For Distribution to CPs

PCC publishes two adjudications

It has upheld a complaint against the Mail on Sunday from Louise Miliband, the wife of David Miliband MP, under Clause 3 (Privacy) of the Code. The article, which discussed the couple's recent adoption of a child, referred to a specific detail about the complainant's health. The Commission considered that "the paper had put into the public domain - without consent - a highly intrusive story. The result was a serious breach of the Code. The Commission had no hesitation in upholding the complaint".

The adjudication was published in yesterday's newspaper. To read the full text click here

The PCC has rejected a complaint against the Sunday Express from the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott MP, over articles relating to evacuation plans for London in the event of a terrorist attack. The complaint was framed under Clauses 1 (Accuracy) and 2 (Opportunity to reply). The Commission took the opportunity firstly to make clear that it was not precluded from taking complaints from government departments or similar organisations, although it indicated that there may be "certain times - during an election campaign, for instance - [when] it would be appropriate to suspend the investigation of complaints of a political nature". In this case, the Commission ruled that there were no significant inaccuracies such as to breach Clause 1 and that, therefore, no opportunity to reply was required under Clause 2 of the Code.

To read the full adjudication click here

ENDS

For further information please call Stephen Abell on 020 7353 1248

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