

Fisher, Ruth

From: Nugent, David
Sent: 19 November 2004 14:05
To: Browne, Andrew
Cc: Fisher, Ruth; McCaw, Darren
Subject: FW: Correspondence -- Ref. Number: COR/584/2004 : RANGE OF SCOPE OF THE INQUIRY INTO THE DEATHS OF THE YOUNG CHILDREN AT SOME LOCAL HOSPITALS.



robinson.pdf (46 KB)

Andrew

I understand you are now going to draft a response for Mr Hamilton to this correspondence case .

David

-----Original Message-----

From: david.nugent [mailto:david.nugent]
Sent: 08 November 2004 09:34
To: andrew.hamilton
Cc: ambrose.owens; sharon.lindsay
dean.sullivan; claire.baxter
privateoffice.register
Subject: Correspondence -- Ref. Number: COR/584/2004 : RANGE OF SCOPE OF THE INQUIRY INTO THE DEATHS OF THE YOUNG CHILDREN AT SOME LOCAL HOSPITALS.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

URGENT - CORRESPONDENCE

Reference: COR/584/2004
Raised By: Iris Robinson

Subject: RANGE OF SCOPE OF THE INQUIRY INTO THE DEATHS OF THE YOUNG CHILDREN AT SOME LOCAL HOSPITALS.

Referred To: HAMILTON ANDREW (MR)

Date Referred: 08/11/2004

ACTION REQUIRED

Please provide advice and a draft reply for signature by the Minister.

To be with Private Office not later than 15/11/2004 before Close of Play

For further information etc. contact :

David Nugent (Private Office)
Castle Buildings Tel : [REDACTED]

Copied To For Information:

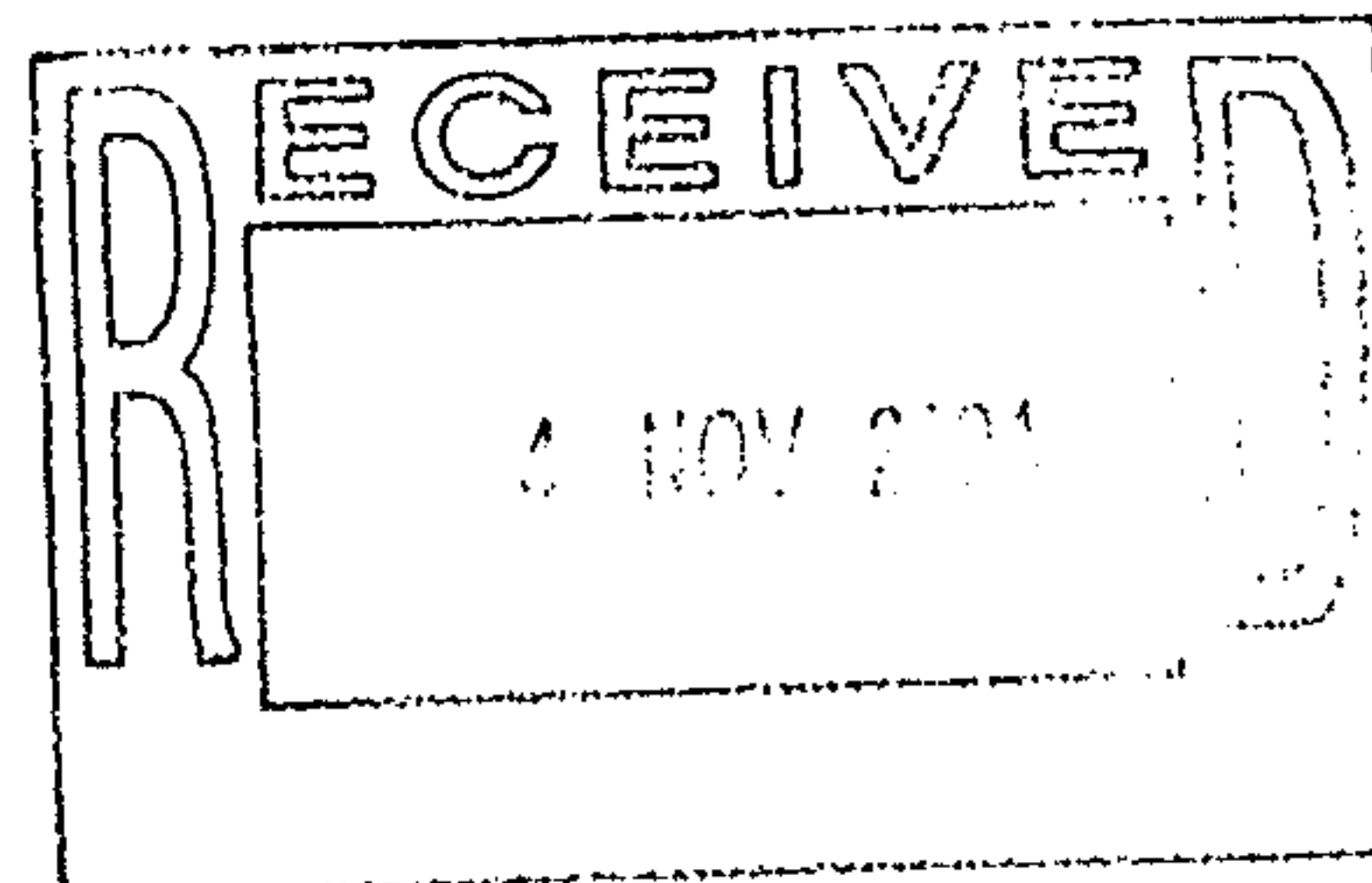
Owens Ambrose (Mr)
Lindsay Sharon (Ms)
Sullivan Dean (Mr)
Baxter Clare (Ms)
Office Copy



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mrs Angela Smith MP
Minister for Health,
Block B,
Castle Buildings,
Stormont
BT4 3TT



Wednesday 3rd November 2004

Dear Minister,

Further to our conversation at Westminster on Monday evening, I wanted to impress upon you how important I feel it is that the scope of the inquiry into the deaths of the young children at some of our local hospitals is as broad as possible.

The inquiry must have the ability to compel witnesses, including doctors, to give evidence, and proceedings should be held in public. In order to bolster public confidence in medical staff and management, it is essential that as well as examining the hospital care the children received, the way in which the local Health Trusts responded should be investigated.

It must be demonstrated that doctors and health service hierarchy cannot be above scrutiny, criticism and the law. I feel strongly that any doctors asked to provide expertise from a medical perspective for this inquiry should work outside Northern Ireland. Our medical fraternity is small with many senior figures having trained and worked together, so this measure would serve to minimise any potential conflict of interests.

I trust you will take these matters into consideration as you develop further plans for the inquiry. I appreciate your assistance.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Iris Robinson MP
DUP Member of Parliament for Strangford

IMPORTANT: Please quote Reference Number on all correspondence

2B James Street Newtownards BT23 4DY Tel: [REDACTED] Fax: [REDACTED]

DHSSPS

073-056-233