

PCC publishes two key privacy adjudications

It has rejected complaints from the television actor Leslie Grantham against several newspapers over an allegation that his BBC employers, following reports that Mr Grantham had committed an explicit act on the internet, had ordered him to undergo treatment for a sex addiction. The complainant's solicitors contended that this reference was intrusive in breach of Clause 3 (Privacy) of the Code. The Commission concluded that none of the articles referred to any details of an actual diagnosis or treatment. The articles merely discussed the position adopted by the BBC at the end of a widely-reported controversy, and the Commission did not therefore consider that they contained private details in breach of the Code. To read the full adjudication [click here](#)

The second complaint was from a former Ambulance Technician against the News of the World under Clauses 1 (Accuracy), 3 (Privacy), 4 (Harassment), 8 (Listening Devices) and 11 (Misrepresentation) of the old Code of Practice. The article had revealed that - while working for the health service - the complainant was a 'secret vice girl' who took part in group sex sessions, citing evidence of her behaviour which had been obtained using clandestine methods. The Commission found that the newspaper was able to provide convincing evidence of the extent of the complainant's sexual activity, and considered that it was clearly in the public interest for the newspaper to have exposed how a health worker was compromising her sexual health in such a blatant way. In light of the strong public interest, the Commission rejected all the complaints. To read the full adjudication [click here](#)

ENDS

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