

Duffy to tell them that they did not qualify under the scheme. It is for this reason that I wrote at the bottom of my copy of the letter “**█** *I want to take advice on this before preparing a submission to the Minister. PAB may have a view on this.*” **█** was another member of the KPPS branch who looked after administration.

15. Shortly after receiving the letter of 31 August 1998 from Superintendent McAuley I spoke to **G116** a principal officer in PAB, about the outcome of the threat assessments. I was aware that **G116** had gone with Steven McCourt to meet Breandan MacCionnaith on 22 July 1998. I remember the discussion with **G116** very well. **G116** told me that this was not the result those at the proximity talks had expected. There was no pressure put on me to see if the threat assessment could be changed from a Level 4 to a higher level. However, understandably, they did want the threat assessment to be thoroughly reviewed. It was on this basis that I went back to Superintendent McAuley to raise with him a number of points that had been made by my political colleagues in relation to the threat assessments of Councillors MacCionnaith and Duffy.
16. I was very conscious at the time about going back to Superintendent McAuley. I wanted him to be clear that I was neither seeking to challenge the police’s independence in operational matters for political reasons nor asking him to change the assessment on the basis of no new information; that is why new information was provided to give a basis for a fresh look. I telephoned Superintendent McAuley to explain this. I then followed my telephone call up with a letter dated 7 September 1998 **RNI 305.216**. The letter refers to Breandan MacCionnaith’s concerns regarding the leaflet entitled “Man Without a Future”, a copy of which was enclosed with my letter, and his concerns that rogue loyalists who were disaffected with the loyalist ceasefire might target him and Joe Duffy. I was very careful when drafting this letter. I wanted Superintendent McAuley to be clear that I was not asking the police to change their threat assessment of