



News Release 19 June 2015

PPS STATEMENT RE INTERNET BROADCAST OF A SERMON

The Public Prosecution Service has confirmed that following consideration of a complaint in relation to an internet broadcast of a sermon in May 2014, a decision was taken to offer an individual an informed warning for an offence contrary to the Communications Act 2003. That offence was one of sending, or causing to be sent, by means of a public electronic communications network, a message or other matter that was grossly offensive. The offer of an informed warning was refused by the defendant and accordingly the matter is now proceeding by way of a summary prosecution in the Magistrates' Court.

Notes to Editors:

1. An informed warning is a formal reprimand administered by the police and, although not a conviction, is recorded on a person's criminal record for a period of 12 months.
2. A person must agree to accept the diversionary option and should they fail to do so then prosecution will follow. Accordingly the matter is now proceeding by way of a summary prosecution in the magistrates' court.

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