

sent Stephen Leach a confidential policy briefing, copied to me, on 12 October 1998 enclosing the draft submission to Ministers (**RNI 305.243-248**). Ken Lindsay's briefing sets out the clear view that we should not damage or undermine the integrity of the scheme by including Councillors MacCionnaith and Duffy when they did not meet the criteria for entry. A decision to provide Councillors MacCionnaith and Duffy with protection must therefore be a political decision. Once Ministers took that decision then, as Ken Lindsay states at the bottom of his note to Stephen Leach, I would be able to advise on how to spend the budget. I have been asked by those interviewing me whose handwriting it is at the top of Ken Lindsay's note. I confirm it is ██████'s handwriting. It says "**G115** No sign of any response yet to this note. I've spoken to Ken and he has seen and heard nothing more from Stephen. Let sleeping dogs.....".

22. Almost certainly I would have drafted part of the submission to Ministers. ██████ and Ken Lindsay would also have amended the draft before sending it up to Stephen Leach and Stephen Leach would probably have made some further changes to it before sending it up to the Ministers. The draft submission sent up to Stephen Leach refers to "general concern [Councillor MacCionnaith had raised] for the safety of his fellow coalition members". I was aware that Councillors MacCionnaith and Duffy had raised this with Steven McCourt. I believe Steven McCourt asked Councillor MacCionnaith to fax details of the other GRRC members to him. However, he never did. Councillors MacCionnaith and Duffy never raised security for the other GRRC members with me and the GRRC members never approached me directly. I never knew who the other GRRC members were and, for example, whether or not they included Rosemary Nelson. My impression was that Councillors MacCionnaith and Duffy were only interested in securing protection for themselves. If Councillors MacCionnaith and Duffy had raised the other GRRC members' security with me I would have asked them to get them to write to me or telephone me in order for them to be considered under the scheme. I have been asked by