# Released Under Investigation

## Advisory Notice to Suspects

The purpose of this notice is to make it clear to all involved parties that any unlawful, unnecessary or inappropriate contact between the suspect in a case (either directly or through a third party), and the victim or witness, may constitute a criminal offence. The list of offences is not exhaustive.

Any unlawful, unnecessary or inappropriate contact reported to the police, including any perception that this is the case, may result in arrests and prosecution of parties for any of the following offences: -

- **Intimidation of witnesses, jurors & others**

  - Under S.51 of the Criminal Justice & Public Order Act 1994 it is an offence to intimidate or threaten by any means any person involved in the investigation of an offence relating to criminal matters.

  - Maximum penalty - **Fine and/or five years imprisonment**

- **Harassment**

  - Under S.2 of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997, it is an offence for a person to pursue a course of conduct which amounts to harassment of another, and which he/she knows or ought to know amounts to harassment of the other, or to persuade any person not to do something that they are entitled or required to do, or to do something that they are not under any obligation to do.

  - Maximum penalty - **Fine and/or two years imprisonment**

  Please note that other, more serious, offences are also provided for under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997

- **Perverting the Course of Justice**

  - Under Common Law, it is an offence to conspire, act or embark upon a course of conduct which has a tendency to, and is intended to pervert, the course of public justice.

  - Maximum penalty - **Life imprisonment**

  Some of the ways where conduct is capable of amounting to this offence is by making false allegations, perjury, concealing offences, obstructing the police, assisting others to evade arrest, failing to prosecute, interfering with witnesses/evidence/jurors, and publication of matters calculated to prejudice a fair trial.

i am not a Person.

(Rev. 01/2017)