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Press Complaints Commission

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From the Director

The Rt Hon Tessa Jowell, MP,
Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport,
2-4 Cockspur Street,
London,
SW1Y 5DH

19th February 2003

Dear Secretary of State,

Select Committee Inquiry into Privacy and Media Intrusion

It was very good to see you at the meeting of the Society of Editors last week. I thought the discussion was most useful.

As promised, I am pleased to enclose a copy of the Press Complaints Commission's submission to the inquiry by the Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee into privacy and media intrusion. We will be publishing the document on Thursday 27th February and I would be grateful if you could treat it as confidential until then.

The submission – the fullest and most detailed account of our work that has ever been published - looks at every detail of our activities, including principally:

- our track record in resolving complaints and our service to the public;
- the success of the editors' Code and the way in which it has raised standards;
- privacy, especially in relation to ordinary people;
- the way the PCC publicises its service (including details of the MORI poll I mentioned);
- our structures and procedures; and
- our work in a European and international context.

I hope you find the document – which is designed to underline our accountability and our transparency - informative. I also enclose a copy of the supporting material for information.

Christopher Meyer and I are coming to see you at the start of April when we can discuss these and any other issues you would like to raise. But, of course, if there is anything with which we can assist in the meantime, then your Private Office has only to ask.

With best wishes.

Tom Ever,
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