

Trevor Birney

From: Hall Janet [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 May 2004 11:11
To: Trevor Birney
Subject: RE: UTV - Lucy Crawford

This message is bound by the disclaimer below.

I refer you to my previous email and to the attached statement.

Best wishes.

Janet Hall
Communications/public affairs manager

-----Original Message-----

From: Trevor Birney [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, May 28, 2004 03:06
To: Hall Janet
Subject: RE: UTV - Lucy Crawford

Janet,

Can I take from this that the Trust is refusing to answer my questions?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Trevor.

Trevor Birney
Editor, Current Affairs
Ulster Television

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-----Original Message-----

From: Hall Janet [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 May 2004 13:57
To: Trevor Birney
Subject: RE: UTV - Lucy Crawford
Importance: High

This message is bound by the disclaimer below.

Trevor

The Trust decline the invitation to give an interview. The attached statement sets out the current position.

Best wishes.

Janet Hall
Communications/public affairs manager
Sperrin Lakeland Trust
Trust Headquarters
Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital
Omagh, Co Tyrone

ULU

Tel: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]
Pager: [REDACTED]
Email: jhall [REDACTED]
<<http://www.sperrin-lakeand.org>>

-----Original Message-----

From: Trevor Birney [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2004 05:42
To: Hall Janet
Subject: UTV - Lucy Crawford

Janet,

As discussed, attached are a number of questions in relation to our examination of the death of Lucy Crawford.

We would also, formally, request an interview with Hugh Mills.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Trevor.

Trevor Birney
Editor, Current Affairs
Ulster Television
Tel. [REDACTED]

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UTV

May 25th, 2004

Questions for Sperrin Lakeland Trust

1. Why was Lucy Crawford's drip changed from Solution 18 to a normal saline drip during the attempt to resuscitate her?
2. What was the diagnosis of her condition at that stage?
3. Following Lucy's death, who at the Erne Hospital liased with the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children as the RBHSC formulated Lucy's medical history for the post mortem report? What information was provided for the clinical history?
4. When did the Sperrin Lakeland Trust receive the full mortem report?
5. Did the Sperrin Lakeland Trust make any authority outside of the Trust aware that it was conducting a review of the death of Lucy Crawford? If so, whom?



RESPONSE TO UTV

The Trust confirm that it is co-operating fully with the General Medical Council's examination of the clinical aspects of Lucy Crawford's case.

In addition, the Trust is planning to examine a range of other aspects of this case, including our arrangements for adverse incident investigation and complaints. We are in the process of advising Mr and Mrs Crawford of our plans and, if they feel able, have invited them to contribute to this process. The Trust Chairman will be making a statement regarding the detail of our plans next week.

... ENDS

Further enquiries should be directed to:

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PR577 / 28 May 2004



MEDIA STATEMENT

The Chairman of Sperrin Lakeland Trust, Mr Harry Mullan, has confirmed plans to undertake an analysis of aspects of the Trust's handling of the Lucy Crawford case. Currently, the Trust is co-operating with the General Medical Council's examination of the clinical aspects of Lucy's care.

Commenting, Mr Mullan said "Immediately following the Inquest into Lucy's death, we stated we would be reflecting on the Coroner's conclusions. In the course of this reflection on how we, as an organisation, handled this tragic case, we recognised some flaws and areas where improvement was needed. At our Clinical and Social care Governance Committee meeting, on Thursday the 20th May, I proposed plans to establish a steering group to oversee a process, used in healthcare, known as 'root cause analysis'. These proposals were endorsed by the Committee. I have since written to Lucy's parents to share our plans with them, and remain hopeful that they may feel able to contribute to this process."

Setting out the draft terms of reference of the 'root cause analysis', Mr Mullan emphasised the commitment of the Trust and its officers to reflect on how improvements could be made. "Our primary goal is to learn lessons and improve our practice. Additionally, where we identify process issues which have wider implications, we will want to inform the appropriate authorities," said Mr Mullan.

Mrs Jenny Irvine, Non-executive director for the Trust, will be chairing the steering group. She will be joined by Dr Diana Cody, the Trust's medical director and there will be representation on the group from the Western Health and Social Services Board. The first task for the steering group will be to agree the terms of reference for the work to be undertaken

The work will include the examination of a range of systems including the Trust's arrangements, at that time, for adverse incident investigation and the complaints process and will take account of more recent changes and improvements. The steering group will be supported by a representative of the NHS Modernisation Agency Clinical Governance Support Team. A specialist independent consultancy firm will manage the use of the 'root cause analysis' approach, and develop a report to the steering group on findings and recommendations. The steering group may also commission external opinion and advice.

It is anticipated that the exercise will take 4-6 months to complete, culminating in a report and recommendations from the steering group to the Trust's Clinical and Social Care Governance Committee for approval.

... ENDS

NOTE TO EDITOR

1. The Coroner's inquest into Lucy Crawford's death concluded its findings on 20 February 2004.
2. The Coroner referred aspects of Lucy's clinical care to the General Medical Council for examination.
3. 'Root Cause Analysis' is increasingly used in the health care setting, to examine events/processes/systems surrounding adverse incidents and "near misses". It originates from the aviation industry, where it is used to determine causation factors in aviation incidents.
4. The NHS Modernisation Agency Clinical Governance Support Team is a GB based organisation. It has a particular responsibility in supporting health care providers implement governance arrangements under the Quality legislation.
5. Mr Harry Mullan is the recently appointed Chairman of Sperrin Lakeland Trust.

Mrs Jenny Irvine is a non-executive director and has a background in nursing.

Further enquiries should be directed to:

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PR578 / 1 June 2004