

# Chelsea and Westminster Healthcare

DEPARTMENT OF PAEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY

NHS Trust

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12 October 2000

Dr John Collins  
Medical Director  
Chelsea & Westminster Hospital

Heather Lawrence  
Chief Executive  
Chelsea & Westminster Hospital

Dear John, and Heather Lawrence

**Re: Tessa REDMOND**

I'm writing to follow up a telephone conversation when you rang me 10 10 2000.

In that telephone conversation, you began by asking me detailed information about Dr Bhatt's recent visit to see Tessa and requested that in future if Dr Bhatt ever was to come to see Tessa in the hospital, that you would wish to be contacted in advance.

You then went on to say that you both wanted to meet with me and with the Director of Human Resources to talk about a number of matters, and you said quite spontaneously that I could bring a BMA representative if I wanted to.

One matter that you wanted to talk about in this meeting you said to me was "Your contractual status."

Another matter that you wished to talk about in this meeting was "how you wished to operate shared care."

Another matter that you wished to talk about at this meeting was the suggestion that you had made at the last meeting convened by Mary Gifford that in future Tessa's Vitamin B 12 treatment and care should take place in the community with me being the responsible Doctor. You told me on the telephone that it had been your impression that this suggestion of yours at the meeting had gained widespread support. This was not my recollection.

When I said that you both and I, well knew of Tessa's parents' request that if any discussions about Tessa's treatment were going to take place that they wished to be present, you then told me that I "shouldn't be hiding behind the parents."

When I suggested that these very matters were ones that had been discussed at Mary Gifford's convened meeting, and were ones that were due to be further discussed at subsequent meetings (the next as you know is planned for the 30<sup>th</sup> of November) and that I thought would be important for the other members of that meeting to be present to such discussions, you replied that you did not think that these issues were ones for discussions at Mary Gifford's meeting, not with all those present who had been before.

By the end of the telephone conversation I was uncertain exactly what you intended to discuss at a meeting with me, and excluding all the other members of Mrs. Gifford's meeting, and I asked if you would be kind and write to me and clarify this.

I hope you agree that in the above circumstances, it would be important to know clearly well in advance of a planned meeting, precisely what the Agenda was to be and I await to hear from you with such information and before ~~requesting~~ <sup>suggesting</sup> dates which you had urged me to do.

Finally, please could you clarify what you mean by "contractual status," and why you think it is an issue that needs to be discussed.

Yours sincerely



**Dr Nicholas Cavanagh MD FRCP  
Consultant Paediatric Neurologist**

cc: Mrs Mary Gifford