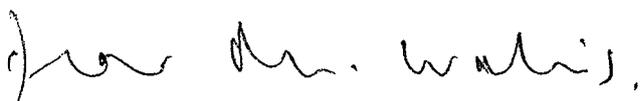


**PRESS COMPLAINTS COMMISSION**

*From the Director*

Diana Wallis MEP  
Vice-President  
European Parliament  
Rue Wiertz  
Brussels 1047  
BELGIUM

30 May 2008



It was a pleasure to meet you in Brussels recently and discuss the work of the PCC. I hope you found it a useful meeting.

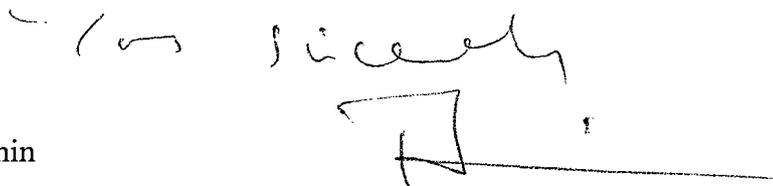
I thought you might like to see a copy of the PCC's 2007 annual report. This year, we have tried to illustrate the range of what we do by using real case studies from complaints made to us last year. In addition to highlighting some of the better known aspects of the Commission's work – such as achieving prominent corrections and apologies, and continuing to adjudicate on issues of personal privacy – the report also shows how we work behind the scenes to protect vulnerable people from media scrums and intrusive approaches by journalists. The cases involving the families of Sally Clarke and Gary Newlove demonstrate this.

There are two other key features of this report. The first concerns privacy. 2007 was a record year for complaints about alleged intrusion. We take this as a sign of confidence in the Commission's work. While legal actions about privacy perhaps understandably dominate the headlines, there is clearly a growing appetite for the PCC's discreet service. This is because we operate a 'one-stop shop' for people's concerns - which range from the physical behaviour of journalists through to published articles or pictures in print and online.

The second significant feature of 2007 was the extension of the Commission's remit to cover audio-visual material on newspaper and magazine websites. The report sets out how the Commission has adapted to this challenge, and argues that any regulatory intervention in digital communications in future must be light touch.

I hope you enjoy our report. Do please let me know if you would like further information about the PCC.

With kind regards.



Tim Toulmin

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