

I am firmly of the view that the press is still attempting to escape proper regulation. Previous efforts at self-regulation have come unstuck as soon as the 'regulator' was unprepared to deal with the press as the facts of the case required.

My understanding of Leveson is that he wished legislation to govern the regulatory framework, and that David Cameron persuaded the Commons to substitute a Royal Charter for the framework law Leveson envisaged. This Royal Charter framework has been abused, and has clearly failed to ensure proper regulation of the press. Leveson himself said that he rejected the notion that the press should escape regulation altogether, and that he could not recommend another last chance saloon for the press. His solution in these circumstances was for a statutory backstop regulator to be established by law. This is what I wish to see happen, and expect you to recommend in the light of Lord Leveson's conclusions.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Clive R Sneddon