For Distribution to CPs



From the Chairman

20 November 2007

Jim McDowell Esq Northern Editor Sunday World 3-5 Commercial Court Belfast BT1 2NB

Year Vin

Thank you for your letter of November 13.

You make a powerful point about the particular difficulties you face in revealing evidence in some cases because of the subject matter of the stories. But sometimes all we require is a brief explanation of those difficulties so that the Commission as a whole can assess whether it is in a position to pursue the matter further. Often this will mean that the complaint is quickly discontinued without a lengthy investigation – for instance, if the Commission does not have suitable powers to investigate the matter or if it is an issue more suited to the courts. As we cannot, for obvious reasons, assume that all cases are the same, we have to assess each complaint on its merits. This means that it may sometimes be necessary to have something from you about the background.

So you would be very welcome at Halton House any time. I think a meeting would be helpful in developing a mutual understanding.

With kind regards.

__ Sir Christopher Meyer

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