Countess of Chester Hospital **NHS**

Date Typed: 24th May 2019

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Department of Paediatrics
Dr Stephen Brearey
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Private & Confidential

Dr Susan Gilby
Chief Executive
Countess of Chester NHS Foundation Trust

Dear Susan

Further to discussions we have had since August 2018, I'm writing to confirm my request that you investigate emails to and from Mr Harvey that I have not been able to locate on my computer and Outlook account.

I asked for help from IM&T in Aug 2017 to help me find emails to and from Mr Harvey which would have supported statements I have made to the police and to the GMC. I am confident the emails in question were stored at the time in folders on my Outlook account. IM&T could not find any emails sent from or to Ian Harvey before June 2016. Of particular note are emails sent in the weeks commencing 8th and 15th February 2016.

I am therefore requesting that you ask for a thorough investigation of the hospital server and, if necessary, interview relevant staff with a view to answering the following questions:

- 1. Can any emails between Mr Harvey and Dr Brearey from before June 2016 be found on the hospital server?
- 2. If they can be located, I would be grateful if they could be shared with me so that I can assist with the ongoing police and GMC investigations.
- 3. If they cannot be located, is it possible that they might have been permanently deleted?
- 4. Please locate, forensically if necessary, emails that might have previously been deleted.
- 5. Which staff, including executives, had the relevant permissions to permanently delete other staff emails at the time?
- 6. Is there a hospital record of any such actions?
- 7. If Mr Harvey and Mr Cross did not have permissions to permanently delete emails of other staff, did they approach staff with these permissions to delete the relevant emails?

Many thanks for your continued support of all the staff on NNU and our work developing the service.

Yours sincerely,

Personal Data

Dr Steve Brearey MBChB, FRCPCH, MD Consultant paediatrician, Neonatal Unit Lead Clinician

Research Matters: We are a Research active Trust and are involved in undertaking research to improve care for our patients. Your doctors, nurses or midwives may discuss current clinical trials with you.

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