Hospital Inquests/Dr Jane Barton:**

I refer to your letter dated 23 April and our telephone conversation of 28 April.

I confirm that I intend in the very near future to open Inquests into the deaths of ten people who died at Gosport War Memorial Hospital:

Mr Arthur Cunningham  
Mr Geoffrey Packman  
Mrs Ruby Lake  
Mrs Sheila Gregory  
Mr Robert Wilson  
Mrs Enid Spurgin  
Mrs Helena Service  
Mr Leslie Pittock  
Mrs Elsie Lavender  
Mrs Elsie Devine

For logistical reasons, the Inquests will be conducted by Mr A M Bradley, HM Coroner for North Hampshire, acting as my Deputy. Mr Bradley intends to conduct all the Inquests simultaneously and at present estimates about a month in court to do this. It seems very unlikely, given the complex arrangements that will need to be made, for the Inquests to take place any earlier than the Autumn.

Of course, neither Mr Bradley nor I would wish to prejudice in any way the GMC's hearing on Dr Barton. I am copying your letter to him so that we can all liaise on a more definite hearing date for the Inquests.

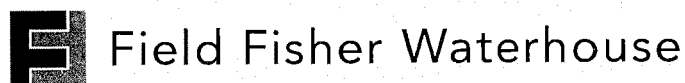
Yours sincerely

David C Horsley

Tel: Code A

Email: Code A

cc Mr A Bradley

**Strictly Private & Confidential**

Mr David Hawsley  
Coroner's Office  
Room T20  
The Guildhall  
Guildhall Square  
Portsmouth  
PO1 2AJ

Our ref: ALW/00492-15579/7365557 v1  
Your ref:

**Tamsin Hall**  
Assistant Solicitor

**Code A**

23 April 2008

Dear Mr Hawsley

**General Medical Council - Dr Jane Barton**

I write further to your letter dated 1 February 2008.

I have today received a phone call from Mr Alan Lavender, son of Elsie Hester Lavender, explaining that an inquest will now be held into the deaths of ten patients from Gosport War Memorial Hospital including his late mother.

As you may already be aware there is currently a GMC Fitness to Practise hearing scheduled to commence in September 2008 which will run for 8 weeks. The opening of any inquest may have an effect on the GMC hearing and I would therefore be grateful if you could contact me at your earliest convenience to discuss the matter further.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

**Tamsin Hall**  
for **Field Fisher Waterhouse LLP**

