

**THIRD WITNESS STATEMENT OF PETER OBORNE  
DATED 18 July 2012**

I, Peter Osborne, of Unit 12 Lightbox Power Road, London W4 5PY, say as follows:

I make this third witness statement further to my oral evidence to the inquiry on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2012. I would like to correct or clarify four remarks:

1. Page 7: Robert Shrimmsley has emailed me to say he is not a Labour supporter.. He says that he is an impartial journalist who feels free to write critical pieces about politicians of all parties. I completely accept this.
2. Page 20: I said in evidence that I had never attended a News International party at a party conference. I now recall that I did attend an NI party and a Times party, both several years ago.
3. Page 39: I said in evidence that I was 'absolutely clear that no request came my way from the Conservative Party' to write about Mr McMillan-Scott. Since I simply cannot remember exactly what caused me to write the piece, I feel I should not have been as categoric as I was when giving oral testimony about the circumstances surrounding the piece.
4. Exhibit One to my first Witness Statement. I stated that this was a draft article for the Political Quarterly to be published in the summer. Sadly the piece has since been rejected by Political Quarterly. I am now looking for another outlet for it.

I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

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Peter Osborne

17 July 2012