

Fisher, Ruth

From: david.nugent [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 November 2004 08:38
To: andrew.browne [REDACTED]
Cc: andrew.hamilton [REDACTED]; dean.sullivan [REDACTED];
ruth.fisher [REDACTED]; darren.mccaw [REDACTED];
clare.baxter [REDACTED]; privateoffice.register [REDACTED]
Subject: Correspondence -- Ref. Number: COR/599/2004 : CONCERNS REGARDING
INDEPENDENT INQUIRY



John Hume.pdf (50
KB)

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

URGENT - CORRESPONDENCE

Reference: COR/599/2004
Raised By: John Hume

Subject: CONCERNS REGARDING INDEPENDENT INQUIRY

Referred To: BROWNE ANDREW (MR)

Date Referred: 12/11/2004

ACTION REQUIRED

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

To be with Private Office not later than 19/11/2004 before Close of Play

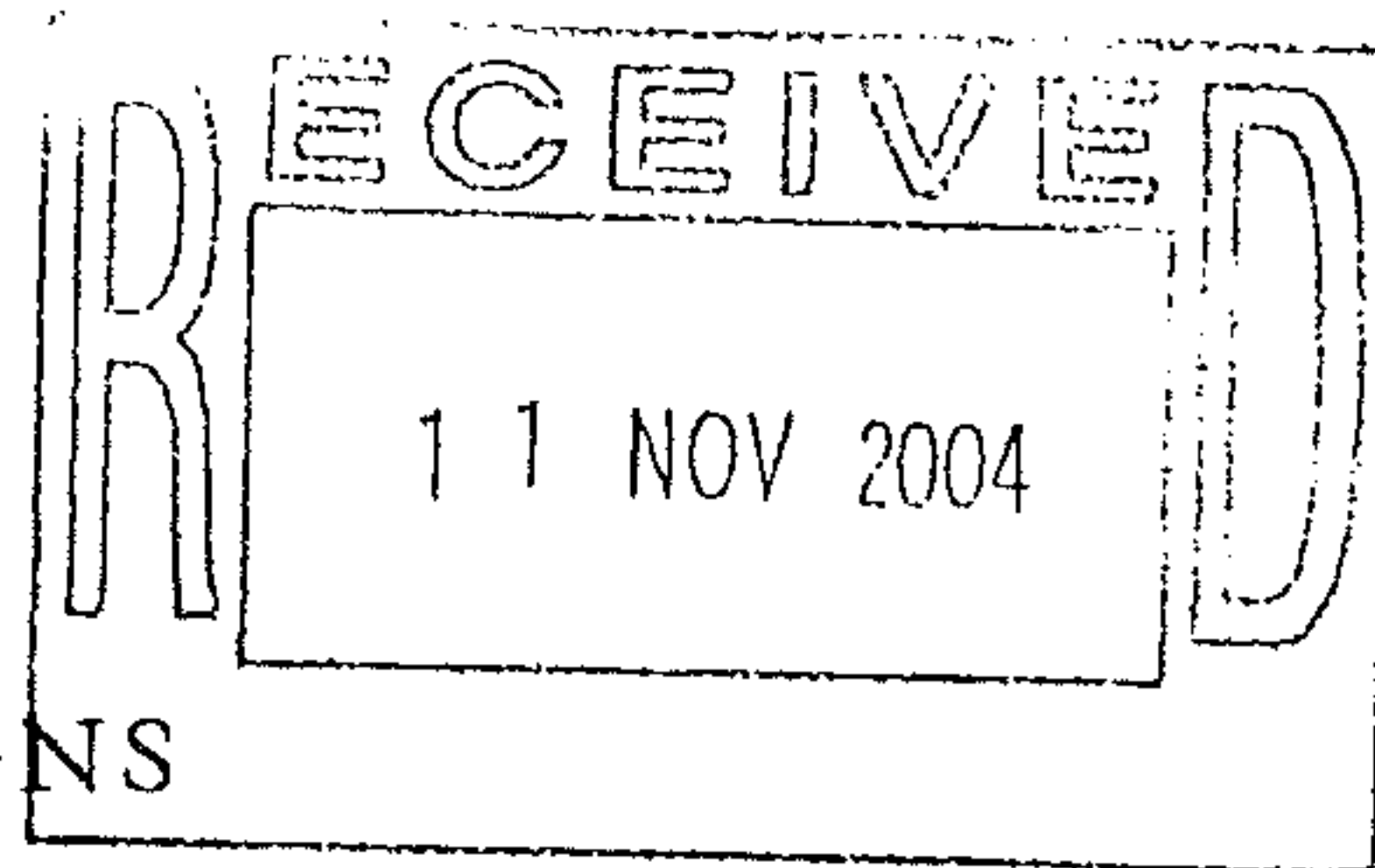
For further information etc. contact :

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Hamilton Andrew (Mr)
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HOUSE OF COMMONS
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DATE : 9.11.04

Mrs Angela Smith
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety
Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
BELFAST
BT4 3PP

Dear *Angela,*

My office has been contacted by Mrs Marie Ferguson, mother of Raychel Ferguson.

Marie expressed a number of concerns about the inquiry that you announced recently into the death of her daughter Raychel, Lucy Crawford and Adam Strain.

I am aware that details of the inquiry may be announced later this week. Given the concern of the families, and the public at large, it is very important that the terms of reference, personnel and conduct of the inquiry are such that they will lead to full public confidence in its process and findings. This is clearly also important from the point of view of medical professionals and hospital authorities that this is the case.

Mrs Ferguson feels strongly that the inquiry should be independent, public and transparent, and that the families and their legal representatives should be fully involved in all aspects of the inquiry. It is not clear yet whether this will be the case.

I am also aware that the Western Health and Social Services Council has expressed a number of concerns which concur with the concerns expressed by the families.



It is also very important that the families should have full legal representation at the inquiry so that their concerns and questions are represented, and to ensure that they are appropriately involved with and informed about the proceedings of the inquiry.

I would appreciate your consideration of the points raised in this letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'John Hume'.

John Hume

DHSSPS

074-020-087