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THE LEVESON INQUIRY INTO THE CULTURE, PRACTICES AND ETHICS OF THE PRESS

SUPPLEMENTAL WITNESS STATEMENT OF CARLA BUZASI

- 1. I am Editor-in-Chief of The Huffington Post UK. I make this supplementary statement to clarify two issues raised in the course of my oral evidence to the Inquiry on 8 February 2012.
- 2. First, in light of the exchange recoded at paragraph 84 of the transcript, I wish to clarify the position in relation to user comments on Huffington Post UK. As explained at paragraphs 10 to 17 of my statement dated 3 February 2012, Huffington Post has five primary sources of content:
 - (a) Original journalism
 - (b) Licensed content
 - (c) Curated content
 - (d) Blogs
 - (e) User comments
- 3. Blogs and user comments are distinct sections of the site.
- 4. Users may make comments on any content on the Huffington Post service, including original content, blog posts, or on other users' comments. The way we deal with those comments is exactly the same whatever the content that the user is commenting on. Our Comments Policy is published on the Huffington Post UK site, and I comment on our procedures at paragraphs 17 and 19-21 of my first statement.
- 5. Second, I would like to clarify my position in relation to whether or not press regulation should be placed on a statutory footing. In the exchange recorded at page 91 of the transcript I sought to make the point that the press, including online media, is already subject to an extensive legal and regulatory regime, (a point I also made at

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paragraph 25 of my written statement) and that, of course, the press should be held accountable by the Courts and regulatory authorities for any breaches of the law or existing regulatory regimes, whether that be a breach of civil law or a criminal offence. It does not seem to me that imposing further statutory regulation or other legally binding obligations on the press is likely to resolve the sorts of issues that have given rise to this inquiry.

6. STATEMENT OF TRUTH

7. I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed

CARLA BUZASI

Dated

2/3/12