

The PRP should remind Parliament what the Leveson Report said should happen if the industry tried to veto his recommendations and refused to comply with them.

The Leveson Report said: "...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."

In the meantime, regardless of whether or not IMPRESS is recognised by the PRP, it should recommend strongly 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.

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