



Business Services  
Organisation

## Directorate of Legal Services

PRACTITIONERS IN LAW TO THE  
HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE SECTOR

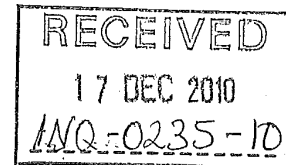
2 Franklin Street, Belfast, BT2 8DQ  
DX 2842 NR Belfast 3

Your Ref:  
AD-0172-10

Our Ref:  
NSC B04/1

Date:  
16 December 2010

Ms Anne Dillon  
Solicitor to the Inquiry  
Arthur House  
41 Arthur Street  
Belfast  
BT1 4GB



Dear Madam

### RE: INQUIRY INTO HYPONATRAEMIA RELATED DEATHS

On the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010 you requested "the names and titles of the surgical and anaesthetic teams involved in paediatric renal transplants at RBHSC from the date of the first one performed until the present day and details of the outcomes of the procedures." We enclose the relevant information from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 1993 when the Belfast Trust came into existence.

We are not clear however as to the relevance of this request.

The terms of reference appear to us to relate to specific incidents namely, the unfortunate death of these children. In due course the Inquiry will examine the procedures applicable at the time. If they find any shortcomings in either the care or procedure then no doubt they will deal with that. It seems to us that this information would be more relevant to something in the nature of an audit of the hospital's performance over an extremely long period which does not appear to us to be within the terms of reference.

We also refer to your letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

You requested a list of names, grades and job descriptions of the medical and nursing staff involved in the care and treatment of Claire Roberts between the 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> October. We have provided you with a chronology of Claire's care and the staff involved.

We wonder is it strictly necessary in addition to require the job descriptions of all of these individuals? It seems to us that the only job descriptions that would be relevant if at all were of those involved at any stage where you identify actual or possible shortcomings in the care.

*Providing Support to Health and Social Care*



May we add that we are not particularly sure as to how helpful job descriptions will be in any event. These tend to be widely drawn. They do not necessarily reflect all the skills which a person has or which they might acquire in the course of doing the job for which they are appointed, Nor do they necessarily reflect any changes that may occur in training or duties after the appointment is made.

Yours faithfully

*Nicole Doohan*

mp

Wendy Beggs  
Assistant Chief Legal Adviser

Direct Line: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]