For Distribution to CPs

SWY TO OTHERS

PRESS COMPLAINTS COMMISSION &

From the Chairman

Irene Oldfather MSP Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

28 July 2010

Dew Irene,

I would like to invite you to join me at a Question and Answer session for MSPs on the work of the Press Complaints Commission at Holyrood on Wednesday 15 September, between 6pm and 8pm. The event is being held in conjunction with the Cross-Party Group on Culture and Media, and will be chaired by Cathy Peattie MSP.

The purpose of the event is to open up the workings of the Commission, so that there is better awareness of the important public service offered by the PCC. Last year, the PCC helped a record number of people obtain redress against the press, and I would very much like the opportunity to explain to you how our free services work in practice. Through our work issuing rulings on complaints made under the Editors' Code of Practice, the PCC performs a vital function in raising press standards, as well as working to prevent harassment and media intrusion.

The panel will include three members of the Commission as well as myself and Cathy Peattie: the editor of The Scotsman, John McLellan; the former MSP John Home Robertson; and the Director (non-Executive) of the Scottish Council for Development and Industry, Esther Roberton. Stephen Abell, Director of the PCC, will also be joining us. We hope to have a broad range of questions from MSPs, including enquiries about high-profile cases and how the Commission protects people's privacy.

I enclose a flyer with more details about the evening. You might also find it helpful to look at the PCC's latest annual report online, which explains our work in more detail: www.pcc.org.uk/review09.

So that we have an idea of numbers, it would be helpful if you could confirm whether you would like to attend. Please RSVP to pr please do feel free to give me a call on 020 7831 0022 if you would like more information. Researchers are also very welcome to attend.

I hope to see you on 15 September. We are here to help both you and your constituents.

With kind regards.

Your Sweedy,

Baroness F

cc: Constituency office

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