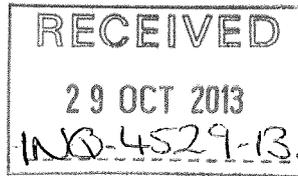


From the Deputy Chief Medical Officer
Dr Paddy Woods



Mr Brian McLoughlin
Assistant Solicitor to the Inquiry
The Inquiry into Hyponatraemia-related Deaths
Arthur House
41 Arthur Street
BELFAST
BT1 4JE

Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
Belfast BT4 3SQ

Tel: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Your Ref:

Our Ref: DH1/13/87456

October 2013

Dear Mr McLoughlin

RAYCHEL FERGUSON PRELIMINARY

I refer to my letter to you dated 29 March 2013 in which I stated that in the year 2000 accountability meetings with HSS Trusts would have taken place twice per year. This information was based on what officials currently in the Department believed to be the case. However, a thorough search has not uncovered any documentation to show that twice yearly accountability meetings began as early as 2000. Further, it is evident from witness statements by Department officials who were in post at that time they have no recollection of twice yearly accountability meetings happening with Trusts at that time. Therefore I have concluded that the information I provided in my letter of 29th March 2013 is incorrect and that twice yearly accountability meetings with Trusts did not begin until some time after the year 2000. Apologies that my initial response has proven to be incorrect.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paddy Woods".

DR PADDY WOODS
Deputy Chief Medical Officer