

1. I am concerned that the press are not cooperating with regulation as Leveson recommended and that the Government is not going to force them to. Leveson said that if the press do not cooperate Government should set up a *statutory backstop regulator or 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.* This is a minimal response and Government has a duty to do this.
2. In the meantime you should recommend to Parliament in the strongest terms that the “guaranteed access to justice incentive” section 40 of the Crime and Courts Act should be brought into effect as Parliament recommended.

It is not acceptable that once the fuss has died down the press barons should be able to continue harassing and libelling anyone who is not rich enough to sue them.

Yours sincerely,

Colin Butler MBE