

Bradley, Andrew

From: Bradley, Andrew
Sent: 10 March 2009 10:13
To: Southgate, Suzie
Subject: RE: Gosport War Memorial Hospital

Dear Suzie,

Why did I think I had done that already? Maybe it just seems like it.

'The Gosport Memorial Hospital Inquests are ten Inquests ordered to take place by the Secretary of State to examine the deaths of ten patients at the Hospital who had been transferred there for rehabilitation or paliative care. All the deaths under examination occurred between 1996 and 1999 and all involve the administration of opiate analgaesia. The concerns expressed by the families of the deceased are the use of syringe drivers to administer the drugs and the dosage administered.

I shall be sitting in Portsmouth Combined Court Centr from 18 March and the case is scheduled for six weeks. I shall be sitting with a jury and evidence will be taken from the families of the bereaved, nursing staff, clinical staff and two experts with particular knowledge of geriatric and palliative care.

The jury will need to revisit the cause of death, the circumstances of the death and to give a conclusion or 'verdict'. The jury is not permitted to examine any question of criminal or civil liability and the Coroners Act specifically precludes them from doing so.

The Inquests will provide an opportunity to examine the workings of the hospital between 1996 and 1999 particularly so far as these ten deceased are concerned and will give those concerned the opportunity to ask the questions that have remained with them since the deaths and I sincerely hope will give them answers to those question within the remit of the Inquest process'

How does that sound?

Regards,

Andrew

From: Southgate, Suzie
Sent: 10 March 2009 09:40
To: Bradley, Andrew
Subject: RE: Gosport War Memorial Hospital
Importance: High

Good morning Andrew -

It was very nice to meet you the other week. As discussed, the idea is to issue a very straightforward press release to the media ahead of the opening of the inquest, stating the simple facts.

In order to issue this to the media before the start date on the 18th March, we need to have something drafted this week. I would therefore be most grateful if you could forward me the information we discussed at the soonest please so that I can begin compiling the release.

Once completed, I will of course forward it for your approval before issuing to the media.

Many thanks

Kind regards

Suzie

Suzie Southgate

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From: Bradley, Andrew
Sent: 09 February 2009 15:25
To: Southgate, Suzie
Subject: Gosport War Memorial Hospital

Dear Suzie,

I am charged with the task of conducting these ten inquests and there is a fair amount of interest in the proceedings.

They start on 18 March in Portsmouth Combined Court Centre with a time estimate of six weeks.

Are you able to assist with the press end of things if I give you the necessary information on the basis that neither Portsmouth nor my office is qualified to do that.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Bradley
IM Coroner NE hants
Assistant Deputy Portsmouth & SE Hants