RESPONSE FROM MOBILITY 2000 LTD - JEAN WILLIAMS INQUEST

With regard to the fitting of bed levers in the absence of the patient this is likely to be because, on occasion, the equipment needs to be in place prior to the release of a patient from hospital. As the prescriptions are issued by LCC we will await their instruction of any changes to the current system.

Our staff have always fitted the strap when installing the bed levers and they will continue to do so. We do occasionally purchase bed levers without a strap as some of our retail customers prefer them and they are still passed by the medical devices agency; however, these are not, and will not, be supplied via the tces system as the specification does not allow it.

We have recently carried out further training with our staff on how to fit the levers and straps according to the manufacturer's instructions. Further action taken is to make sure a hard copy of the manufacturer's instructions is supplied with every bed lever. We await instructions from LCC with any change of policy regarding the timing of fitting the bed levers, since the incident involving Jean Williams.

Finally, it should be noted that even in cases where Mobility 2000 Ltd have installed a bed lever we have no control of what happens to it once we have left the property. We know from past experience that the levers are often taken off beds for a number of reasons and subsequently replaced by someone other than ourselves.