PRESS COMPLAINTS COMMISSION

From the Chairman

20 December 2007

Ken Livingstone Esq Mayor of London City Hall The Queen's Walk More London London SE1 2AA

Jear Mr. Diringstone,

Thank you for sending me a copy of the report In Search of Common Ground.

It is an interesting document, and I have one or two comments.

First, any evidence of newspapers breaking the rules set out in the Editors' Code of Practice should be brought to our attention immediately.

Second, while the report correctly highlights that it is worthwhile complaining to the PCC because editors do not like being reported to us, it is wrong to suggest that complaints cannot already be made about inaccuracy or distortion in relation to groups of people. It is the rules on discrimination that concern named individuals. We can and do take complaints about inaccuracies relating to groups.

Third, it seems that some of the suggestions might be worth discussing at the Editors' Code of Practice Committee – the body that writes and reviews the content of the Code. I will therefore send a copy to the Committee so that it can discuss the report at its next meeting.

With kind regards.

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