

out for anything suspicious. I have been asked why we took this step if there was no threat to Mrs Nelson. It should be remembered that the police's primary role is the protection of life and property. Life is clearly foremost in that regard. If there was anything the police could do to stop someone's life being endangered, it would be done. In the circumstances, the police had no information about any threat to Mrs Nelson but were advised that US lawyers had grave concerns for her safety. I felt that briefing police units in this manner was the best that we could do in the circumstances.

19. Of course many people were under threat in Lurgan at that time. I had numerous people in my office, some asking, some pleading with me, to advise them as to what they could do in relation to a threat. They would come in, put their cards on the table and ask me what I could do to help them. For example, **Councillor** , , was one individual who discussed her personal security with me. Neither Mrs Nelson nor anyone else did this in relation to her case. This left the Police in the dark as firstly, they had no idea of what threat there may be against her and secondly, could offer her no practical advice. It has been put to me by Eversheds that one reason why Mrs Nelson may not have attended the Police Station to discuss her personal security was that she felt under threat from the security forces. I have been asked to comment on this. In my view, that kind of sentiment is absolutely rubbish.
20. I have been asked whether or not I received any other information about threats to Mrs Nelson. I am satisfied that all I knew about a threat to Mrs Nelson is contained in these documents. As such, I really had no useful information. I am not even sure if I saw the letter which the US lawyers wrote to the Northern Ireland Office. In my role as Deputy Sub-Divisional Commander, I would have had sight of any further information had it come in. However, I do not believe anything further did come in. I have been asked by those interviewing me if I am aware of any further documents, including a leaflet entitled "The Man With No Future" being sent to Lurgan Police Station. I have no knowledge of any such documents.