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30 December 2008

For the attention of Teresa Flurry

By DX & Fax no: **Code A**

Dear Sirs

Gosport Inquests

We write further to our telephone conversation (Knowles/Flurry) of 18 December and your letter of 14 November.

Please once again, forgive our delay in contacting you in this matter but we have been reviewing this in some detail with our client. We can confirm that we are instructed on behalf of Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust and Hampshire PCT. In fact there are a number of other PCTs involved and although we are not directly instructed by them we are the firm instructed to represent the interests of "the NHS as a whole" in Hampshire.

We note that you are instructed by the MPS and there are two MPS members involved namely Dr Robert Logan and Dr Elsa Lord.

We confirm our telephone conversation that we do not believe there is conflict between the members of the clinical staff you represent and the NHS as a whole. The NHS is content that we should offer support to Drs Logan and Lord. In fact we recently met Dr Logan at a briefing meeting for clinical staff at the hospital.

You may be interested to know that we are already assisting Dr Ian Reid who we believe is a member of the MDU.

If you could confirm that you are content with this arrangement we would be grateful if you would give us direct contact details for Dr Elsa Lord and Dr Robert Logan and we will contact them directly to see if we can assist and to advise them directly.

One further point arises. We have instructed Counsel to represent the NHS at the forthcoming inquest. Mr Michael Mylonas of 3 Sergeants' Inn. Although no figures have yet been agreed, we are anticipating the brief fee between £15,000 - £20,000 and daily refreshers thereafter! In the circumstances, we believe that our Counsel will of course be able to assist your client's members and we will be grateful if you will take instructions as to

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whether they would be prepared to pay a proportion of the fees of Counsel to represent them at the hearing. In the circumstances of this difficult case we believe that it would be appropriate for your clients to meet part of the costs of representation at the inquest although of course they would not be meeting solicitors bills only those of Counsel. We have been offered a provisional date for a conference of 23 January 2009 in the afternoon.

If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact Stuart Knowles of this office and he will be delighted to assist.

Yours faithfully
Mills & Reeve LLP

cc: Richard Samuel – Hampshire Primary Care Trust
Peter Mellor – Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust
Elaine Williams – Hampshire Primary Care Trust
Sue Skye – Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust