

The Inquiry into Hyponatraemia-related Deaths

Chairman: Mr John O'Hara QC

Ms Wendy Beggs
Directorate of Legal Services
2 Franklin Street
BELFAST
BT2 8DQ

Your Ref: NSCB04/1
NSCW50/1
NSCS071/1

Our Ref: BPC-0076-11

Date: 13th December 2011

Dear Ms Beggs,

Re Your Client(s): 1. Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
2. Southern Health & Social Care Trust
3. Western Health & Social Care Trust
4. Health & Social Care Board

I refer to your letter dated 31st October 2011.

Referring to Paragraph 2 when you advised ".....medical staff duty rotas for the period 26th-28th November 1995 were not available. I am instructed that it was understood that same had been destroyed under Trust practice and that searches to locate them were unsuccessful"; I would ask that you provide the Inquiry with the following information:-

(1) What exactly was the Trust practice on the destruction of documents? In this regard, the Inquiry requires confirmation as to:

- (a) whether certain types of documents were retained for longer periods than others and if so, in what circumstances and for what reasons?
- (b) what "documents" means for these purposes?

(2) Where were documents stored and who had access to them?

Please provide the requested information to the Inquiry by 20th December 2011.

Yours sincerely,



Brian Cullen
Assistant Solicitor to the Inquiry

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