Press Recognition Panel
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Sent by email

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The independent Press Recognition Panel (PRP) was established by Royal Charter following the Leveson Inquiry as part of the new system of regulatory oversight to ensure the freedom of the press whilst also protecting the interests of the public.

The PRP is entirely independent of politicians, Parliament, the press or any other such interest. Our Charter lists 29 criteria for press regulators which, if met, ensure they are independent, properly funded and able to protect the public. The PRP's role is to assess regulators against the 29 criteria and to recognise them, if they meet them all.

Our Charter requires us to report annually on any success or failure of the recognition system, and we will fulfil this requirement when we publish our third report on the system in autumn 2018.

To help inform the report, we are gathering views on the extent to which the recognition system has succeeded in its aims. We welcome Google's views.

We are often asked to give a view on whether (in particular) the complaints (and any arbitration) systems operated by some news organisations meet the Charter criteria and to give an indication of the extent to which the public safeguards intended by the post-Leveson system of regulation are in place on a voluntary basis.

As part of our report, we will provide a high-level assessment of Google and other significant publishers from across the press landscape. We consider it to be in the public interest for us to assess them as part of our consideration of how far the public is currently protected from potential harm. We will undertake this assessment based on facts available to us.

We are obviously keen to ensure that what we say is as fully informed as possible. Is there any information that you would like to provide to assist us with this? We will obviously publish your response and any information supplied.

If there is anything that you would find it useful for us to clarify in relation to our work, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

David Wolfe
Chair
Press Recognition Panel