

## Gosport War Memorial Hospital Inquests Stakeholder Steering Group

Monday 8 December 2008, 10.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon  
Seminar Room, Gosport War Memorial Hospital,  
Bury Road, Gosport, Hampshire, PO12 3PW

### AGENDA

Item		
1	<b>Apologies:</b> Chris Green, Elizabeth Emms, Lesley Humphries, Allison Stratford, Catherine Watson	
2	<b>To agree the Action Notes of the meeting held on 10 November 2008 already circulated</b>	
3	<b>Matters arising: Progress by sub-groups</b>	
3.1	Communications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To discuss spokespersons for the group, CEO to speak for all, medical spokesperson, nursing spokesperson, etc.</li> <li>• Agreement on what messages we wish to take to the coroner</li> </ul>	ST/CS
3.2	Legal issues: monthly report	SK/JH
3.3	Steering Group Terms of Reference: Letter to CEOs from RS attached, with update on progress	
4	<b>Feedback on Actions</b>	
4.1	CHI action plans – all organisations to share progress	MD/ALL
4.2	Progress of history storyboard	PF/LH/SS MD/ST
6	<b>Any other business</b>	
7	<b>Date of next meeting</b> <b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2009, 11.00 – 12.30, Room 11 Quad Centre, QA (please note change of venue)</b>	

Distribution overleaf

DLW Andy 11/12

went via  
encl to Nick Leo

**Hampshire**   
Primary Care Trust

**Headquarters**  
Omega House  
112 Southampton Road  
Eastleigh  
Hampshire  
SO50 5PB

26 November 2008

Office Telephone: 023 8062 7444  
Safe Haven Facsimile: 023 8065 2976  
Direct Dial: 023 8062 7583  
Website: [www.hampshirepct.nhs.uk](http://www.hampshirepct.nhs.uk)  
Email Address: [richard.samuel@hampshirepct.nhs.uk](mailto:richard.samuel@hampshirepct.nhs.uk)

To Chief Executives of  
Hampshire Primary Care Trust  
Portsmouth City Teaching Primary Care Trust  
Portsmouth Hospitals Trust  
Hampshire Partnership Trust

Dear Colleague

**RE: Coroner's inquests into ten deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital 1996-98, scheduled to start on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

In July of this year a Stakeholders' Steering Group was set up to enable co-ordinated preparations for these inquests by NHS organisations in SE Hampshire. I am attaching a copy of the agreed terms of reference for this group, for your information.

In addition, I am attaching an update of what has been achieved by this group to date, and what is yet to be completed. The major piece of outstanding work is our responses as NHS organisations to the recommendations of the 2002 CHI report into services at Gosport War Memorial Hospital. The SHA is asking for each Trust Board's approval of these responses to be submitted to them by the third week in December, enabling them to pass them through their own Board. This is a challenging deadline, but the outcome is something that will give us all reassurance as the time for the inquests to start is fast approaching.

I hope that you find that these arrangements are all satisfactory, but do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries about this approach.

Yours sincerely

**Richard Samuel**  
Director of Corporate Affairs

Next Tues  
16th Dec

[Stamp]



## Coroner's Inquest into ten deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital

### UPDATE

#### Introduction

In July 2008 the first meeting took place of the four NHS organisations responsible for providing services at Gosport War Memorial Hospital took place, as the date for the inquests into the deaths of ten patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital between 1996 and 1998 were approaching.

Since then a steering group has been set up, and terms of reference agreed. This group has met a further three times, and this document presents the progress to date, and outlines the work still to be done. The date for the inquests to start is the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2009, and the coroner has indicated that he expects the duration to be in the region of six weeks.

#### Progress to date

1. Legal representation for all the NHS organisations has been agreed, with funding agreed between Hampshire Primary Care Trust and Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust.
2. Support for the communications teams from Trimedia has been agreed, funded by HPCT. A crisis communications plan and protocol has been prepared. This is to be implemented by all Trusts.
3. Project Officer to progress matters agreed by the Steering Group appointed, funded by Hampshire Primary Care Trust.
4. Terms of Reference have been agreed.
5. The issue has been logged on the risk register of all organisations.
6. Medical and managerial staff involved in the care of the ten patients have been identified.
7. Documentation relating to the previous enquiries and investigations being centrally held by HPCT has been logged.

#### Still to be completed

1. Responses within organisations to the recommendations in CHI report 2002 by all four organisations. To be presented as a work in progress (at worst) at the next meeting of the steering group. Not all organisations will need to respond to each recommendation. To be signed off by Trust Boards and submitted to the SHA by the third week in December, to be signed off by SHA Board.
2. A timeline of organisational and service change in SE Hampshire being developed by PHT.
3. A 'storyboard' of events which took place round each of these patients to establish the chronology being developed by PHT.

#### Conclusion

Each Trust must ensure that it has completed its documentation of its response to the CHI report in time for its own Board meeting, enabling it to be submitted to the SHA in December. This involves providing evidence that the organisation in each of its manifestations since 2002 has been continually improving its services, and that sufficient safeguards are in place to ensure that the events being investigated could not happen again now.

11/12/2008

Author:

Mary Deeks

Project Officer (GWMH)

CLINICAL AUDIT  
DEPARTMENT  
Rm 0.07  
HEALTH RECORDS LIBRARY  
QAH

**For car parks please use  
the Sevenoaks Rd/Cavell Drive route**

