

TRUST); MCGUIGAN, Michael (COUNTESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST); SALADI, Murthy (COUNTESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST)

**Subject:** Re: Letter from Tony Chambers

**Sensitivity:** Confidential

Dear All,

I am slightly surprised and pleased that the Trust has so rapidly escalated your concerns verbatim to the coroner and to the authors of the two recent reports.

I am also reassured that the Joint College report addendum indicates that your concerns were specifically addressed by them.

I think you have all acted impeccably and have done absolutely everything you possibly could to address concerns about increased mortality. I don't think you can do anything more. The ball is now firmly in the Coroner's court! I suggest you wait for a response from him. If there is no response, I still don't think you need to do anything.

I am informed that there are 3 inquests still to be completed. If this is the case, I assume that some of you will be invited to give evidence? If so, you can (should?) state your concerns in public, if you still have any. I think you should now do 2 things;

1. Respond to the CEO letter, thanking him for referring to the coroner, clarifying that you did not make allegations against any specific individual and confirming your keen intentions to assist implementation of all the recommendations of the joint College report as soon as possible. In doing this, it would be helpful to admit that there were system failings that need to be addressed by all. You might consider repeating that you still do not have confidence in the robustness of the pathology report, but you will accept the guidance of the coroner (and the Trust Board?) in this respect, for the time being. This leaves you the option of escalating in the future.

2. Enclose a draft letter of reserved apology to the nurse concerned, that addresses the possibility of inappropriate comments being made, emphasising that if they occurred, they were probably not directed at a specific individual, but were vocalising anxiety in the heat of the moment, with minimal information and patient safety as the core motivation.

Best of luck and well done all in coping with a very difficult situation so far.

Sean

Sent from my iPad

On 16 Feb 2017, at 18:34, BREAREY, Stephen (COUNTESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST) <[stephen.brearey@i&s](mailto:stephen.brearey@i&s)>

wrote:

My feelings after just reading this letter is that he has not really answered any of our concerns and talks about "allegations" which none of us have made. He says he has shared everything with the coroner but IH said he did not show the coroner the full report. It also does not mention that IH is clueless about Jane