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Date: 10th December 2004

Mr John O'Hara QC
Inquiry Team
3rd Floor
20 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8GB

Dear Mr O'Hara

RE: INQUIRY INTO HYPONATRAEMIA-RELATED DEATHS

Thank you for your letter of 1/12/04 received on 6/12/04. I wish at the outset to welcome the Inquiry and assure you of this Trusts commitment to fully co-operate with you and the Inquiry team.

I look forward to receiving further detail on how you envisage the Inquiry being managed, and the arrangements and timetable proposed in order that the Trust, and Trust personnel can contribute fully to the process.

Returning to your letter and responding to your 2 specific requests I can advise as follows:

(1) Record and Documentation

Following the Ministers announcement and on the direction of the Permanent Secretary I, as Chairman, arranged for all records and documentation to be secured. The original documentation was formally receipted by an uninvolved Officer, nominated by me and has been copied. The originals have been secured in a locked cabinet, in a locked room on Trust premises. The Trusts legal advisors have copies and have been liaising with the Police in their separate investigation. With your agreement and given their proximity to your

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offices, I would propose that our legal advisors liaise with the Inquiry team in order to provide copies of the documentation in its entirety.

Given the volume of material I understand our legal advisors are seeking an extension of the deadline set out in your letter.

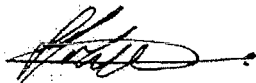
I note your reference to the use of an Inquiry website. It is our wish to be fully open in disclosure of documentation. However we are anxious that disclosure does not compromise any duty of confidentiality we have, to patients and would ask you to bear that in mind before making any decision on placing material on the Inquiry website. Furthermore within the documentation you will find references to other Trust business not directly related to the tragic death of Lucy Crawford, and I would ask you to exercise due regard to the sensitive nature of such material before publishing on the website.

(2) List of Involved Individuals

I am attaching a schedule of all individuals directly and indirectly involved in Lucys case and subsequent enquiries. The schedule has been formatted in a way to enable the Inquiry team to identify key individuals and their involvement including where this crosses over into more than one aspect. This list also includes individuals outside the Trust. Contact details for these individuals have been provided currently where known to the Trust.

I trust you will find my reply of assistance at this stage of the Inquiry.

Yours sincerely



Harry Mullan
Chairman

Enc

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