

Directorate of Legal Services

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE SECTOR

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

Your Ref:

AD-0492-13

Our Ref:

HYPW50/1

Date:

13th February 2013

Ms A Dillon Solicitor to the Inquiry Inquiry into Hyponatraemia-related Deaths Arthur House 41 Arthur Street Belfast BT1 4GB



Dear Madam

RE: INQUIRY INTO HYPONATRAEMIA RELATED DEATHS- RAYCHEL **FERGUSON**

We refer to the above matter and to your letter dated 10th January 2013 (reference as quoted above). We respond, using the same numbering as adopted in your letter, as follows:-

1. We attach nine pages of coloured copy photographs provided by our client, the Western Trust, showing the location of Room I, the Nursing Station and the Treatment Room. Our Client has also provided photographs showing the location of the Ward Wing from the entrance to same, as well as various other photographs depicting the location of the various rooms in relation to each other.

We also enclose a copy plan provided to us by the Western Trust Estates Department showing the location of the Treatment Wing and the Ward Wing on Floor 6. Our client has marked on the plan the location of Room I, Sister Millar's Room and the Treatment Room, for your ease of reference. We are instructed that there has been very little change to the Ward Wing since June 2001, but, there has been substantial change to the Treatment Wing since this time. However, we would point out that the only room situate within the Treatment Wing which is relevant to Raychel's case is Sister Millar's room and its location remains unchanged.

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- 2. We attach a copy Nursing Rota for Ward 6 which relates to the period 4th to 10th June 2001 inclusive. We have redacted the names of staff who were not involved in the care of Raychel. We also enclose details of the meanings of the various abbreviations used for completing the Off-Duty Record, for your ease of reference. We have also been informed by our Client that in 2001, Nursing Staff would not have recorded the actual time at which they finished each shift, as Nursing Staff (and Clinicians) were not required to 'clock in and clock out' of the Ward. This applied even if staff had to leave earlier than the end of their shift or even stay later. Instead, it would generally have been reported to the Nurse-in charge if staff had to stay on past their shift time, in order to cover a busy period or an emergency situation.
- 3. We await receipt of Dr Allen's further instructions in relation to this matter, however, it is our client's understanding that Dr Allen has mistakenly referred to a 2012 CPD Course, when he intended to refer to the talk given by Dr Nesbitt in Altnagelvin in 2002. We shall revert to you further once we receive further instructions on this point.

Yours faithfully

Angela Crawford Solicitor