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Press Complaints Commission

By fax: 00 322 287 8398

From the Chairman

John Grant Esq CMG
UK Permanent Representative to the European Union
10 avenue d'Auderghem
1040 Brussels
Belgium

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Dear John,

I should be most grateful for a piece of advice.

At the PCC we are becoming increasingly concerned about the impact of EU Directives on self-regulation. I suppose that this was first triggered by the Market Abuse Directive (MAD) and its implication for financial journalism. There are other things out there as well; and the issue will, I am told, be on the agenda of next month's meeting of European Press Councils.

Discussion of MAD revealed a certain level of ignorance among Commission officials about self-regulation and the PCC's remit. I plan, therefore, to come to Brussels at the right moment to talk all this through with the new Commissioner for Information Society and Media and her staff.

I have two questions: is now a good moment to approach Viviane Reding or should we let her get her feet under the desk; and is there anyone else in the Brussels/Strasbourg firmament, whom you would recommend us to see? I would plan to see Peter Mandelson in any event.

All things being equal, I would like to do this as soon as possible. It would, I hope, also give me the opportunity to see you (and Antony Vinall, who has been helpful on a quite separate matter).

*Yours ever,
Christopher*

Sir Christopher Meyer

1 Salisbury Square London EC4Y 8JB Telephone 020 7353 1248 Facsimile 020 7353 8355
Textphone for deaf and hard of hearing: 020 7583 2264
email: complaints@pcc.org.uk web site: www.pcc.org.uk

