



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

Mr Crispin Blunt MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Sent by email only

3 April 2018

Request for a meeting

Dear Mr Blunt,

I am writing to request a meeting to discuss the system of press regulation that was put in place following the Leveson Inquiry.

As you know, in 2014, the Press Recognition Panel (PRP) was established by Royal Charter as the independent body to oversee press regulation. We have discharged our duties independently, cost-effectively and transparently.

The recognition system was intended to protect the freedom of the press and provide public protections. However, section 40 of the Crime and Courts Act 2014 has not been commenced, meaning that public protections are not in place.

We are particularly keen to discuss matters with you now, given the widespread misunderstanding and misinformation about the recognition system contemplated by the Charter and Crime and Courts Act 2013, and about how the sector has changed since then.

The PRP notes that following the consultation on the Leveson Inquiry and its implementation, the Government plans to ask Parliament to repeal section 40. The PRP has grave concerns about this and about the ongoing level of political involvement in these matters.

It is the PRP's independent view that section 40 should be commenced immediately to provide the public protections that Parliament intended following the Leveson inquiry.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Wolfe', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

David Wolfe QC
Chair of the Press Recognition Panel