



The  
**Prisoner  
Ombudsman**  
for Northern Ireland

**REPORT BY THE PRISONER OMBUDSMAN  
INTO THE CIRCUMSTANCES  
SURROUNDING THE DEATH OF  
CHARLES DEVINE**

**Aged 73**

**IN MAGHABERRY PRISON**

**ON 30 AUGUST 2009**

[Published 23 April 2010]



Due to the circumstances of Mr Devine's death, it was my intention to conduct a review of all the information and material gathered and to make contact with Mr Devine's family, before deciding on the extent of the investigation to be undertaken.

My investigator has now completed this review, during which she spoke with Mr Devine's cell mate and conducted a review of Mr Devine's healthcare records, personal file, and the CCTV of his last hours in Maghaberry Prison. Contact was also made with Mr Devine's family.

Our findings overall would suggest that Mr Devine was well cared for at Maghaberry and felt himself that he was well cared for. It was noted that:

- Mr Devine told staff, on a number of occasions, that he wanted to die in Maghaberry Prison.
- Mr Devine spent a total of 80 days in outside hospital throughout his custodial period. Where it was necessary for him to attend hospital, he continually expressed his reluctance to go.

It was noted at interview that Mr Devine's cell mate spoke very highly of the care provided to himself and Mr Devine by healthcare staff.

Also, of note is the fact that, during his last period in hospital, a member of healthcare staff took the trouble to visit Mr Devine twice.

I can advise that in the light of the information examined, and in the absence of any family concerns, I have decided not to conduct any further enquiries. If any new information comes to light I shall, if appropriate, reconsider this decision.

**Pauline McCabe**  
**Prisoner Ombudsman**