

PRESS COMPLAINTS COMMISSION

From the Director

Robin Burgess Esq
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9th February

Dear Robin,

Thank you for your letter of 5th February.

I do understand the point you are making. Our current (and longstanding) policy has always been to place complaints that raise no *prima facie* breach of the Code before the Commission without informing the relevant newspapers. This is because we receive well over 500 such complaints every year, and do not wish to trouble busy editors with correspondence to which they feel they have to reply. If an editor did decide to reply, we would need to pass it on to the complainant, and we would end up prolonging the process unduly.

That said, in cases involving prominent members of a small community, I see that it would be helpful for us to warn editors of the existence of a complaint. I will pass that on to the complaints department for future reference.

With kind regards.

Tim

Tim Toulmin

Toulmin

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