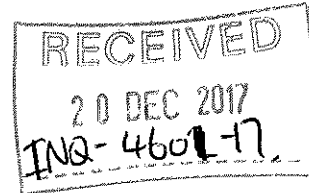


By email only

Strictly private & confidential

FAO Mr Justice O'Hara
The inquiry into Hyponatraemia- related deaths
Arthur House
41 Arthur Street
Belfast
BT1 4GB



Date:
20 December 2017

Our Ref:
GA H99/85

Your Ref:
JOH-0461-17

Dear Judge

**RE: REGIONAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE BOARD- WHISTLEBLOWING
CORRESPONDENCE**

I thank you for your letter of 13th inst.

I note you state that it is still your intention "*to publish the correspondence which we have exchanged*". In previous correspondence you indicated you were proposing "*to circulate this correspondence to all interested parties*". I just want to be clear when advising the Board that you still mean to circulate the correspondence to interested parties, as opposed to a general publication to the public. I should be grateful if you would clarify the position.

In relation to the two points set out in your letter I would reply as follows;

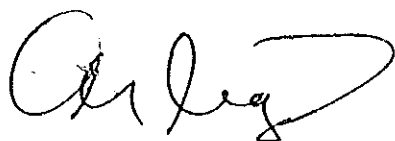
- 1- In [redacted] email of 2nd October 2017, the whistleblower refers to "*repeated attempts by the Inquiry Solicitors and ultimately by the Inquiry Chairman to establish details around the extent of the searches conducted by WHSSB in 2004 in securing "all notes, documents, records and reports relating to Lucy Crawford and Raychel Ferguson" as instructed by the then Permanent Secretary, Clive Gowdy (ref 28th October 2004 letter to "take whatever steps necessary to secure and keep safe") and the Inquiry Chairman John O'Hara (ref 1st December 2004 letter, extract as above)*".

You will be aware that both Lucy and Raychel were treated in hospitals (namely the Erne and Altnageivlin respectively), which were within the area of what was the Western Health and Social Services Board. However the investigators did not limit their focus to Lucy and Raychel but rather made enquiries with respect to any documents that may touch upon the Hyponatremia Inquiry.

- 2- I thank you for the opportunity to anonymise more fully the information set out in my letter of 30th November. I attach an amended version of that letter which removes any reference to the gender of the two individuals involved and the initials of the second member of staff.

I trust this is of assistance,

Yours faithfully,



ALPHY MAGINNESS
Chief Legal Adviser

Direct Line 028 9536 3585

E-mail Address – alphy.maginness@hscni.net