

The Inquiry into Hyponatraemia-related Deaths

Chairman: Mr John O'Hara QC

Mr Alphy Maginess
Directorate of Legal Services
2 Franklin Street
BELFAST
BT2 8DQ

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

Our Ref: JOH-0268-12

Date: 31st July 2012

Dear Mr Maginess,

Thank you for your letter of 24 July. I accept that you and your clients want to receive advice from senior counsel before setting out your position on the various issues raised. I suggest that it is fair to allow you until Tuesday 7 August for this step, following which members of the Inquiry legal team could meet you and members of your team, if it was still necessary to do so, early in w/c 13 August.

Subject to that as a way forward I respond to the particular points as follows:

Adam - position noted that the medical negligence file cannot be found

Claire - the inquest file is clearly relevant and it is most important that we resolve issues about disclosure as soon as possible

Lucy - Mr. and Mrs. Crawford have been kept informed directly by the Inquiry about the extent to which any aspect of Lucy's death will be examined during the hearings. Specifically they were sent my consultative note in June 2009 and my decision of February 2010 defining my approach to this issue. They did not respond to either communication. I do not believe that I need their specific consent in order to require disclosure from the trusts of relevant documents, given my statutory powers. If you assert otherwise please set out your position in writing. In particular please specify why their consent is required to documents held and owned by the relevant trusts.

Raychel - noted

Yours sincerely,

Bernie Conlon
P.P.

John O'Hara

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