

I understand that the Press Recognition Panel has been setup to assess whether press self regulators have met the criteria set out by the Leveson Report and that the PRP will report on this to parliament.

I would like Parliament to be reminded what the Leveson Report said should happen if the industry refused to comply. 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.***"

I completely agree that business as usual for the corporate press industry is no longer sustainable for this country. For this reason I fully support that regardless of whether the PRP recognises any compliant regulator exists that the PRP should strongly recommend to parliament that key 'guaranteed access to justice incentive' (section 40 of the Crime and Courts Act) should be brought into effect as Parliament had intended.

Failure to implement this key recommendation from the Leveson Report has left the response from parliament as unfinished. There is no incentive on the corporate press industry to improve the way in which they go about running the print media.

Best Wishes for your consultation and for recommending meaningful action on an addressing the issues laid bare in the Leveson Report,

Glen Forde