



2016 CHAPTER 21

PART 2

The Prison Ombudsman For Northern Ireland

*Complaints*

**Report of investigation of complaint**

**36.—**(1) Where the Ombudsman has carried out an investigation into a complaint to which section 35 applies, the Ombudsman shall report in writing on the outcome of the investigation to—

- (a) the Department, and
- (b) the complainant.

(2) The Ombudsman may also report in writing on that outcome to any other person the Ombudsman considers should receive the report.

(3) In a report to the Department the Ombudsman may make recommendations about any matter arising from the complaint or investigation.

(4) Where such recommendations are made in a report, the Department must, within the required period, respond in writing to the Ombudsman setting out (with reasons) what it proposes to do about the recommendations.

(5) The required period is the period of 28 days commencing with the day on which the Department receives the report or such longer period as the Ombudsman may in the case of any report allow.

(6) The Ombudsman may report on that response to such persons as the Ombudsman may think fit.

- (7) Regulations may make provision as to the procedures to be followed in relation to reports under this section and may in particular include provision—
- (a) enabling the Ombudsman to show any person a draft of the whole or any part of a report;
  - (b) restricting or prohibiting the identification of prescribed persons or persons of a prescribed description in a report or the inclusion of information of a prescribed description;
  - (c) providing for cases where the complainant has died or is unable to act.