For Distribution to CPs

PCC initiates investigation into Daily Telegraph under Clause 10 of the Editors' Code

The PCC has today confirmed that it has initiated an investigation into the use of subterfuge by the Daily Telegraph, which led to reports of comments made by Liberal Democrat MPs published in December 2010.

The PCC was contacted by around 200 members of the public on this subject, and proactively sought the comments of party representatives. The President of the Liberal Democrats has today written to the PCC and asked it to investigate the issue.

A PCC spokesman said: "We have now received a letter from the Liberal Democrats asking us formally to investigate. We will do so under Clause 10 (Clandestine devices and subterfuge) of the Editors' Code of Practice.

ENDS

13 January 2011