

From the Permanent Secretary  
Clive Gowdy CB



Department of  
**Health, Social Services  
and Public Safety**

An Roinn

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta  
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

[www.dhsspsni.gov.uk](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk)

Ms Karen Meehan  
Chair  
Western Health & Social Services Board  
15 Gransha Park  
Clooney Road  
LONDONDERRY  
BT47 6FN

Castle Buildings  
Stormont Estate  
BELFAST BT4 3SQ  
Tel: [REDACTED]  
Fax: [REDACTED]  
Email: [clive.gowdy](mailto:clive.gowdy) [REDACTED]

28 October 2004

*Dear Karen,*

#### **UTV INSIGHT PROGRAMME**

The UTV Insight programme of last Thursday evening made a number of allegations associated with the tragic death of Lucy Crawford. The Department is currently considering how it should respond to these allegations. Without prejudice to the outcome of these deliberations there is a need to ensure that all relevant records and documents are secured so that, if necessary, they can be made available for independent examination.

To that end, I am writing to advise you that the Department now requires you as Chair of the Western Health & Social Services Board to take whatever steps are necessary to secure and keep safe all documentation which is within the custody or control of the Board, or its employees servants or agents, including draft documentation and information in electronic format pertaining to the death of

- Lucy Crawford
- Raychel Ferguson
- Adam Strain

This should include:

- All medical, nursing and other clinical notes and records associated with each case
- All reports (including draft reports) commissioned or produced by the Board or its employees on any aspect of these cases
- All notes of meetings or discussions concerning each case
- All legal advice received by the Board in connection with these cases

The material above should be sorted, referenced to an appropriate index and retained.

DHSSPS-C Gowdy



001-096-321

I would further require that you confirm to me in writing that your organisation has taken the necessary action and secured all relevant information **by Friday 5 November.**

I am copying this letter to your Chief Executive and to the Chairs and Chief Executives of the Royal Group of Hospitals and Dental Hospitals HSS Trust, Altnagelvin Hospitals Health & Social Services Trust and the Sperrin Lakeland Health & Social Care Trust.

*Your sincerely,*

*Declan Gowdy*

D C GOWDY  
Permanent Secretary

DHSSPS-C Gowdy