

**Prisons &
Probation**

Ombudsman
Independent Investigations

Independent investigation into the death of Mr Peter Dodd, a prisoner at HMP North Sea Camp, on 3 September 2025

A report by the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman

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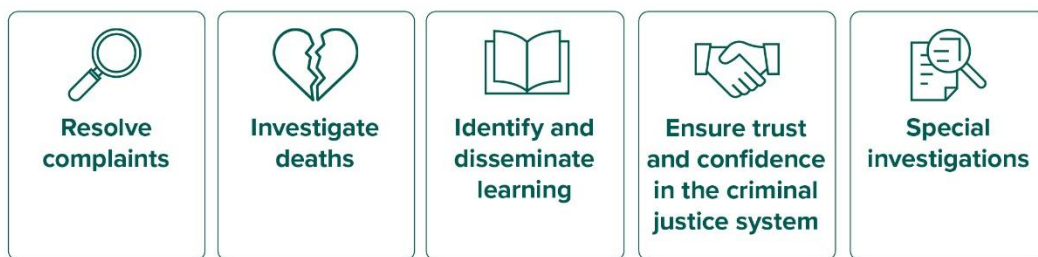
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OUR VISION

To deliver high quality and timely independent investigations and work closely with partners to achieve tangible benefits for the safety and confidence of those in custody and under community supervision.

WHAT WE DO



WHAT WE VALUE



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1. The Prisons and Probation Ombudsman aims to make a significant contribution to safer, fairer custody and community supervision. One of the most important ways in which we work towards that aim is by carrying out independent investigations into deaths, due to any cause, of prisoners, young people in detention, residents of approved premises and detainees in immigration centres.
2. If my office is to best assist His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) in ensuring the standard of care received by those within service remit is appropriate, our recommendations should be focused, evidenced and viable. This is especially the case if there is evidence of systemic failure.
3. In 1994, Mr Dodd was sentenced to life imprisonment for murder. He died in hospital on 3 September 2025, following a heart attack at HMP North Sea Camp that morning. He was 69 years old. We offer our condolences to those who knew him.
4. NHS England commissioned an independent clinical reviewer to review Mr Dodd's clinical care at North Sea Camp.
5. The clinical reviewer concluded that the clinical care Mr Dodd received at North Sea Camp was of a good standard and was at least equivalent to that which he could have expected to receive in the community. She made two recommendations that the Head of Healthcare has already actioned and a third recommendation that the Head of Healthcare will wish to address.
6. The PPO investigator investigated the non-clinical issues relating to Mr Dodd's care.
7. When Mr Dodd told prison staff in the early hours of 3 September that he had chest pains, they called the NHS 111 helpline instead of calling a medical emergency code, which would have triggered the calling of an ambulance. This caused a delay in Mr Dodd receiving treatment from ambulance paramedics.
8. Since Mr Dodd's death, North Sea Camp has issued a Notice to Staff to remind them that a medical emergency code should be used when prisoners report life threatening symptoms such as chest pain. As the prison has already taken action, we make no recommendation.
9. We found no other non-clinical issues of concern. We make no recommendations.
10. We shared the initial report with HMPPS and the prison's healthcare provider, Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. They pointed out a factual inaccuracy in the clinical review, which has been corrected.

Adrian Usher
Prisons and Probation Ombudsman

February 2026

Inquest

At the inquest, held on 25 June 2026, the Coroner concluded that Mr Dodd died from natural causes.



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