

THE MORECAMBE BAY INVESTIGATION

Chaired by Dr Bill Kirkup CBE

3rd Floor
Park Hotel
East Cliff
Preston
Lancashire
PR1 3EA

22 April 2014

Dear

The Morecambe Bay Investigation was established last September by the Secretary of State for Health to address the concerns raised by a number of families about the neonatal and maternity care delivered at the University Hospitals Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust.

The Investigation has been gathering evidence from over twenty interested organisations as well as hearing from those families affected about their experiences, and will shortly undertake a series of interviews with individuals employed by the Trust and the interested organisations.

The Investigation Panel will commence the interview programme by hearing evidence from individuals who can provide them with context to and oversight of the events that took place. As Members of Parliament in the local area, the Panel are aware that your constituents may have raised their concerns with you at an early stage and, over the following number of years, your involvement with them may have provided you with an oversight of the events, what the impact of them was and how their concerns were responded to.

Should you consider that you have information that will prove helpful and useful, the Investigation Panel would welcome hearing from you as soon as possible either in writing, or in person at an interview.

Telephone: 01772 536376

Email: correspondence@mbinvestigation.org

Independent investigation into the management, delivery and outcomes of care provided by the Maternity and Neonatal services of University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay Trust from January 2004 – June 2013

The Investigation intends to hold interviews from the beginning of May, at its offices in Preston. The interviews will be held in the presence of the families. Members of the media and external observers will not be permitted to attend.

The Investigation is acutely aware that your diary is extremely full and many demands are made upon your time. It is therefore not requiring or expecting you to accept this invitation but should you wish to formally contribute to the Investigation process there is an early opportunity for you to do so.

If you, or your constituency secretary, wish to discuss this with the Investigation further, then please do not hesitate to contact Nick Heaps, Deputy Secretary to the Investigation, on 01772 536393 or me on 01772 536381.

In order to schedule interviews, and provide you with as much advance notice as possible, it would be helpful to know by Wednesday 23 April whether you wish to contribute in writing or attend an interview with the Investigation Chairman.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

OONAGH McINTOSH
SECRETARY TO THE INVESTIGATION

THE MORECAMBE BAY INVESTIGATION

Chaired by Dr Bill Kirkup CBE

John Woodcock MP
22 Hartington Street
Barrow-in-Furness
Cumbria
LA14 5SL

3rd Floor
Park Hotel
East Cliff
Preston
Lancashire
PR1 3EA

09 May 2014

Dear Mr Woodcock

I would like to thank you for making the time to be interviewed by the Investigation Panel on 2 May 2014 and for sharing your experiences gained through your role as MP for Barrow and Furness. The Investigation Panel greatly appreciated your honest and frank replies to their questions.

The Panel was very grateful for the papers you handed over at the interview. These will be scanned and stored with all the other electronic copies of documents held by the Investigation. The originals will be returned to you at the end of the Investigation.

I would also like to express my thanks to the staff in your constituency office who were all extremely helpful in the organisation of the interview.

During the interview you undertook to come back to the Investigation on a couple of points:

You spoke about "a couple of staff members who had come into the Trust from outside and then went away again, who were saying, We weren't very impressed by what we saw at all". You said you would try and give a rough date when this occurred.

You had been advised about an instance of a patient's records going missing when their treatment was not related to maternity or neonatal services. The Panel would be very interested in hearing details of this case. You said you would speak further to the person involved to ask if they would be willing to share information, in confidence, with the Panel.

Telephone: 01772 536376

Email: correspondence@mbinvestigation.org

Independent investigation into the management, delivery and outcomes of care provided by the Maternity and Neonatal services of University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay Trust from January 2004 – June 2013

I have enclosed with this letter a written record of your interview. I would be grateful if you would review this record and manually correct anything that is factually incorrect. As this is a record of a spoken interview it will not be grammatically correct or perhaps flow as freely as a considered written statement might. I would ask that you bear that in mind when making alterations. Your interview was witnessed by three of the families and when the interview records are eventually accessible by the public it will be obvious if it has been significantly cleaned up. Could I ask that the amended record is returned to me by 16 May 2014.

In line with the advice given by the Chairman at the start of the interview the Investigation would appreciate it if you did not share the record more widely until the Report of the Investigation has been published. The Chairman believes it is important that all of the evidence is considered in the context of the whole Investigation and that if parts are viewed in isolation they could be misinterpreted or cause incorrect conclusions to be reached.

I am very grateful for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Heaps
Deputy Secretary to the Investigation

From: Correspondence MB
Sent: 19 May 2014 16:04
To: 'BALL, Wesley JC'
Subject: RE: The Morecambe Bay Investigation

Thank you Wesley. I have just posted the letters to you, to be forwarded on, but any information you have would be great.

The former MPs (and their constituencies) the investigation has written to are:

Melanie Johnson (Welwyn and Hatfield)
Stephen Ladyman (South Thanet)
Rt Hon Patricia Hewitt (Leicester West)
Rt Hon Jane Kennedy (Liverpool Wavertree)
Ann Keen (Brentford and Isleworth)
Phil Hope (Corby and East Northamptonshire)
Rt Hon Mike O'Brien (North Warwickshire)
Gillian Merron (Lincoln)

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

PA/Executive Secretariat Support, Morecambe Bay Investigation
Third Floor – Park Hotel, East Cliff, Preston, PR1 3EA
E: [REDACTED]@mbinvestigation.org | T:01772 536376
(Postcode for Sat Nav systems PR1 3JT)

From: BALL, Wesley JC [mailto:wesley.ball@parliament.uk]
Sent: 19 May 2014 15:56
To: [REDACTED] Correspondence MB
Subject: RE: The Morecambe Bay Investigation

Dear [REDACTED]

may not have the most up to date contact details for the people you are looking for. But if you tell me which former MPs you want to speak to, I am happy to let you have the information I have.

Best wishes

Wesley

Wesley Ball
LP Secretary and Director of PLP Political Services

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@labour.org.uk

Sent: 19 May 2014 12:43

To: Correspondence MB

Cc: BALL, Wesley JC

Subject: RE: The Morecambe Bay Investigation

Wesley Ball
Parliamentary Labour Party
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Executive Assistant to the General Secretary

One Brewer's Green
London
SW1H 0RH
020 7783 1279
07595 090034

[REDACTED]@labour.org.uk

From: Correspondence MB [mailto:correspondence@mbinvestigation.org]

Sent: 19 May 2014 12:17

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: The Morecambe Bay Investigation

Dear Ms [REDACTED]

I am finding it difficult to get an address for Wesley Ball and the Parliamentary Labour Party Office – we would like to send the letters by mail.

I would be very grateful if you could let me know where to send them to.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
PA/Executive Secretariat Support, Morecambe Bay Investigation
Third Floor – Park Hotel, East Cliff, Preston, PR1 3EA
E: [REDACTED]@mbinvestigation.org | T:01772 536376
(Postcode for Sat Nav systems PR1 3JT)

From: [REDACTED]@labour.org.uk

Sent: 15 May 2014 16:55

To: Correspondence MB

Cc: McIntosh, Oonagh; wesleyball

Subject: RE: The Morecambe Bay Investigation

Thank you for your email.

I suggest that you do this through our Parliamentary Labour Party Office and I have copied in Wesley Ball, the Secretary to the PLP, who can forward these letters for you

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Executive Assistant to the General Secretary,

One Brewer's Green

London

SW1H 0RH

020 7783 1279

07595 090034

[REDACTED]@labour.org.uk

From: Correspondence MB [mailto:correspondence@mbinvestigation.org]

Sent: 15 May 2014 16:53

To: [Tracey Allen]

Cc: McIntosh, Oonagh

Subject: The Morecambe Bay Investigation

Dear Ms [REDACTED]

The Morecambe Bay Investigation is trying to contact several former Labour Party MPs who held ministerial posts in the Department of Health during the timeframe that the Investigation covers (1 January 2004-30 June 2013).

As they are no longer serving MPs the Investigation has not been able to find contact details for them. We were therefore hoping that Mr McNicol, General Secretary of the Labour Party, would be willing to forward a letter from the Investigation to each individual.

You will appreciate the Investigation is working to a tight timeline and therefore a swift response to this e-mail would be much appreciated.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
PA/Executive Secretariat Support, Morecambe Bay Investigation

Third Floor – Park Hotel, East Cliff, Preston, PR1 3EA

E [REDACTED]@mbinvestigation.org | T:01772 536376

(Postcode for Sat Nav systems PR1 3JT)

7

THE MORECAMBE BAY INVESTIGATION

Chaired by Dr Bill Kirkup CBE

Mr John Woodcock MP
22 Hartington Street
Barrow-in-Furness
LA14 5SL

3rd Floor
Park Hotel
East Cliff
Preston
Lancashire
PR1 3EA

6 June 2014

Dear Mr Woodcock,

THE MORECAMBE BAY INVESTIGATION – TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW

You very kindly accepted the Investigation's invitation to an interview on Friday 2 May 2014 in Dalton.

On 9 May, my colleague Nick Heaps, the Investigation's Deputy Secretary, provided you with a copy of the record of your interview. He sought your assistance to ensure that it would be an accurate record of the information you wanted to share with the Investigation.

Thus far the Investigation has not received any comments from you or from Terry. You will appreciate that the Panel need to have quite a swift turnaround of the records, post interview, to enable them to be used as a source of information to assist them and inform future interviews. It would therefore be helpful if, by close of play on Tuesday 10 June you could return the record to Nick, annotated with any additional information or corrections that you wish to be made to it.

If you don't have any comments then the Panel will use that as the record of your interview and will refer to it when preparing for future interviews. In addition that version will ultimately be placed in the Department of Health records and will become subject to FOI applications after the Investigation's Report has been submitted to the Secretary of State for Health.

Telephone: 01772 536376

Email: correspondence@mbinvestigation.org

Independent investigation into the management, delivery and outcomes of care provided by the Maternity and Neonatal services of University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay Trust from January 2004 – June 2013

If you, or Terry, have any queries about the contents of this letter please do not hesitate to get in touch with Nick Heaps or me by return.

I look forward to hearing from you

Yours sincerely,

OONAGH McINTOSH
SECRETARY TO THE INVESTIGATION