Bradley, Andrew

From:

Horsley, David Code A

Sent:

17 April 2008 12:26

To:

David Fenton

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David I CITOII

Cc:

Bradley, Andrew; Susan Rolling (E-mail)

Subject: RE: Gosport inquests

Dear Mr Fenton,

Since we spoke earlier, I have decided that before I actually open the Inquests I will do the relatives concerned the courtesy of first writing to them individually to tell them what I'm going to do. They will already have been told by the police that they've referred the cases to me and that I may be going to hold Inquests.

Also today reviewing the information I've been supplied by the police, there are some extra details I'll need from family members to open Inquests. I'll be asking for that in my letters. When I get this, I will be opening the Inquests as soon as practical thereafter. Clearly, this now won't be next week.

I'll let you know as soon as I do. I have your details on file. I'll probably ask Hampshire Police (who handle media relations for the Hampshire Coroners) to do a press release too.

As yet, I'm unable to say when the Inquests will be held. As you'll appreciate, they will be large-scale affairs and there will be a lot of logistics to sort out.

Until I do open the Inquests, I don't think I can help you any further.

David C. Horsley
H.M. Coroner
Portsmouth & South East Hampshire

----Original Message----

From: David Fenton

Code A

Sent: 17 April 2008 12:04 **To:** Horsley, David

Subject: Gosport inquests

David, thank you for the chat this morning about the opening of inquests on some of the patients who died at Gosport War Memorial Hospital. As I mentioned it would be useful to know what day next week you are likely to do this - so that we can plan ahead for radio and television. I can assure you that if you provide the information under embargo we will not break that embargo - and will run the story on the day the inquests are opened, and not before.

Also, out of interest, can I just check a couple of things with you? Firstly, that the families concerned have already been informed - as I think you mentioned last week. And secondly - do we know yet when the full inquest is likely to be held, presumably May/June time?

Anyway - thanks for your help again. I can be contacted on Code A if you have any questions.	
David Fenton, Health Correspondent, BBC TV South.	
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