

CONFIDENTIAL**TAB G****PERSONAL PROTECTION FOR SINN FÉIN - INVOLVEMENT OF RUC**

Understand that Adam Ingram wrote to Alex Maskey yesterday [Wed] about this matter.

The involvement of the RUC to undertake these surveys is long-standing practice which applies to all persons protected under the scheme regardless of their background. Such surveys are crucial to enable the RUC to identify the particular measures which the householder requires to afford him or her adequate protection.

The Government has a responsibility to ensure the best possible advice has been obtained about the security measures necessary. The RUC have unique knowledge and expertise in these matters which is not available from other sources.

* Totally reject the suggestion that the information gained by the RUC might be passed on to Loyalist terrorist group. This is unfounded.

* Government will always consider verbal or written representations that this work should be done by someone else, but not satisfied at present that anyone else can do as good a job.

* Would encourage Sinn Féin to think again about their rejection of RUC assistance. Lives may be at risk. RUC involvement is crucial and for their benefit.