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Ref: TAS1.

11th August 2007

Trevor Saunders, Angela Jones, Tessa Pineda, Dianne Cox at Chiltern Court.
Dr Bobby Jacobs, Dr White at Aston Clinton Surgery.

Barbara Johnson, Ronel Murray, Adrian Walker of Social Services.

Dr Koshy, Kate Lochy, David Rogers. Melissa at Amersham Hospital.

Others at the discretion of all above. e.g. new Activity Manager at Chiltern Court.

Dear All,

subject: Trevor Saunders.

This letter is "for the record", should I or others such as Trevor need it in future. There is no need to provide a written reply. Please arrange that it is included within any files or medical records for Trevor.

I believe that, under the law, Trevor qualifies for 100% NHS funding (Continuing Care) because his health care needs are greater than Pam Coughlan. See the "advice to solicitors" page on www.nhscare.info. I have no assurance that Trevor was correctly assessed against the criteria including the new National Framework, or that he was properly advised of his rights.

Many of you will know my concerns that lack of funding could be a constraint on Trevor's quality of life and opportunities for therapy and further recovery. I understand that the low funding of £500 per week for Chiltern Court, compared with Continuing Care of £1000, or a hospital bed at £2000, could be a problem.


I've known Trevor since 1981, when we worked for the same company within the Defence Industry. This was for a period of 14 years. I saw a great deal of Trevor socially, when he lived near me, up until about two years ago. When Trevor had his stroke on 11th September 2006, Margaret phoned me, and within the next few days we were able to trace his relatives and sources of medical records. I was the person consulted by Dr Burn at Wycombe General Hospital on 16th October 2006, when they were considering withholding antibiotics to shorten Trevor's life. Since this "low point", I and all others, including medical staff, have seen a slow but steady improvement in Trevor's condition. At the time of writing this letter in August 2007, it seems that Trevor's short term memory is good and ability to speak and communicate continues to improve. He cannot yet read, only recognizing 50% of the alphabet, and his long term memory remains untested, particularly with regard to things important in him making decisions about his care and finances. e.g. in late 2002, when I saw Trevor regularly, we had numerous discussions about what I was discovering related to "Coughlan" and www.nhscare.info

I understand that Trevor was assessed by Dr Jacobs on 1st August 2007 as being capable of making all his own decisions and that he does not require a Power of Attorney. I understand Dr Koshy made a similar assessment before discharge of Trevor from Amersham Hospital on 11th July. I have detailed notes of events since Trevor's stroke, including the case meetings at Amersham Hospital on 2nd April and 21st May 2007. Those present confirmed they had read the flyer attached to this letter and checked www.nhscare.info for relevant advice from the Royal College of Nursing, the Health Ombudsman and the Law Society. The same applies to the smaller meeting on 30th May when, it is understood that Social Services intended to press for NHS Continuing Care funding, including to appeal if needed. No such appeal was made. Social Services chose Chiltern Court and agreed to discharge from Amersham Hospital. In these recent months, Social Services felt unable to discuss anything with me on the grounds of "patient confidentiality". I had to solve urgent problems like finding clothes since Social Services failed to do so.

Trevor will need active help from Social Services to ensure that he gets good health care, including therapy, and a suitable home. He will require assistance in dealing with many things including form-filling for the DVLA and others. Trevor's friends need to give information to the appropriate people such as the Court of Protection.

Let me end by thanking all above, and particularly the staff at Heatherdon Ward for the excellent standard of care, therapy, and stimulating environment, during Trevor's period at Amersham Hospital. My first impressions of Chiltern Court are also good, and I look forward to continuing to help Trevor in whatever ways I can.

Yours Sincerely,


Robin Lovelock