



Dr Lynne Jones MP

Labour Member of Parliament for Birmingham Selly Oak
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Please quote reference
in all correspondence

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Sir Christopher Meyer
Chairman, Press Complaints Commission
1 Salisbury Square
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Date: 17 July 2003

Dear Sir Christopher,

Belatedly, I am writing to thank you for your letter dated 30 April (copy enclosed for ease of reference) regarding the protection of transsexual people as individuals and as a vulnerable group.

I was pleased to receive your positive response, a copy of which I circulated at the last meeting of the Parliamentary Forum on Transsexualism, in June. The Forum discussed your offer of sending a PCC representative to any forthcoming meetings and we should like to invite a representative to attend the next Forum meeting on 17 September at Portcullis House at 5pm. I should be grateful if the relevant person could contact my assistant, Ingrid on 020 7219 4190 to agree arrangements. At our June meeting the Forum also agreed that we should like to make a reciprocal offer for a representative of the Forum to give a presentation to the PCC to help improve understanding and awareness.

I noted in your letter that you were to ask the Code of Practice Committee to consider whether the protection against pejorative comments about an individual's transsexualism could be made more explicit in Clause 13 of the Code. I should be grateful if you could let me know the outcome of their deliberations.

Turning to the last paragraph of your letter, I was encouraged to note that you wished to pursue the issue of considering whether offensive references to groups of people could be included in the PCC's Charter. I should be very interested to hear of any developments in this regard and I am grateful for your offer to keep me informed of your discussions. If I can be of any help in providing information to assist, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,


LYNNE JONES MP