

Dear Sir

I am a member of the public who believes passionately that the Leveson Report should be delivered fully and effectively. I have been dismayed by the ways in which the mainstream press has sought to avoid this. I have considered the consultation and read Hacked Off's submission to the PRP consultation, and am particularly conscious that it reflects the many victims of press abuse. I fully support that submission.

One issue which I am passionate about in a press regulator is arbitration, and in response to the Consultation I would like to draw your attention to my views (which I share with Hacked Off) on how the PRP should apply the Charter criteria in respect of this particular matter below. If the process is to work to the benefit of those abused by the press, it seems important that you make clear that:

- *All subscribers must be members of the arbitration scheme*
- *Subscribers should not be permitted to "pick and choose" which cases to take to arbitration.*

*In respect of "possible evidence" for the above, contracts will need to demonstrate that membership is conditional on membership of the arbitration scheme and that there is no power for a subscriber to elect not to use arbitration in any individual case (other than by agreement with the claimant or by a decision of the arbitrator)*

- *the opt-out of arbitration scheme membership for subscribers who publish only on a local or regional basis on Schedule 2 paras 6 & 7 is only available after a cyclical review.*

One of the most obvious unfairness in this field is the huge disparity in power and resources between newspapers and those claiming redress. It therefore is important that there is "equality of arms" for legal

representation. Therefore, the PRP needs to be clear that any cap on a claimant's recoverable costs and expenses must be set at a fair and reasonable level and that the PRP will require this to be determined in a way which has regard to the need to achieve an equality of arms in the relevant arbitration.

There are a lot of people's hopes resting on you- please do not let us down

Yours sincerely

**Graham Winyard**