

Dear Sir or Madam

I am writing out of a deep concern that this countries newspaper industry has refused to establish an independent self-regulation system that will meet the criteria set out by the Leveson report.

Parliament should be reminded by the PRP what the Leveson Report said should happen if the industry tried to veto his recommendations and 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."

In the meantime, regardless of whether IMPRESS is recognised by the PRP, the PRP should strongly recommend to Parliament that the key 'guaranteed access to justice incentive' (section 40 of the Crime and Courts Act) should be brought into effect as Parliament had intended.

If the newspaper industry has any honour and decency it should simply comply with the Leveson Report. After hacking of so many peoples phones and the smears on peoples lifes that this led too, the only way to even start and regain a positive reputation is too sign up to the Leveson Report. To do nothing leaves the Newspaper industry dictating to the rest of us mere mortals and laughing in the face of the will of the people as expressed through its democratically elected parliament.

Yours faithfully

David M Johnson