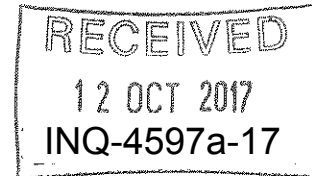


2 Franklin Street, Belfast, BT2 8DQ
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Strictly Private & Confidential

Mr Justice O'Hara
Royal Courts of Justice
Chichester Street
BELFAST



Date:
10 October 2017

Dear Judge

**REGIONAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE BOARD – WHISTLEBLOWING
CORRESPONDENCE**

I refer to our telephone conversation of 9th instant, in relation to the above matter.

As requested by you, I set out below a brief outline of the e mail that was received by the Regional Health and Social Care Board last week, relating to issues pertinent to the Hyponatraemia Public Inquiry.

An e mail dated 2nd October 2017 was forwarded by a member of staff of the Board for the attention of the Chief Executive; the e mail was sent pursuant to the Board's whistleblowing policy. The e mail refers to copies of letters from 2013 received from the Inquiry seeking to establish details around the extent of searches conducted by the Western Health and Social Services Board in 2004 in securing all documents and records relating to Lucy Crawford and Raychel Ferguson. The e mail refers to responses received from three members of the Board's staff setting out their roles in carrying out searches in 2004. The whistleblower then alleges that ■ received further statements from members of staff in Gransha Park House, which is the former headquarters of the Western Board in Derry. ■ alleges that two of the later statements raise questions in respect of the information provided to the Inquiry by the Board in 2013 as to whether adequate searches were conducted and by whom in 2004. I am bound to advise you that whilst the e mail refers to "further statements", the statements themselves have not been produced.

The whistleblower also refers to "electronic equipment", which ■ claims one member of staff sought to dispose of, even though all electronic equipment was being secured as a direct result of requests by the Inquiry for searches to identify missing information. ■ refers to e mails dated 3rd and 4th December 2013.

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The whistleblower asks that these matters are investigated immediately to establish whether or not the Inquiry has been misled or misdirected by the Board in 2013 in relation to the searches conducted in 2004.

The whistleblower also claims that ■ raised these matters with management previously and that ■ concerns were not addressed. I should point out that there had been a previous investigation panel relating to workplace behaviour involving the same individual in August 2016. The whistleblower states that ■ raised concerns at that stage and also in December 2015, March 2016 and February 2017.

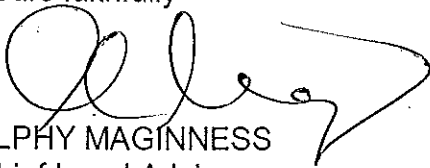
The Board brought this e mail to my attention last week and following discussions with senior management in the Board, it was agreed that I would bring this issue to your attention; hence my telephone call to you of the 9th instant.

I can confirm to you that the Board will be conducting an investigation into the matters raised by the whistleblower. It is hoped that the investigation will be completed within a matter of weeks, although I have been informed that the whistleblower is currently on leave and will not be available until later in the month.

I can also confirm to you that the outcome of the investigation will be shared with you at the earliest opportunity.

I trust this is of assistance but please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss any matters arising.

Yours faithfully



ALPHY MAGINNESS
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