

14th September 2000

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

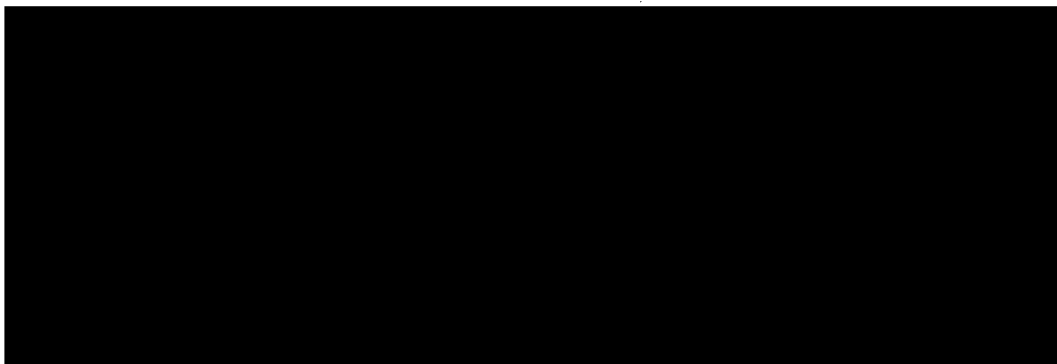
Ms Pat Hamilton
Secretary of Health Services
Royal College of Paediatrics & Child Health
50 Hallum Street
LONDON
W1N 6DE

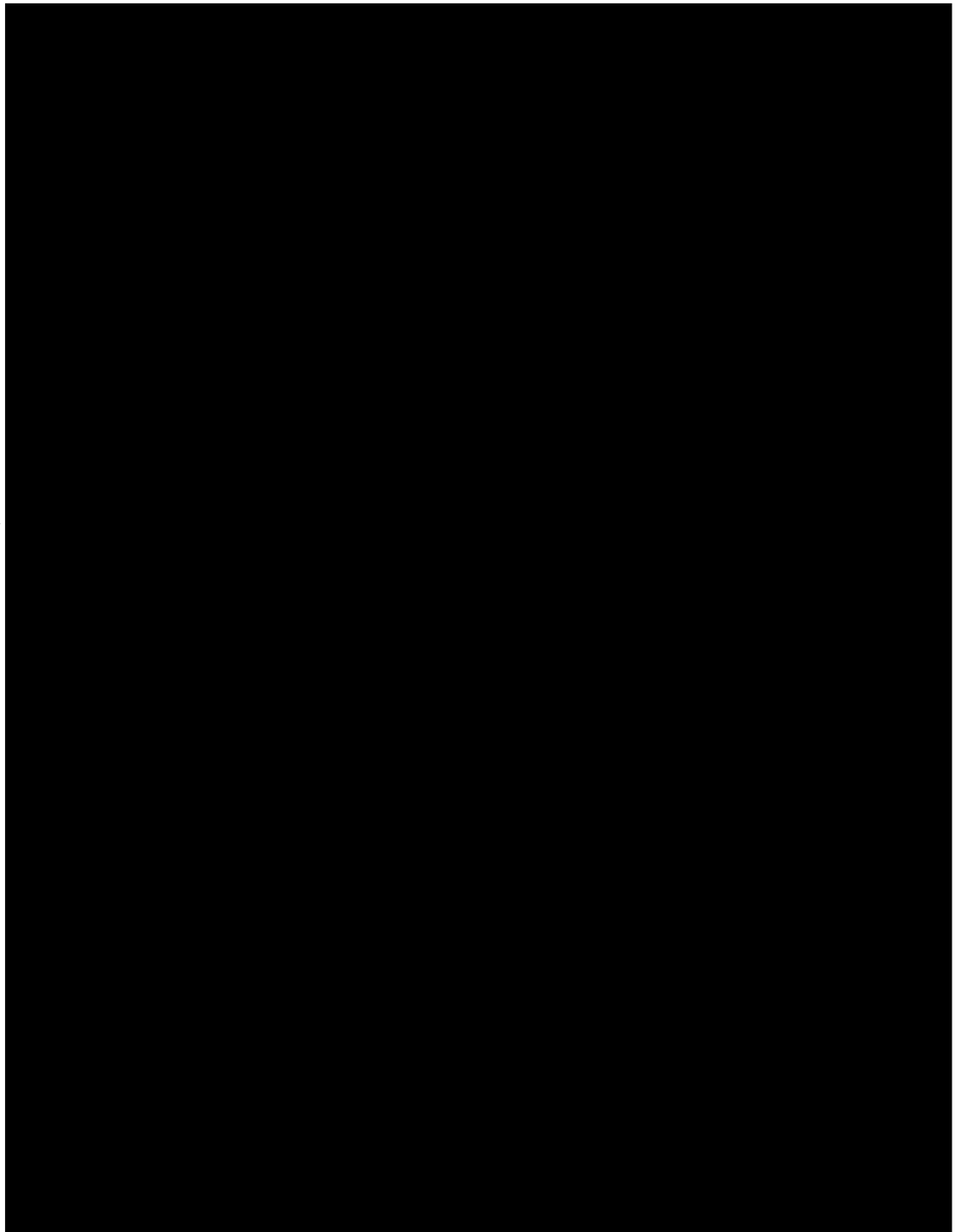
Dear Ms Hamilton

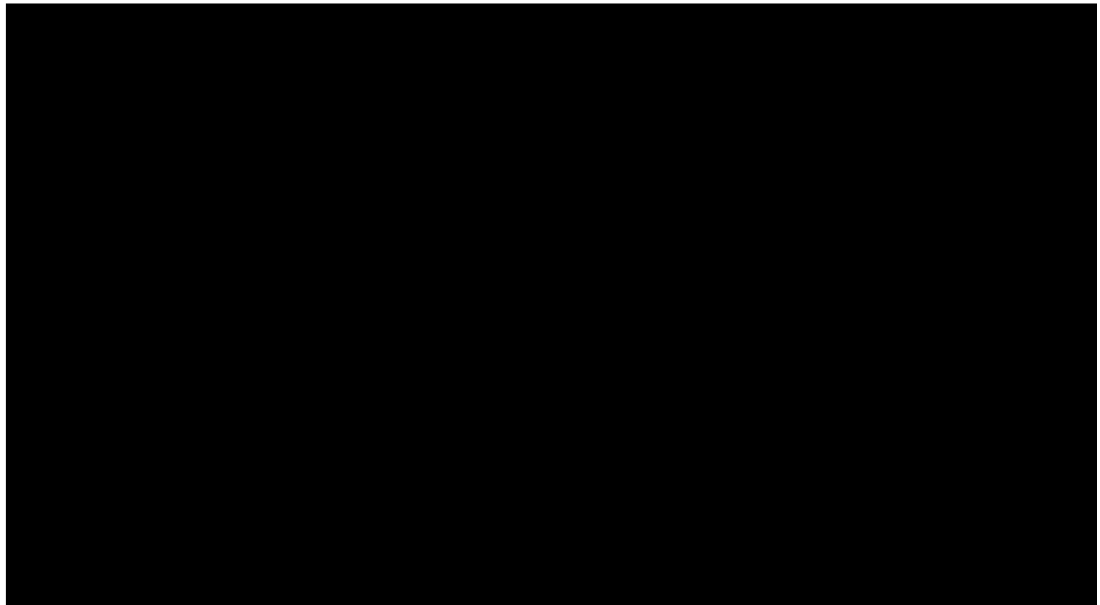
As Medical Director of Sperrin Lakeland Trust, I am writing to you to seek assistance in the handling of an issue that concerns professional conduct and competency within our Paediatric Department.

The background to these concerns are complicated and involve a number of issues relating to establishment of a new Consultant led Paediatric Service, to compliment a rationalisation of maternity services. This also required the withdrawal of paediatric services from one acute site to a neighbouring site. There were significant initial problems recruiting the full compliment of Paediatric staff for this new service.

The issue relating to professional conduct and competency began following an adverse incident report, when we had a untoward infant death within our Paediatric Department. This matter was investigated by the Directorate, in line with Hospital Policy. As there were issues raised in relation to prescription of fluids, I sought an opinion from a Paediatrician outside the Trust, to satisfy myself that there were no issues in relation to clinical negligence.







Yours sincerely

DR J KELLY
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

/smc

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