

FROM THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH,
SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY
Michael McGimpsey MLA



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

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

PSNI HEADQUARTERS COMMAND SECRETARIAT
20 AUG 2008
1. Seen/Confirmed
2. Action
3. Other

AN ROINN
Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí

MÁNNYSTRIE O
Poustie, Resydènter Heisin
an Fowk Siccar

Sir Hugh Orde KB OBE
Chief Constable
Police Service of Northern Ireland
65 Knock Road
BELFAST
BT5 6LE

Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
BELFAST BT4 3SQ

Tel: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]
Email: private.office [REDACTED]

Your Ref: Com Sec 07/2267

Our Ref: SUB/739/2008

15th August 2008

Dear Sir Hugh,

You wrote to me on 22 February 2008 about the progress that was being made in investigating the deaths of children who had died from hyponatraemia. In particular you advised that in the case of Claire Roberts further expert opinion was being sought and that you were also consulting with the family.

You will be aware that on 30 May John O'Hara QC announced the resumption of his Inquiry and in particular that two new cases were being added (Claire Roberts and Conor Mitchell).

I have met with both families and in my conversation with the Roberts was given to believe that they had indicated to the PSNI that they would be content for the further investigation of their daughter's death to be undertaken by the Inquiry, although they recognised that the PSNI may first have to complete its own investigation and seek the views of the PPS.

I would be grateful therefore if you could let me know what the present position is with Claire's case. Also, I have been advised by John O'Hara that his Inquiry hopes to do its preparatory work in the autumn for public hearings early in the New Year, so anything that could be done to expedite this case would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

*Regards,
Michael*

Michael McGimpsey MLA
Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety

Working for a Healthier People



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE