

including the allegations relating to the activity of certain Garda officers in the period immediately before and after the Omagh bombing. The focus of the Group's report is the alleged activity of the Garda Síochána officers, not the Omagh bombing or any of the other terrorist incidents referred to in the Ombudsman's report.

- 1.3 On 8 May 2002 the Police Ombudsman provided a further 57-page report "Detailing the issues surrounding the Omagh bomb as supplied by Detective Sergeant White (Gardaí)" with two further volumes of supporting documentation including contemporaneous intelligence reports by the Detective Sergeant on events in 1998 (which do not include references to any of the specific allegations Detective Sergeant White is now making). Towards the end of August 2002 the Police Ombudsman provided another volume containing further documentation, including a 39-page document which appears from its uncompleted heading to have been designed to be made as a statement by Detective Sergeant White in the presence of his solicitor in 2002 (the "39-page document"). The Detective Sergeant says that he "probably" made out this statement in or around the period July to September 2000. He says he "had the original reports to hand and enlarged more or less on them". Those reports were based on information given to him by an informant who was involved in serious criminal activities and who was an associate of an individual who in 1998 was involved with the Real IRA (RIRA).
- 1.4 The Police Ombudsman's Office also provided the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) with a copy of the documentation it held on the allegations made by Detective Sergeant White. Two members of the PSNI Omagh investigation team interviewed the Detective Sergeant in July 2002. In March 2003 the Group received from the Assistant Chief Constable overseeing the PSNI Omagh investigation team a transcript over 300 pages in length of the detailed evidential statement made in Scotland by Detective Sergeant White and signed in August 2002 (the "PSNI statement"). Parts of this statement had been removed from the copy provided to the Group because, the Assistant Chief Constable said, of legal advice to the PSNI that they were defamatory. In these documents - from the 39-page document, through the