

Dear Press Recognition Panel,

Like so many tens of thousands who followed the inquiry on television, I think that the Leveson Inquiry was balanced and fair, based on evidence, and drew a most reasonable conclusion. The examples of abuse of power and intrusion by the press were shocking. Therefore the Government must ensure that victims of libel and press intrusion are guaranteed access to justice.

The Leveson Report says: "***if some or all of the industry are not willing to participate in effective independent regulation, my own concluded view is to reject the notion that they should escape regulation altogether. I cannot, and will not, recommend another last chance saloon for the press. With some measure of regret, therefore, I am driven to conclude that the Government should be ready to consider the need for a statutory backstop regulator being established, to ensure, at the least, that the press are subject to regulation that would require the fullest compliance with the criminal and civil law, if not also to ensure consequences equivalent to those that would flow from an independent self-regulatory system.***"

Please act on behalf of us all, to ensure that our press is regulated, and that people have recourse to redress, and strongly recommend to Parliament that the key 'guaranteed access to justice incentive' (section 40 of the Crime and Courts Act) is brought into effect as Parliament had intended.

With many thanks for acting on this important issue to help secure the freedoms (through this most minimal regulation) for us all.