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The Rt. Hon. the Lord Luce, KG, GCVO

Personal



House of Lords, London, SW1A 0PW

15 October 2010

24/11

3.30

Lords Lobby

The Baroness Buscombe
The Chairman
Press Complaints Commission
Halton House
20/23 High Holborn
London
EC1N 2JD

Dear Petra

I was very grateful for your letters of 23 March and 18 May about the PCC. I have now read the outcome of the Governance Review and I am glad to know that there are a considerable number of 'nuts and bolts' recommendations to strengthen transparency, independence and accountability. I imagine you are now involved in deciding how to move this forward.

There are of course questions in my mind which go somewhat beyond the terms of reference of the Governance Review. They concern the strength of the powers to be proactive in investigations (hacking might be one example); the use of financial sanctions and the resources available to pursue this use. I entirely share the view that self-regulation of the press is the best option but that requires the PCC to be fully equipped to meet that objective.

I realise how busy you are. I would welcome taking up your kind offer of a general chat this autumn, but perhaps it is easier on a more informal basis, such as over tea in the Lords. I will ring your office to see what is possible.

With kind regards

W
Rich

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