

**APPENDIX B - Extract from Communications Committee hearings - Will  
Lewis on editorial independence (9<sup>th</sup> January 2008)**

**Q1413 Baroness Bonham-Carter of Yarnbury:** Does he give you particular guidance as to the types of stories or the slant of the stories or the editorials?

Mr Lewis: No. Obviously, they own the company, it is their company, we are implementing their strategy, it is their belief that the future of Telegraph Media Group lies not just in producing newspapers but also confidently marching into the digital arena, and we are paid to implement their strategies. So lots of our conversations, you would expect, would revolve around how we are doing implementing that strategy. What they are very clear about though, and I think this is quite important, is he has never and would never ask what is in the paper the next day and, even more clearly, owning a newspaper I suspect is quite a tricky business at times because often you would find in your own newspaper something written about an acquaintance or someone you have worked with that may or may not be to their satisfaction, and you might receive a complaint about that directly. What the proprietor is very clear about is that he will always listen to that from the person directly, but always point them my way so that the editor function is the place where he goes to be dealt with in compliance with codes and other things. That for me is absolutely critical.