

***In your opinion, has the new system for overseeing press regulation in the UK been a success or failure so far? Please explain your reasons.***

***I believe it has been a failure both Leveson and I anticipated this response.***

They will cite freedom of the press; however, freedom carries responsibility and press freedom does not mean that the press should not be held to account. We are all accountable and we all need to accept responsibility for regulating our behaviour. If they are not prepared to accept that, then they will have forced statutory control.

***2. For publishers, joining an approved regulator is voluntary. For regulators, applying for Charter recognition is voluntary. In your opinion, what factors or issues will affect regulators' and publishers' decisions when they consider these choices?***

Simple...the consequences of not joining.

Leveson believed it would only have a chance to work if publishers were offered incentives for joining and proposed an incentive scheme. Ordinary people would be guaranteed access to justice through low-cost arbitration and the publishers would be freed from chilling and potential court costs.

Leveson recommended that this measure should have been achieved by section 40 of the Crime and Courts Act 2013: a critical part of the Royal Charter system which Leveson recommended in outline terms.

I urge the PRP to recommend to Parliament and the Government that section 40 is "commenced" as soon as possible, as it is integral to the system of recognition & incentives system.

Kind Regards,

Ken Flood