



Press Recognition Panel
Mappin House
4 Winsley Street
London W1W 8HF

Matt Tee
Chief Executive
IPSO

Sent by email only to:
matt.tee@ipso.co.uk

27 October 2016

Dear Matt

I am writing to you having heard the exchange between Steve Hewlett and IPSO's Chair, Sir Alan Moses, on yesterday's Radio 4 Media Show, which I quote in full to ensure that the context is clear:

Steve Hewlett: "So what is the real problem for you with Charter recognition of the sort that Impress have subjected themselves too? All it says is that: tick, tick, tick, tick, tick, tick. You meet the following criteria. That's all that Leveson wanted. That's what the public signed up to. That's what both houses of Parliament signed up to. Away you go."

Sir Alan: "That's the problem: Away you go. You've actually answered the very question you posed. The point is: the confusion for the public. There's no point in them ringing up and complaining. Poor old David Wolfe was saying to me the other day 'Oh well we've got people ringing up saying we're – Oh I want to make a complaint about X'. The Recognition Panel doesn't deal with complaints. And the sort of people who want to complain about what is happening in the newspapers have to complain to us because they are voluntarily signed up to us and they've not voluntarily signed up to Impress."

The Press Recognition Panel's approach to transparency includes a published policy that all meetings between our Board members and stakeholders are a matter of public record, with notes of what is said being agreed and published on our website. The words underlined above wrongly give the impression that David is not acting in accordance with this policy, that our website has failed to record a recent conversation between David and Sir Alan, and that in such a conversation David

mis-stated our position about complaints.

As correctly reported on our website, the most recent communication between David and Sir Alan was on 15 May 2015. There was no conversation “the other day” or any other day. If by that phrase Sir Alan actually means 15 months ago, then we would refer him to the minutes of that meeting (agreed by IPSO at the time) which report David as simply noting that, given the volume of complaints to IPSO, the PRP would have a role in assisting the public in signposting their complaints accurately.

As it happens, that has not proved to be necessary. The PRP has not received any contact from members of the public wanting to complain about a relevant publisher in that way. And David has not at any point, to Sir Alan or anyone else, stated otherwise.

Please ensure that we are not incorrectly quoted in future.

Yours Sincerely

Susie

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susie Uppal', is centered within a light gray rectangular box. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Susie Uppal
Chief Executive
Press Recognition Panel

Cc Radio 4 Media Show