

Looking at the names on the list, I recall that threats had been received in relation to almost all of those individuals at one time or another. However, I cannot recall whether or not those threats were specific to that time in question.

Threat Assessment – [Councillor]

24. I have been referred to a memo dated 26 May 1999 from Acting Inspector Allen to the Sub-Divisional Commander in Lurgan. This is attached at **RNI 831.171, RNI 832.080** [redacted]. The memo concerns a letter received at the offices of Rosemary Nelson which threatened the life of [Councillor]. The memo states that [Councillor] was advised of the threat and that the Crime Prevention Office in Lurgan had arrangements in hand but that Superintendent, D2 Branch, Brooklyn, should be advised for a security survey to be considered. I have been asked to explain the difference in treatment between Mrs Nelson detailed above and [Councillor]. There is a clear distinction that can be drawn. Firstly, in relation to [Councillor], a letter was received and the Police in Lurgan knew what the content was. Secondly, as stated above, [redacted] [Councillor] was the kind of individual who laid her cards down on the table. This made it far easier to help her. In relation to Mrs Nelson, the police had no knowledge of any threat against her. All we had was a suggestion from lawyers in the United States that she was under threat. However, we had not received anything concrete in relation to that. Therefore, what could one talk to Rosemary Nelson about? Ultimately, she knew about the threat in far more detail than we did and it was therefore up to her to come in to see us.
25. The role of the Crime Prevention Office was the prevention of all sorts of crime. It included advice on matters such as property security and also encompassed school visits. In relation to a specific threat, the Crime Prevention Office would look at how the individual could best overcome the threat and deal with it. The action would therefore vary very widely depending on the nature of the threat.