

THE PRESS STANDARDS BOARD OF FINANCE LIMITED
Editors' Code of Practice Committee

PRESS INFORMATION

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The Editors' Codebook goes online

The Editors' Code of Practice Committee, which writes and revises the voluntary code of standards overseen by the Press Complaints Commission, has launched its own website:
<http://www.editorscode.org.uk>

A major feature of the site is a digital version of *The Editors' Codebook*, the official handbook to the Code, first published in 2004 jointly by the Newspaper Publishers Association, the Newspaper Society, the Periodical Publishers Association, the Scottish Daily Newspaper Society and the Scottish Newspaper Publishers Association.

The book has been redesigned to ensure that it is easily downloaded and readable, both onscreen and in print-out format. It is now reduced from 100-plus pages to 65pp (with increased content) with active links to section headings and colour-coded Briefing panels.

Code Committee Secretary Ian Beales, who wrote the Codebook, said: "Our aim is to create greater access to the Code and to the Code Committee's work.

"Besides the online Codebook, the site also includes answers to frequently asked questions, guidance notes, press releases and a history of how the Code has evolved since 1991.

"Putting the Codebook online makes particular sense because it can be updated regularly, enhancing its value to editors, journalists – and to the public.

"We expect the website to continue to evolve. In fact, putting the Codebook online is only the first stage in the first major revision since it was published.

"While the content has been updated to take account of changes to the Code since 2004, later case histories have not yet been included. These will be introduced as part of a second stage revision next year.

"Our hope is that by making the book more user-friendly it will become an even more essential tool in making self regulation work," said Beales.

Visitors to the site will be able to subscribe to receive Code updates and other Code Committee news by email, at no charge.

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