



Press Recognition Panel
Mappin House
4 Winsley Street
London W1W 8HF

Owen Meredith
Head of Public Affairs
PPA
35-38 New Bridge Street
London EC4V 6BW

By email only
Owen.Meredith@ppa.co.uk

19 August 2016

Dear Owen

Thank you for your letter dated 18 August 2016 and the PPA's continuing interest in our work.

I note that you have seen a copy of the NMA's letter to us. We have responded to this, and, as is our usual practice, their letter and our response can be found on our website should you be interested in reading it.

I am pleased that you have felt that you have been kept informed on our work. Notwithstanding there being no requirement to do so, we decided that we would act as openly as possible and would welcome and take into account input from others as appropriate. We have made it very clear that we would happily receive input on any aspect of our work from any sources at any time; and that we would happily meet with anyone to discuss any aspect of our work at any time. That remains the case. As you know, a wide range of people and organisations have taken up those offers. We will ensure that the Board consider the points you make in your letter; do let me know if you would like to arrange a meeting to discuss these matters, or any other aspect of our work at any time.

I note your concern that other factors may compromise the PRP's independence when it decides the IMPRESS application on 23 August. They will not. The Board will reach a final view (for the first time) on whether or not IMPRESS meet all 29 criteria (numbered 1 to 23) set out in the Royal Charter on 23 August 2016.

As for the meeting, itself: it will be open to the public in accordance with our policy to that effect. However, given that it is for the Board to make a decision on the application, the discussion will be among Board members, with input from the Executive team and the opportunity, if the need arises, to seek further information from the applicant regulator. The date of the meeting simply flowed from the operation of the procedure which we set out and

adopted last year for processing applications – this was the first scheduled Board meeting after those processes (including the calls for information, etc.) had concluded.

I hope that this will reassure you as to the way in which we have proceeded and intend to proceed. Do let me know if not or if there are further points on these or any other matters which you would like us to take into account at any time. As above, I would be happy to meet if that would assist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Wolfe', with a large, stylized initial 'D' and 'W'.

David Wolfe
Chair of the Press Recognition Panel