

FROM:

G 115

Police Division
16 September 1998

Ms Foster

ROSEMARY NELSON

I am aware of the leaflets which have been distributed in the Portadown area concerning Brendan McKenna and Ms Nelson. I also know she raised the matter with the Irish who in turn raised it through the AI Secretariat. The line taken at that time was that the NIO ran a limited discretionary scheme to provide protection for those individuals who met the criteria for entry. If she so wished she could apply.

Both Councillor McKenna and Councillor Duffy of the Garvaghy Road Residents Coalition at the recent round of proximity talks in July at Hillsborough expressed their concern about personal security to Jonathan Powall. We asked the police for a threat risk assessment and to carry out a security assessment of their homes. As their solicitor I would be surprised if Ms Nelson does not know of these events.

In relation to the final two paragraphs of Mageean's letter I suggest you direct Ms Nelson to the police to apply for a personal protection weapon and to her local crime prevention officer in relation to security advice at her home and at her workplace. To be complete you might wish to mention that the NIO run a discretionary protection Scheme providing limited physical security at an individual's home, provided they meet the criteria for entry to the Scheme. If Ms Nelson wishes to be considered for the Scheme she should apply to Police Division. However, I would be careful about raising false hopes as on the basis of the police advice you have received she would not be eligible for entry to the Scheme.

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