

I am very concerned that three years after the Leveson Inquiry, there is still no proper system of independent regulation that would provide proper redress for victims of press abuse.

The Press recognition Panel should remind Parliament what the Leveson Report said should happen if the industry tried to veto his recommendations and refused to comply. The Leveson Report recommended that if some or all of the industry were not willing to participate in effective independent regulation, they should nonetheless be regulated and that it was too late for last chances. Leveson went on to recommend that the Government should be ready to consider the need for a statutory backstop regulator being established, to ensure that the press are subject to regulation that would require the fullest compliance with the criminal and civil law.

In the meantime, regardless of whether IMPRESS is recognised by the PRP, the PRP should strongly recommend to Parliament that the key 'guaranteed access to justice incentive' (section 40 of the Crime and Courts Act) should be brought into effect as Parliament had intended.

Mr A R Phillips (Isle of Wight).