



PRESS STATEMENT

The Sperrin Lakeland Health and Social Care Trust has been advised that the General Medical Council (GMC) has now referred Dr Jarlath O'Donohoe Consultant Paediatrician at the Erne Hospital Enniskillen, to its Professional Conduct Committee. The GMC has placed no restrictions on Dr O'Donohoe's practice. We will continue to fully co-operate with the GMC.

The GMC is the professional body responsible for the registration and regulation of Doctors and their practice.

The Trust would, again, wish to reassure our community that the systems which contributed to Lucy Crawford's tragic death in April 2000 have been changed and improved.

Dr O'Donohoe has worked at the Erne Hospital since 1997 and has contributed to developing and sustaining children's services.

... ENDS

Editors note

• Role of GMC

The General Medical Council licenses doctors to practice medicine in the UK. The law gives the GMC four main functions:

- keeping up-to-date registers of qualified doctors
- fostering good medical practice
- promoting high standards of medical education
- dealing firmly and fairly with doctors whose fitness to practice is in doubt

- GMC hearing

The Trust awaits further information from the GMC about the establishment of a hearing.

- Inquest

Belfast Coroner, John Leckey, referred the papers from the Inquest into the circumstances surrounding Lucy Crawford's death to the GMC.

- Paediatric service

The paediatric service was established in the Erne Hospital in 1994. Over the last two years, the Trust has expanded its paediatric service, recruiting 3 new consultants to complete a full team of 5 consultant paediatricians.

Further enquiries should be directed to:

Janet Hall
Communications/Public Affairs Manager
Trust Headquarters
Strathdene House
Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital
OMAGH
Co Tyrone BT79 0NS

Tel: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]
Pager: [REDACTED]
E-mail: [REDACTED]
Internet: www.sperrin-lakeland.org

PR608 / 1 October 2004