

# THE MORECAMBE BAY INVESTIGATION

Chaired by Dr Bill Kirkup CBE

## SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION AT THE PANEL MEETING

**THURSDAY 8 MAY 2014**

The Morecambe Bay Investigation held its seventh Panel Meeting on Thursday 8 May at Park Hotel, Preston.

In attendance were:

Bill Kirkup CBE - Chairman of the Investigation  
Julian Brookes - Expert Advisor on Governance  
Catherine Calderwood - Expert Advisor on Obstetrics  
Jacqui Featherstone - Expert Advisor on Midwifery  
Jonathan Montgomery - Expert Advisor on Ethics

Oonagh McIntosh - Secretary to the Investigation  
Nick Heaps - Deputy Secretary to the Investigation  
Paul Roberts – Documents and Evidence Manager  
Hannah Knight - Analyst

No	Item	Lead Person
1	Welcome and opening comments	Bill Kirkup
The Chairman welcomed everybody to the seventh Panel Meeting.		
2	Apologies	Bill Kirkup
Stewart Forsyth - expert advisor on paediatrics and Geraldine Walters - expert advisor on nursing both sent their apologies for being unable to attend.		
3	Actions from the last Panel Meeting and matters arising	Oonagh McIntosh
The Investigation had held its first interview on 2 May 2014 when it saw John Woodcock, MP for Barrow and Furness. The Chairman commented that John Woodcock had been very frank and that the interview was helpful.		

Oonagh McIntosh said that negotiations with the PHSO were ongoing regarding the possibility of arranging interviews and the Investigation was also in correspondence with former members of PHSO.

PHSO are unable to supply the Investigation with copies of correspondence they had with other organisations because of the statutory bar. This is not a problem to the Investigation as the correspondence will be obtained from the other organisations.

4	Analytical Update	Hannah Knight
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Hannah Knight gave a two part presentation, the first part focussing on workforce data supplied by the Health and Social Care Information Centre and taken from the electronic staff record. The second part gave information on some trends in stillbirth and neonatal death. This was taken from a combination of data sources, HES data provided by the Trust and the ONS death register.

5	Evidence gathering process	Paul Roberts
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Paul Roberts reported that that his team had originally requested documentation from 19 organisations and had subsequently written to another five. From the original 19 a total of 3,722 documents had been received to date. Some organisations had only sent partial responses and so further documentation was awaited. Paul asked if the Panel could identify the priority documentation that was required to enable him to concentrate on collecting that.

6	Interview Protocol	Oonagh McIntosh
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The Investigation had received many comments from the families and other organisations on the draft of the interview protocol and was about to finalise and share the final version.

Oonagh confirmed that the protocol included a provision for 'closed' interview sessions. If, as part of an interview, the Panel needs to discuss personal sensitive data then all observers will be asked to leave the room for that part of the interview only. This portion of the interview will also not be available in any subsequent audio replays of the interview.

7	Interview programme	Nick Heaps
<p>The Investigation Panel had previously agreed that following the interview with John Woodcock MP, report authors should be the next group of people to be interviewed. Nick reported differing levels of responses to the initial letters issued. Authors of the Fielding Report and some from CQC were likely to be the next to be interviewed later in May. The Panel discussed the number of people who might realistically be interviewed in one day. Further correspondence was to be issued to additional report authors.</p>		
10	Any other business	
<p>No items were raised.</p>		
11	Date and venue of next meeting	
<p>The next Panel Meeting will take place on Thursday 12 June, at Park Hotel, Preston.</p>		