

## Transcript – Criminality

### KEY:

#### N: Narrator

N: One of the biggest threats to people's safety are the individuals, criminal gangs, and paramilitaries who actively engage in criminal activity in Northern Ireland. The PSNI Annual Crime Statistics for 2017-18 recorded ninety-eight thousand three hundred and one crimes during this period.

Many of these are organised crimes. These include drug dealing, dealing in counterfeit goods, money laundering, human trafficking, extortion of local business, sexual exploitation, and tiger kidnapping.

Despite the signing of the Good Friday Agreement, paramilitary criminal activity is ongoing. Loyalist and Republican paramilitaries still exist and operate from within their own communities. Some of them are still recruiting young people, and often use violence and intimidation to exercise control and community level. Commonly they administer their own sense of arbitrary justice in the form of so-called 'paramilitary style' attacks on others.

Between 2017 and 2018, eighty-seven people were victims of paramilitary style attacks. Twenty-two people were shot, and sixty-five people were beaten. According to the PSNI, paramilitary groups in Northern Ireland are heavily involved in organised crime as a means of raising finance for their organisations and for their own personal gain.