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From: JAYARAM, Ravi (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST)
Sent: 30 March 2017 18:25
To: HODKINSON, Sue (COUNTRESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST)
Subject: Concerns

Sue

Thank you for your time over the last week. I wanted to address some issues that arose during the course of my mediation session on Tuesday. As you know from the discussion on Monday evening, there is going to be further deeper investigation into the deaths on NNU, probably police level. I asked you on Monday whether in the light of this it was appropriate for the mediation process to proceed as planned and you told me that you felt it was. I expressed concern that I may be placed in a difficult situation if asked directly about my thoughts on the reports and the causes of death (especially after the meeting on Monday) but you assured me that this was unlikely to be an issue and the focus would be on things allegedly said by me.

I therefore attended the meeting. I felt as if I had been hung out to dry there. The 1st question asked was whether I agreed with the conclusions of the reports and was happy to move on. The 2nd was whether I still thought there was a possibility she may have done something.

However two things that I found disturbing were that she has been led to believe (I am unsure whether from the grievance statements or from her discussions with board members) that a) I and a colleague “orchestrated” a campaign to have her removed and b) I and a colleague gave an “ultimatum” to the Trust that if she was not suspended we would call the police. Which, as we know, is clearly not true.

Any recommendations from the paediatric body were made collectively and there was no “orchestration or “ultimatum”. We escalated our concerns to the Trust board and any further decisions were made by the board. It would be improper to suggest that the board simply acquiesced and did what we asked; indeed, from my experience, it would have been unprecedented. I consider that what Lucy has been led to believe is factually inaccurate and conflates many things that had been said into false and misleading statements. I am very concerned that she was either deliberately misled or else has been unintentionally allowed to gain these misconceptions. I was unable to answer many of her questions directly due to the fact that I knew that things had moved on in terms of the direction of the investigation and could not comment.

I also took issue with the fact that I am alleged to have said many things directly about Lucy in public. I have no idea what I am alleged to have said as I have neither seen the minutes of any meeting that we have had with the board nor the grievance reports. You gave me a couple of hints as to what was in the reports but nothing more; certainly nothing to indicate what Lucy would question me about. It worries me that hearsay seems to have become official fact yet I have still not been privy to any of these allegations made against me.