For Distribution to CPs

PRESS COMPLAINTS COMMISSION

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

From the Director

Rt. Hon. Nick Clegg MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

18 February 2008

Den W. Uyg,

I have been meaning to write since your election as leader of the Liberal Democrats – for which many congratulations – to see if you would be interested in a private chat about the PCC, and in particular what it can do to help the families of those in public life.

We find that many public figures – while prepared to tolerate a degree of additional scrutiny about themselves – are eager to be reassured about how the media should treat their families. You may know that the PCC oversees a number of rules concerning how British newspapers and magazines should handle stories about people's private lives or about their children. And – in addition to its well known function as a conciliator and adjudicator of formal complaints against newspapers, magazines, and their websites – the PCC has a more informal role in giving private advice and issuing advisory notices to the press on certain issues. This may include dealing discreetly with potentially intrusive newsgathering methods before anything is published.

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If you (or your wife) would like to talk about any of this further then please do let me know. My e-mail address is tim.toulmin@pcc.org.uk or I can be reached on 020 74381242.

With kind regards.

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Tim Toulmin

