

THE MORECAMBE BAY INVESTIGATION

Chaired by Dr Bill Kirkup CBE

SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION AT THE PANEL MEETING

THURSDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2014

The Morecambe Bay Investigation held its tenth Panel Meeting on Thursday 11 September at Park Hotel, Preston.

In attendance were:

Julian Brookes - Expert Advisor on Governance
Catherine Calderwood - Expert Advisor on Obstetrics
Jacqui Featherstone - Expert Advisor on Midwifery
Stewart Forsyth - Expert Advisor on Paediatrics
Jonathan Montgomery - Expert Advisor on Ethics

Oonagh McIntosh - Secretary to the Investigation
Nick Heaps - Deputy Secretary to the Investigation

No	Item	Lead Person
1	Welcome and opening comments	Julian Brookes
Julian welcomed everybody to the tenth Panel Meeting.		
2	Apologies	Julian Brookes
Bill Kirkup - Chairman of the Investigation, James Walker - Expert Advisor on Obstetrics and Geraldine Walters - Expert Advisor on Nursing sent their apologies for being unable to attend. Due to his unavoidable absence Bill had asked Julian to chair the Panel meeting.		
3	Actions from the last Panel Meeting and matters arising	Oonagh McIntosh
The Secretary told the Panel that discussions with the previous Parliamentary Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO) and her deputy regarding them being interviewed by the Panel had concluded. Despite PHSO not being accountable to independent investigations		

the former Parliamentary Ombudsman and her deputy have both agreed to be interviewed.		
4	Feedback from sub-group leads	Sub-group Leads
<p>Stewart Forsyth gave an update for the clinical sub-group.</p> <p>The sub-group is nearing the end of the case reviews of the selected maternal, perinatal and neonatal deaths and still births.</p> <p>The sub-group has also had a discussion about the data analysis that has been undertaken and how the outcomes will be used in the Report by the Investigation.</p> <p>Jonathan Montgomery gave an update for the external response and governance sub-group.</p> <p>Although a good number of people have been interviewed there are still some people, key to the work of the sub-group, to be seen. This will build on the information in the various external reports. The sub-group then needs to look at its overlap with the Trust management and governance sub-group and look at how the Trust responded to the external work.</p> <p>On behalf of the Trust management and governance sub-group Oonagh McIntosh reported that many of the relevant interviews had yet to take place and that due to this the work of the group was behind that of the other two. Oonagh said that it was important to remember that the Investigation was only about halfway through the interviews.</p> <p>It was agreed that the analytical work undertaken by Hannah Knight provides the data required by the sub-groups. This will now be assembled into a data pack that the Panel can refer to when writing the Report.</p>		
5	Report writing and timetable	Oonagh McIntosh
6	Panel availability for October and November	Oonagh McIntosh
<p>Julien asked that these two items be taken together.</p> <p>It was noted that there were only eleven full weeks until the end of November by when the Investigation's Report is due to be submitted.</p> <p>Oonagh is to circulate a timetable for the preparation of the Report. This will show that the penultimate draft needs to be ready by 15 November. Bill is considering and finalising</p>		

what input he will commission from the sub-groups and he will then bring those contributions together.

Proof readers and a professional publisher will be engaged to help ensure the quality of the Report and that plain English is used.

Letters will be sent to interested organisations asking them how they have responded to the recommendations in the reports that were highlighted in the Investigation's terms of reference. If necessary some organisations will be interviewed to test out their submissions.

It was agreed that a discussion is needed about the process for providing feedback to families. Jonathan, Stewart, Oonagh and the Chairman to get together.

The Panel are being asked to provide dates they can be available in October and November. This is to provide the resources necessary to complete the interviews, speak to some of the organisations, discuss the contents of the Report and finalise feedback to families.

7

Any other business

No items were raised.

8

Date and venue of next meeting

The next Panel Meeting will take place on Thursday 9 October, at Park Hotel, Preston.