1 1 The Telegraph was and remains appalled at the (2.00 pm)2 revelations about phone hacking which led to this 3 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Right. Well? 3 Inquiry being established. Such activities are a very 4 4 Closing submissions by MR MILLAR long way removed from the responsible journalism in the 5 MR MILLAR: Sir, I appear on behalf of the Telegraph Media 5 public interest which the Telegraph strives to provide 6 6 to its readers. And, as we've said at paragraph 21 in 7 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes, after ten months, Mr Millar, 7 our written submission, when something has gone wrong, 8 8 I've got that. newspapers should own up and seek to put it right. 9 MR MILLAR: Thank you for the opportunity to address the 9 This has to happen in relation to phone hacking and 10 10 Inquiry and the time allocated to my client to do so. all other unlawful and unethical journalistic practices 11 We have, just for the record, put in full written 11 identified by this Inquiry. 12 submissions 12 The evidence of Murdoch MacLennan, TMG's chief LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I have seen them, I have them in 13 13 executive, was that phone hacking was, and I quote, 14 front of me and I can assist you by saying I've read 14 "non-existent" at the Telegraph. He was able to say 15 them. They will, of course, be published. 15 this with confidence. First, when this Inquiry was set 16 MR MILLAR: I'm very grateful. 16 up, TMG carried out a thorough internal review going 17 The aim of these submissions is not to, insofar as 17 back to 2005 that found no evidence that any Telegraph 18 that's possible, repeat what's in the written 18 journalist has been involved in any hacking or indeed 19 19 submissions. I do, however, want to say a few words at any criminal conduct at all during this period. 20 the outset about phone hacking and unlawful or unethical 20 Moreover, none of the Telegraph titles appear in the 21 journalistic practices generally. 21 so-called "league table" produced by the Information 22 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Mr Millar, I'd be very grateful for 22 Commissioner identifying newspapers which had sought 23 that because I take the point you make about the 23 access to private data through the private investigator 24 24 Telegraph's position, which you make very clearly in Steve Whittamore. That, of course, goes back before 25 your submissions, but of course I won't be addressing 25 2005. Page 1 Page 3 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: You'll forgive me, Mr Millar, if 1 the Telegraph in terms, or indeed any of the titles in 1 2 terms, because I'm seeking to address the culture, 2 I accept of course what you've said and I understand 3 3 what Mr MacLennan said about the research that he'd practice and ethics of the press or a section of the 4 press, and therefore the assistance I'm seeking from you 4 done, but just so that it's known, I would be surprised 5 and from others, as I suggested this morning, is really 5 if the Information Commissioner happened to alight upon 6 6 concerned with the conclusions I should reach about the the only private detective in the country who was 7 overall position. 7 working for media clients. I'm not for a moment 8 MR MILLAR: Yes. 8 suggesting the Telegraph were involved in anything. 9 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: And I appreciate that you can say, 9 MR MILLAR: I understand. 10 "Well, we run our title, we don't run the other titles", 10 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: But you understand the point I'm 11 and I can only then ask you to have listened to all the 11 12 12 evidence I've heard and help me reach what conclusions MR MILLAR: I understand, but one can only work with the 13 I should reach about culture, practice and ethics. 13 evidence one has. 14 MR MILLAR: Yes, I will be endeavouring to do that. 14 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Of course, I quite understand. 15 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: That's fine. MR MILLAR: We believe that all of this is because of the 15 MR MILLAR: But it would be remiss of me not to say at least 16 16 high professional standards the Telegraph insists upon 17 a word at the outset about those matters. 17 from its journalists. And -- and this is important --18 Then I want to focus on, time being limited, 18 in the unlikely event that it were to find itself with, 19 essentially three things. 19 if I can put it this way, one rogue reporter, the 20 20 First, as you've mentioned, sir, the culture, Telegraph has strict financial and editorial governance 21 practices and ethics of the press, the area you're asked 21 systems. These would quite simply make it impossible 22 22 to explore into in part 1 of your Inquiry. Secondly, for such a reporter to pay private investigators to 23 23 the future of the press in the Internet age. And gather information illegally or to pay bribes. 24 thirdly, the future regulation of the press, as to which 24 You, sir, I know, appreciate that not all British 25 25 you must now make your recommendations. newspapers are open to the sorts of charges of Page 2 Page 4

1 malpractice that led to this Inquiry being established.
2 The Telegraph is a prime example of one which is not.
3 But it is important also that the public and our
4 politicians understand that this is the case and that we
5 start from that understanding.

budgets.

With those introductory comments, I turn to my and your first heading: the culture, practices and ethics of the press.

It's logical to consider first the historical issues identified at subparagraphs 1(c) and 1(d) of your terms of reference, namely the extent to which the current regulatory framework has failed and the extent to which there was a failure to act on previous warnings about media misconduct.

As to the current regulatory framework, that is by now, of course, well known. PressBoF, the Press Board of Finance, raises funding from the industry to support the system of self-regulation in its entirety. You've heard evidence indicating that it's been very successful in doing this in the years since its inception in 1990. Over £30 million-worth of funding has been provided to the Press Complaints Commission via PressBoF during this period. It's funded the PCC in full against agreed

This is not something to be sniffed at in times when Page 5

whether to grant relief which might affect the right to freedom of expression.

The relevant provisions of the Editors' Code had only recently been updated to comply with the contemporary European Convention on Human Rights standards, and Parliament did so. It enacted section 12(4) with the privacy provisions of the Code in mind, and that surely represents a valuable endorsement of the Code.

It's easy to forget the numerous specific achievements of the Editors' Code Committee. For example, you, sir, I'm sure will recall, as many of us who practised in the 1980s and 1990s will, that witnesses at criminal trials were very often bought up by certain newspapers.

This presented problems for the administration of justice, in particular as to their credibility at trial.

The Editors' Code Committee introduced clear and tough rules, now under paragraph 15, setting out the limited -- extremely limited -- circumstances in which such payments might justifiably be made. These rules have been complied with and since then that particular problem -- one of that age, if I can put it that way -- has effectively disappeared.

Secondly, the rules on subterfuge were revised in Page 7

public funding for regulators is under serious pressure as a result of the financial crisis.

The PCC deals with complaints but the rules applied in doing so are written and updated by editors in the Editors' Code Committee, a subcommittee of PressBoF. TMG, as you know, is a strong supporter of the Editors' Code.

Now the evidence on the topic has concluded, we would suggest a number of key points need to be remembered about the Code.

First and most importantly, the Code has received widespread acceptance across the industry during its time in existence. We would suggest that that is precisely because it is drafted by editors who are working in newspapers and magazines and who understand how they operate.

Secondly, this process permits the Code to be updated regularly to keep pace with developments, both in society and in the industry, and indeed the continuous flow of PCC adjudications. This can happen without undue formality or delay under the current system.

Thirdly, in 1998, Parliament enacted section 12(4) of the Human Rights Act, requiring courts to take account of any relevant privacy code when considering Page 6

2007 following the Goodman/Mulcaire convictions to cover
 the activities of journalistic sources and agents, such
 as private detectives. That's paragraph 10(2). And

successive updates of the Code, as I say, responding to concerns about newspaper activities, have protected both children and hospital patients when the subject of press

7 activity.

The predecessor of the PCC, the Press Council, had not managed to introduce an editorial code at all, and it's easy to lose sight of the effect that the Editors'
Code has had more generally since 1990 in changing practices in the vast majority of newsrooms. Where an issue arises that is covered by the Code, the relevant provisions are considered and applied in most newsrooms. It does not seem to us that any of the evidence you have had would contradict that proposition. Certainly so at the Telegraph, where, as Mr MacLennan told you, the journalists live by the Code.

It's important to remember that this process has raised standards considerably across this period from 1990 to date. What it's done is to enable occasions of malpractice to be identified and characterised as being, quote, "in breach of the Code", and that in turn has created a culture in which, in the vast majority of cases, ethical breaches are noted, responded to swiftly Page 8

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1 and rectified effectively and prominently by the 2 newspaper concerned. 3

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PressBoF also guarantees the existence and development of the Press Complaints Commission.

The latter point, continuous development of the bodies within the regulatory framework as well as the rules, is an important aspect of a system created by the industry and independent of statute.

It can keep recreating itself under its own arrangements. Thus, during the same period, PressBoF has, for example, extended the remit of the PCC beyond print news publication to cover online newspapers and magazines. It has introduced public appointments procedures for membership. It's strengthened the lay majority on the Press Complaints Commission. It's introduced public consultation into the annual reviews of the Editors' Code, and in 2007 extended the PCC's remit to cover editorial audiovisual content that now appears on newspaper and magazine websites.

It has been said that the evolution of the PCC has not been quick enough or far-reaching enough, and with hindsight the Telegraph would not disagree with that. The point we make here is simply that this sort of evolution can happen efficiently and organically under a system established and accepted by the industry. Page 9

healthy relationship with the PCC. As he put it:

"They can pick up the phone and they can send an email to me, and they're very quick to point out where there's an issue with a particular person that is requiring or demanding privacy".

So that aspect of the PCC's activity is not to be underestimated or undervalued. But throughout this hearing Telegraph witnesses have acknowledged the shortcomings of the PCC.

First, it operates more as a mediator of particular disputes. Mr Gallagher's predecessor, Will Lewis, had earlier in the same session memorably said,

13 "I understand the PCC up until this point to have been 14 a mediator with a regulatory reputation". And he 15 concurred with the emerging consensus for a more 16 independent, genuinely self-regulatory system.

Mr Lewis's characterisation may be a good one and it might have come to be thought of as an industry regulator, for want of a better word, actually to describe its more limited role.

21 Second, and in consequence of the first point --22 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: It also described itself as 23 "a regulator".

24 MR MILLAR: Maybe for the same reason. But it is 25 acknowledged, I think by common consent now, the Page 11

LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: But it only identifies occasions of 1

- 2 malpractice and characterises them as being "in breach
- 3 of the Code" if there is a complaint made by somebody
- 4 who falls within the comparatively limited definition of
- 5 those who can complain.
- 6 MR MILLAR: Yes. I'm coming to that.
- 7 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Right.
- 8 MR MILLAR: There are other points to be made about the PCC.
 - There are failings and shortfalls. I'm going to
- 10 identify and accept them. That's part of the process of
- 11 analysis by which you get to the case we're putting
- 12 forward on regulation.
- 13 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: That's a very polite way, Mr Millar,
- 14 of saying, "Just listen and stop interrupting me", and
- 15 L shall.
- MR MILLAR: The PCC has -- and this is really the point, 16
- 17 sir, you've just made -- we would say, for the most part
- 18 proved effective in dealing with single complaints from
- 19
- the public within its terms of reference; doing so
- 20 swiftly and without cost.
- 21 It can be very effective in intervening or mediating
- 22 or heading off a problem presented by a particular
- 23
- 24 Mr Gallagher, for example, the editor of the Daily
- 25 Telegraph, said he has what he described as a very

Page 10

- 1 evidence has concluded at this Inquiry, that in the
- 2 strict use of that term it is certainly not a regulator,
- 3 and has not had available to it regulatory powers in the
 - true sense.

It lacks the powers to deal with systemic ethical or

- governance failures; in particular newspapers as opposed
- to one-off complaints. That is clear from the evidence
- 8 that you've heard at this Inquiry. As Lord Black
- 9 acknowledged in his evidence, this means that there are 10 some instances of non-compliance with the code -- big
- 11 instances -- which are simply beyond the PCC's control
- 12 or outside of its remit. When one of these, like phone
- 13 hacking, comes up, the reputation of the PCC is
- 14 severely, and it would appear in the case of phone
 - hacking, fatally damaged.

16 Thirdly, there is a perceived lack of independence 17 because of the direct relationship between PressBoF and

- 18 the PCC, the adjudicatory body.
- 19 Fourthly, there is the problem of the reluctant
 - publisher. Lord Black also acknowledged that operating
- 21 a voluntary system makes it difficult to deal with the 22
- occasional rogue publisher who wants to pick and choose 23
- when its in or out of the complaints system. 24 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: You need to be careful about the
- 25 description "rogue", because there may be very good

1	reasons why that particular publisher doesn't want to be	1	light of everything I've just said, the correct answer
2	within the system, which may itself reveal systemic	2	to this question is that the industry system in
3	problems.	3	existence hitherto has been unable or ill-equipped to
4	So, for example if I don't take the obvious one	4	act effectively when facing serious examples of
5	but if I take the example of Mr Hislop Mr Hislop made	5	non-compliance.
6	it abundantly clear that there was absolutely no reason	6	But it would be wrong, just for the record, to
7	whatsoever why he should participate in the PCC because	7	suggest that there has been a complete failure by the
8	his periodical, every week, week in, week out, laid bare	8	industry to act in the face of warning signs.
9	criticisms of all those papers whose editors were	9	To take the trade in data and phone hacking as the
10	represented on the PCC. So that is a systemic issue,	10	most immediate examples, as Lord Black explained in his
11	quite apart from what might be other issues. Isn't it?	11	first statement, the industry did respond to warning
12	MR MILLAR: Yes. I ought to say, I was using the word	12	signs in these areas. As I've already mentioned, in
13	"rogue" because it was the word that Lord Black had used	13	2007, following the Goodman/Mulcaire convictions, the
14	in his evidence.	14	subterfuge rules in the Editors' Code were amended to
15	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes.	15	cover hacking, and to make clear that exactly the same
16	MR MILLAR: And I was summarising his evidence.	16	ethical rules applied to acts of private investigators
17	We take that point, but the ideal is to have as many	17	on behalf of newspapers.
18	signed up as possible. Indeed, the ideal is to have	18	The industry, through PressBoF, also worked with the
19	everybody signed up.	19	PCC to implement the six recommendations contained in
20	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Absolutely no question about that.	20	its now much criticised 2007 report on phone hacking in
21	MR MILLAR: And Private Eye is, with all due respect, a very	21	the wake of the conviction of Goodman and Mulcaire.
22	unusual publication in the firmament of British	22	You've heard evidence about those and they would have
23	publications. There aren't any other examples	23	been, if implemented, rules which would have prevented
24	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: There are other examples. You could	24	future misuse of cash to pay contributors to act
25	then take now inevitably I'll take Northern & Shell.	25	illegally. So they were the right rules at the right
	Page 13		Page 15
1	You didn't have to have the insight of a great thinker	1	time.
1 2	You didn't have to have the insight of a great thinker to appreciate that Mr Desmond has views about some of	1 2	time. Then following the publication by the Information
2	to appreciate that Mr Desmond has views about some of	2	Then following the publication by the Information
2 3	to appreciate that Mr Desmond has views about some of the editors who he sees are really running the PCC, and	2 3	Then following the publication by the Information Commissioner of "What price privacy?", PressBoF
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2 3 4 5 6 7	to appreciate that Mr Desmond has views about some of the editors who he sees are really running the PCC, and equally you don't have to be very perceptive to realise that they have views about him. That's all fair enough. Everybody's entitled to think what they wish about their competitors. But the thing that a regulator has to be	2 3 4 5 6 7	Then following the publication by the Information Commissioner of "What price privacy?", PressBoF co-ordinated through the industry associations an information campaign to emphasise to all journalists the importance of respecting the legislation on data protection, and the Inquiry has a copy of the relevant
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Although none of its journalists had hacked phones, events at the News of the World prompted Mr MacLennan to issue a consolidated code of conduct to all editorial staff, with a covering letter reminding them of their obligation to maintain the very highest standards in their work. So what is the Inquiry to say about the culture,

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practices and ethics of the British press, about which it's heard so much evidence, some relating to phone hacking, but going a long way beyond that single unhappy topic?

I look at culture, first. I suppose the first question is: what are you being asked about here? One has to define one's terms. Here it seems to us that you're being asked about essentially shared mental assumptions within each organisation, the assumptions that guide both interpretation -- interpretation of the Editors' Code -- and action by defining what is or is not appropriate behaviour for a variety of situations. Different situations.

The problem, of course, is that in a large industry such as the British press, diverse and sometimes conflicting cultures are liable to co-exist due to different characteristics of the particular editorial and management teams at the particular newspaper.

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move. The question is whether the process should be 25 different, albeit that the result, for different Page 19

example, about what readers want to read, how much

privacy celebrities should have given that they are

celebrities and they put aspects of their life into the

being in the public interest?

recognition of that fact.

public domain, how much fact-checking is required for

a story and crucially, what or what is not defensible as

I'm just picking some examples there from the

evidence that you've heard. It must be clear to you

recognise that in your report and make findings in

between what might be described as the "broadsheet

papers" and what might be described as the "tabloid" and

"mid-market papers", and if you are saying to me that

I must recognise that there is a range of legitimate

responses by each type of paper, then I think that's

There isn't a bright line in relation to particular

the other side of which anything is permissible. And

that line, that width, which is a grey area, is going to

stories, on one side of which nothing is permissible and

seems to us to be the case, and we say that you should

LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: That's where there is the distinction

from the evidence that all of that is the case. It

Certainly different newspapers -- we know this much -- behave differently in the same situation. Some may feel that the public interest justifies running a particular story or photograph or investigating in a particular way, where others may not.

Is this because they're guided by different shared assumptions about how newspapers should act and what they should publish, particularly where their action impacts on the rights or sensibilities of others?

We would say that the answer to this question, on the evidence you've heard, is yes. That is not to say that one can always or easily identify a right or a wrong way of acting as a newspaper in a particular situation.

At the extremes, you clearly can. As we said, no one in their right mind could try to defend the hacking of Milly Dowler's phone by journalists. On the other hand, no journalist would say you should not publish a story about a Cabinet Minister accepting corrupt payments because his or her financial affairs are private.

But where the judgment calls have been made in the vast middle ground between those two types of extreme example, it seems to us clear that different newsrooms operate on different shared mental assumptions; for

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1 reasons, might not be the same. Do you follow the point

2 I'm seeking to make?

3 MR MILLAR: I do. I think it's a little bit ahead of the

4 point I've got to.

5 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: See, I didn't shut up. All right.

6 MR MILLAR: I will come to that. I was just trying to

7 tackle this question of culture, because there's a lot

8 in that word, and one has to ask oneself -- or, rather,

sir, you have to ask yourself: "What am I being asked to

10 think about and decide there?"

11 It seems to us from the evidence that it is this 12 differing set of shared assumptions that management

13 teams in different newspapers have about a whom range of

14 subjects. What their readers want to read is often put

15 forward as the starting point. Certainly it is in the

16 case of the Telegraph, which is very attuned to its

17 readership and what they want to read, but equally we've

18 heard evidence from an editor of the Sun who said

19

exactly the same thing. The content of the perception

20 is different, and that may affect the culture.

21 All I'm doing at this stage is recognising that that 22 is what the evidence at the Inquiry shows us quite

23 clearly. And it is a useful starting point for

24 analysing the rest of the issues you have to look at in

25 one.

1	A distinction between the broadsheets, mid-market	1	hodly
2	and tabloids can be a little crude. It's not for us to	1	badly.
3	suggest that there aren't perfectly good shared mental	$\begin{vmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	I am saying that when an episode like phone hacking
4	assumptions in tabloid newspapers; they're just	3	occurs, you can say it's the consequence of the culture in that newsroom in the sense that I've described it,
		4	
5	different. That's the point. LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I think that's what I just tried to	5	because the shared set of assumptions about all these
6 7		6	complex things allow it to happen. I'm not running away
8	Say.	7	from that conclusion. What I didn't want to do was what
9	MR MILLAR: Well, I agree then. But we certainly don't want to be taken to be	8	each newspaper must do itself, which is to explain the
	suggesting that this is in some way critical of other	-	particular cocktail of mental assumptions and attitudes
10	forms of journalism to that which the Telegraph is known	10	to how journalism should be done that operate within its
11 12	for.	11	newsroom, because that's for others to do.
13	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: The problem	12	One further caveat to this is important. The
14	MR MILLAR: It's just the reality of a complex, diverse	13	culture in an organisation can be changed. This may be
15	industry.	14 15	because the management team changes or because the existing team changes its approach, including as to the
16	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: The problems of the word "culture" go		
17	slightly beyond that. It would be impossible to say	16	governance arrangements within the organisation.
18	that it was a culture within the medical profession that	17 18	We heard with interest, sir, your exchanges with
19	doctors behaved as Dr Shipman behaved, yet there was		Deputy Assistant Commissioner Akers this morning
20	still an absolute requirement to review the regulatory	19 20	regarding the role of the MSC in the management of affairs at News International. That may be a good
21	mechanisms to make sure that every step was taken to	21	example of how such changes can be brought about: a big
22	deal with a problem such as that which Dr Shipman	22	structural change as the beginning of the process of
23	generated.	23	changing the culture.
24	MR MILLAR: Sure.	24	This point is clearly very important because to the
25	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: It strikes me that culture,	25	extent that there are cultural problems in any industry
	Page 21		Page 23
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1	therefore, must be more than a single example. It must	1	or part of an industry, it can't be assumed that
1 2	be more than a single title, if you like. It has to be	2	regulation, particularly, we would say, regulatory
	be more than a single title, if you like. It has to be something that is perhaps a consequence of the way in		regulation, particularly, we would say, regulatory arrangements instigated by the government, will
2	be more than a single title, if you like. It has to be something that is perhaps a consequence of the way in which the job has to be done or can be done, depending	2	regulation, particularly, we would say, regulatory arrangements instigated by the government, will necessarily change those. One only has to look at the
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1 rules required by Parliament. 1 scandal of the scale of phone hacking that prompted 2 The Inquiry must bear this in mind, if you accept 2 almost overnight the setting up of the Inquiry. 3 3 our submission on this point, because we say it's likely So, with respect, the background is qualitatively 4 4 to be true of the phone hacking scandal and the different here. 5 subsequent allegations of other different types of 5 As far as practices is concerned, we would say the position is the same in relation to practices; the next 6 journalistic malpractice that have been made since last 6 7 7 summer. thing you're asked to look at. 8 There has been a massive public response, expression 8 The practices of an organisation tend to be 9 9 of outrage, and the industry is under enormous pressure, determined by the aims of the leadership. And it's 10 10 where there are problems in the culture, to change those apparent from the account I've given of the Telegraph's 11 in response to that. 11 internal systems that that can be to the benefit of the 12 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: One might have said the same at 12 organisation as far as practices are concerned. Thus 13 earlier times in the history of press investigations. 13 the clear aim of management has been to avoid cash 14 MR MILLAR: Well, I was going to say next that repeated 14 payments to private investigators and the like, so it's 15 reference has been made at this Inquiry to the setting 15 made clear to all editorial staff this is an 16 up of the Calcutt Committee in 1989, but it has to be 16 unacceptable practice and arrangements are put in place 17 remembered that the then Prime Minister, Margaret 17 to prevent it and effectively make it impossible. Thus 18 Thatcher, set up the Calcutt Committee because of 18 management aims affect practice. 19 progressive loss of confidence in the Press Council in 19 Again, the evidence you have heard, we accept, shows 20 the 1980s, which was felt not to have the powers and not 20 that permitted practices can differ from newspaper to 21 to be doing the job. 21 newspaper, as with culture. 22 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: If you read some the evidence that 22 As far as ethics is concerned, there is, of course, 23 I've seen about that, it was felt that the press 23 there is of course a single set of ethical rules in the 24 themselves undermined the work of the Press Council. 24 form of the Editors' Code, but TMG accepts, as suggested 25 MR MILLAR: Yes. 25 by the evidence received at this Inquiry, that the Page 25 Page 27 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: And they didn't like the Press 1 1 provisions of the code are simply not operated and 2 Council so what they went about doing -- this is some of 2 applied uniformly across the industry. 3 the material that I've seen -- is rubbishing it 3 The Inquiry is by now familiar with the rules which 4 publicly, and therefore the public lost all confidence 4 tend to be applied differently by different newspapers: 5 in it. 5 rules as to privacy, harassment, intrusion into grief, 6 MR MILLAR: Yes, but that happened over a period. 6 use of subterfuge in particular. 7 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Certainly. 7 To sum up, clearly the Inquiry can say that there 8 MR MILLAR: And during that decade, there were certainly 8 have been high profile examples of the Code not being 9 many examples of unethical journalism; chequebook 9 applied by one or more newspapers, phone hacking being 10 journalism, the example I gave earlier: buying up 10 the most glaring example; but equally it has to say 11 witnesses being one of the big examples, and other 11 there are many, many other newspapers, such as the 12 intrusions into privacy. 12 Telegraph titles, where the journalistic culture and 13 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes, that didn't stop then, because 13 practices are exemplary and the publisher strives for 14 the biggest outrage about buying up witnesses occurred 14 the highest possible ethical standards. 15 in 1995 during the prosecution of Rosemary West and 15 The next question is, having reached this point in 16 those witnesses, the Cromwell Street murders. 16 my analysis: what of the future? MR MILLAR: Yes. 17 17 I make my comments about the future of the press in LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I don't need to be reminded of any of 18 18 the Internet age before those relating to future 19 that; it's seared on my conscience. 19 regulation, because we would suggest that no discussion 20 MR MILLAR: There were some other big examples. The 20 of the latter should take place without an understanding 21 Yorkshire Ripper case, as well, where there were many 21 of the former. 22 documented cases of attempts to buy up witnesses. 22 Changing attitudes to news consumption, and in 23 23 But the point I'm making is that those examples and particular the arrival of the Internet as a mass medium 24 those concerns about intrusions into privacy were 24 for the dissemination of news and entertainment, means 25 25 building up over a period. It wasn't a single one-off that the future of the newspaper industry is highly Page 26 Page 28

1 1 uncertain at the point at which you produce your report. The same is true of quality journalism. If they're 2 2 People consume less and less news off the printed page. not prepared to pay for it in a fragmented market, as a 3 3 It's startling, sir, to recall now that when the particular thing they buy in an app, part of the output 4 4 first General Press Council was formed in 1953, of a newspaper, the industry is in a very difficult 5 following the 1949 Royal Commission, 21 million 5 situation as far as that sort of content is concerned. 6 newspapers were sold in Britain each weekday, and 31 6 And I think that's widely recognised. 7 7 million on a Sunday. The weekday figure now, I believe, LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes. It's a much, much bigger 8 8 is just over 9 million and falling. problem than having to cope with the problems of 9 9 regulation, whatever form regulation might ultimately Newspapers now have to compete not just with radio 10 10 and television news, but also with an ever-growing 11 11 supply of news and entertainment content in different MR MILLAR: Let's just say it's another problem that the 12 forms on the Internet. 12 industry faces. 13 As with many social trends, it's instructive to look 13 Reduced newspaper sales mean lost circulation 14 at the United States on the basis that what happens 14 revenues and lower advertising revenues. The 2011 Pew 15 there, happens here eventually, and eventually to much 15 survey revealed that in 2010, both digital news 16 the same extent. The most recent work in this area in 16 readership and advertising revenue from digital streams 17 17 in the US surpassed that of newspapers for the first America has been done by the Pew Project for Excellence 18 in Journalism. It's a non-profit research project in 18 time. 19 Washington, a fact tank, specialising in the impact of 19 So far as advertising revenues are concerned, this 20 the Internet on society, and one strand of it is the 20 is so not because there have been large increases in 21 21 Project for Excellence in Journalism. digital advertising revenue, but rather because the loss 22 The State of the Media survey by Pew in 2011 22 of print advertising revenue has been so dramatic. 23 revealed 46 per cent of those polled saying they read 23 The most recent Pew survey in March of this year 24 24 their news online at least three times a week, passing looked in detail at 38 American newspapers, of necessity 25 newspapers at 40 per cent for the first time. 25 regional or local, because that's the way the press Page 29 Page 31 1 In a separate investigation by Pew, 47 per cent of 1 operates there. This showed that for every \$7 lost in 2 those polled said they get some news from mobile devices 2 newspaper advertising revenue, the newspapers in the 3 3 such as cell phones, e-readers and tablets each week. survey were picking up only an additional \$1 in digital 4 Pew reports that this trend is increasing rapidly. This 4 advertising revenues. I'm instructed by my client that 5 is important because three-quarters of those polled in 5 a similar displacement ratio has occurred with many 6 this part of the poll said they would not be prepared to 6 British newspapers. Online advertising rates are more 7 pay anything for news received via apps. Yet I'm 7 competitive and are simply much lower. 8 instructed, and I think you've been told in evidence, 8 This factor is particularly important for the sort 9 that each additional form or format in which the 9 of local and regional papers that Pew was surveying, and newspaper has to curate and then disseminate and publish 10 10 is for our local and regional papers. 11 information, increases the overheads of the newspaper. 11 Lastly, of course, there's no equivalent to the 12 So there are two different graphs going in two 12 newspaper's cover price with the Internet. The fact 13 different directions there at the moment. 13 that news is free on the rest of the Internet means it's 14 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I don't understand how people can 14 difficult to run a newspaper website on a subscription 15 expect to receive well-researched investigative 15 basis. 16 16 journalism, which gives the public information so that The Internet has also changed patterns of news 17 the public can hold power to account, and not pay for 17 consumption. The Internet is dramatically altering 18 it. I don't see how that's an equation that can ever 18 these, in three ways in particular. First, the reach of 19 ultimately work. 19 existing news organisations is being widened. Their 20 20 MR MILLAR: You're right about that. We share that concern. reporting is accessible to a global audience. So online 21 But the logical conclusion of that analysis may be that 21 newspapers such as the Telegraph are competing in a much 22 22 investigative journalism shrinks to a vanishing point bigger global market. 23 unless it can find streams of income to fund it and 23 Secondly, more and more readers are accessing their 24 people are prepared to fund it to enable it to happen; 24 news through online-only news providers, such as the 25 25 but people aren't prepared to pay for it. Huffington Post. Some of these operate largely as low Page 30 Page 32

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overhead aggregators of other Internet news content, usually content gathered at the considerable expense of a newspaper such as my client, the Telegraph.

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We don't get the browser, the person doing the browsing, making it harder to keep advertising revenues up, but the browser gets the fruit of our news gathering and our journalism.

Thirdly, there is this thing called "crowd-sourced news", which is a phrase I hadn't heard before I started looking at this over the weekend. This is the phrase for something you have heard evidence about, which is news content from a variety of Internet news sources being aggregated and pushed at online readers via large social media platforms like Google, Google News and Yahoo News, and portals like MSN. This has precisely the same disadvantage from our point of view as the other aggregators like Huffington.

So the upshot is that a paper like TMG now has to compete with other newspaper sites, online-only sites, big broadcast sites such as that of the BBC and news agency sites such as Reuters.

We're not suggesting there are not some winners amongst the losers. The statistical evidence shows that different newspapers are faring very differently in the transition to digital. There can be success stories, Page 33

dispute, or the issue, about what form future regulation

- 2 should take. We don't want to repeat those or all of
 - the points made by PressBoF and the two Lords,
- 4 Lord Black and Lord Hunt, in their evidence in Module 4.
- 5 These address in detail how the proposed system put
- 6 forward by PressBoF remedies the failings of the PCC
- 7 that I identified earlier on in these submissions, and 8 we gratefully adopt those points.

9 But TMG does want to emphasise the following points, 10 as it were from its own particular perspective.

> The Telegraph does not want to be subject to a form of regulation which it opposed in principle -- that is regulation following statutory intervention -- when it does not require to be regulated in this way because it has achieved high standards under the current system.

> The same point can be made, no doubt, by many other newspaper publishers.

TMG is also deeply concerned about the uncertain future that it and other newspapers face. As I've said, even profitable newspapers, such as those operated by TMG, may find it harder and harder to be profitable as more readers get their news through the Internet.

The proposal put forward by PressBoF is known in its essentials and understood. It may not be perfect, but it does not add to those concerns. It's a work in

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and TMG's evidence shows it to be one of these, a profitable newspaper in a difficult time.

To achieve this, the Telegraph has had to focus intensely on delivering to its readers and its commercial partners the service they want. It has also had to invest heavily in technology and digital operations, so that it can complete on even terms with all these other online news providers.

It now produces immediate high quality content available to the world at large on an attractive and accessible website and in other digital forms, but, as I have said, at a considerable cost. And the future, even for a successful operation like the Telegraph, is necessarily highly uncertain. And I don't mean the long-term future. We're talking years not decades here.

So against that slightly depressing background, I turn to regulation.

A great deal of evidence has been given about the future of press regulation. There's also much argument in the written closing submissions. The Inquiry is aware that TMG supports the proposal put forward by its own director, Lord Black, in his capacity as chairman of PressBoF in Module 4.

We've set out in our written closing submissions at paragraphs 112 to 118 the basic points we make about the Page 34

progress and will doubtless be refined and improved. 1

2 By contrast, we've not seen any proposals formulated

3 by the Inquiry or by Parliament itself, and that is

4 inevitably and necessarily a matter of concern for us.

5 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Well, hang on. What would you expect

me to do? If I'd started formulating proposals, then 6

7 I would have been criticised roundly for pre-judging

8 issues which I have to decide. What I have received is

a dozen sets of proposals, which I have to analyse.

10 MR MILLAR: It wasn't intended, sir, as a criticism of you.

11 It is simply a statement of fact, so that you understand

12 our position and you think of things from our position.

13 We have on the one hand a set of proposals put

14 forward by PressBoF which have been subject to detailed

15 scrutiny in this Inquiry, which we support. There is

nothing in the domain of the Inquiry, promulgated by the 16

17 Inquiry or by Parliament, saying what form regulation

18 following statutory intervention would take and how the

19 structure would operate.

20 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: But you could analyse each of the

21 other submissions that I have received and subject them

22 to the same critical analysis that the suggestions put

23 forward by PressBoF have been subjected to.

24 MR MILLAR: Of course we could, but --

LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: And then you'll be able to say, "This 25

1	works", or, "This doesn't work".	1	replicated Ofcom. I would be very surprised if
2	MR MILLAR: But they're not going to make the recommendation	2	I reached that conclusion.
3	and they're certainly not going to make the law. And	3	MR MILLAR: We're glad to hear that, but the point I'm
4	what newspapers such as the Telegraph are asking	4	making and I think you understand it and accept it
5	themselves is: if there is to be a recommendation or	5	is that there are very many possible models for
6	a proposal for statutory underpinning, as it's been	6	statutory intervention in regulation of differing
7	described in this Inquiry, what will that actually	7	degrees, with a different amount of statutory regulation
8	involve? How much statutory input will there be into	8	of, or definition of, bodies, rules, sanctions. And we
9	the terms under which the ethical code gets formulated,	9	just have no idea what it might look like, if we face
10	the way in which the body gets constituted, the	10	it.
11	sanctions that are to be operated, the sanctions that	11	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I agree, which is why the help would
12	are to be operated if you don't join the organisation?	12	be: what are the principles which I should be following
13	Nothing on that.	13	when seeking to devise a recommendation? And: what are
14	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Well, you could start by looking at	14	the red lines that would cause greater concern? What
15	the principles enunciated in Ireland, which merely	15	are the slightly fuzzier lines where there is more room
16	identify what a regulator ought to look like, but	16	for discussion?
17	doesn't either set up a regulator or indeed define its	17	That's what I thought was the debate that was
18	precise remit.	18	started by what Mr Dacre said as long ago as
19	MR MILLAR: But the point I'm making is: how do we know that	19	last September, I think, when he recognised the need for
20	that is what is on offer here? That's what has to	20	a different mechanism and he made some suggestions, some
21	happen. We don't, do we?	21	of which I think he's stepped back from. Well, he's
22	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Of course we don't, because I don't	22	perfectly entitled to that view. But I'm trying to
23	know as yet. I'm waiting to hear everything, then	23	understand what are the principled objections.
24	I will make a recommendation, which then the Government	24	I can understand you saying, "I recognise what the
25	will either accept or reject, which the press will	25	PressBoF people are suggesting because I can see it.
23	Page 37	23	Page 39
			<u> </u>
1	either accept or reject.	1	How can I comment on what you're saying, because I don't
1 2	either accept or reject. MR MILLAR: No, but it's obvious there could be more or less	1 2	How can I comment on what you're saying, because I don't know what you're saying?" Well, I don't yet know what
			* * *
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2 3	MR MILLAR: No, but it's obvious there could be more or less statute involved. There could be more or less statute	2 3	know what you're saying?" Well, I don't yet know what I'm saying, but what I am saying is that you can help me
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1 open to some form of statutory intervention, which we 2 have not had in this country for hundreds and hundreds 3 of years -- and I'm going to deal with Ireland in 4 a moment -- we're in a different ballpark. 5 We're in a different ballpark because the principle 6 has been breached. However benign the recommendations, 7 sir, you may make, or however close to the wall the 8 penny happens to be when you publish your report, 9 there's no guarantee that the penny, having been put 10 down on the pavement, will stay at that point that close 11 to the wall. 12 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Well, I understand that point, and 13 I heard what Lord Wakeham said about the wishes of 14 Parliamentarians. All I can say is, looking at the 15 experience of the last 50 years, I've seen no evidence 16 of Parliament wanting to get more involved and to go 17 further than the press has been prepared to go. 18 Look at the outcome of each Royal Commission. Look 19 at the outcome of Calcutt 1. Look at the outcome of 20 Calcutt 2. Look at what happened after the death of 21 Princess Diana. They've not been straining at the leash 22 to impose ever more rigorous statutory interventions. 23 MR MILLAR: No, but if recommendations are made by you, sir, 24 to do it and the process is started, then the point is 25 we are in a different ballpark. Page 41

involved in the regulation are authors of their own
fate, and they have achieved the regulatory system that
they've achieved without legislative intervention,
without coercion. And that is in itself an end and in
itself important in a democracy.
I can say that in most instances -- nearly all

I can say that in most instances -- nearly all instances where one finds oneself, as I do, in emerging democracies, discussing press regulation through the auspices of international agencies, the Council of Europe, the EU, the OSC -- the default position, the primary position, is always and overwhelmingly the arrangement of regulation and regulatory arrangements without the involvement of the government. And there's a very good reason for that and it's the one that I've just given: that it gives people a stake in the result of the regulation, which is going to make it more effective, more likely to work.

We may have to just agree to disagree about this, but --

LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I'm not agreeing or disagreeing at all. I'm merely listening, Mr Millar.

MR MILLAR: You said that there are issues of principle underpinning our position which you don't understand and

24 I'm putting them to you. We do understand them. We

25 believe in them passionately. This is our traditional

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The Rubicon has been crossed. Prior to that, the Rubicon hadn't been crossed. We're very concerned, not least of all because of the vulnerable position of the industry, that Parliament will take it upon itself to overregulate, as Mr Barclay put it. Parliament has a history of doing that, a tendency to do that.

Politicians and legislators are not subject to

Politicians and legislators are not subject to a self-denying ordinance when it comes to the amount and the content of regulation. Once they've got the bit between their teeth, history tells us they can get quite enthusiastic about it. So it's getting the bit between their teeth that we're worried about.

There are other points of principle. The Government and Parliament are not stakeholders in press regulation. They should be apart from it and held to account by the press.

17 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I agree with that.

MR MILLAR: Yes. It is an important achievement that a society democracy such as ours can arrive at a system of self-regulation without the involvement of statute or

Government that works.

You say, "Well, we have to give up on that idea now". We say, "No, we don't have to give up on that idea now. We have to persist in that idea." And it's a very important idea because it means the people

Page 42

in this country, this is the British traditional. It is a massive step to throw out the history of a free press, by which I mean a printed press that has no statutory intervention as far as its regulation is concerned. It is a very, very big step.

You can look at, sir, Ireland and you can look at Scandinavia, as you have done, where there has been statutory intervention in press regulation, but you have to remember that there are dramatic differences between newspaper industries in different countries. These are not just to do with size.

Other countries have very different traditions in relation to controls over the print media. Most other countries have a weaker and at least more recent tradition than we do of a press operating entirely free of government intervention. There would not be the same ingrained resistance, which is what you're encountering from the industry, to statutory intervention that you see in this country, no doubt making it easier to introduce in those countries.

In fact, the best comparator is the United States, where there is a comparable tradition to ours going back to the First Amendment, where there's no agency-related central government which can licence or regulate the press or indeed the Internet. And that's an article of Page 44

11 (Pages 41 to 44)

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1	faith under the First Amendment.	1	So in those circumstances, we would say it's hardly
2	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Their press is also very different.	2	surprising, with respect, that the industry appears to
3	MR MILLAR: Their press is also very different in a lot of	3	be almost unanimously supporting the PressBoF proposal,
4	respects. Structurally it's very different. But that's	4	and we would say that in these circumstances there is
5	not the point I'm making. The point I'm making at the	5	a heavy onus on the Inquiry, if it is to recommend
6	moment is that you may be comparing apples with oranges	6	statutory intervention in newspaper regulation, to show
7	if you compare the situation you face in the UK with	7	why the PressBoF proposals will not ensure that the
8	Ireland or Scandinavia. You certainly are, one would	8	shared mental assumptions and leadership aims in those
9	have thought, so far as resistance to government	9	newsrooms that we're all concerned about change and
10	intervention is concerned.	10	remain changed so as to avoid the problems the Inquiry
11	Of course, it is with the US organisations providing	11	has identified.
12	news services globally that our newspapers will	12	We don't consider this has been shown or that it can
13	increasingly have to compete in the next few years.	13	be, but the key point from our perspective is that the
14	This brings me on, sir, to the final few points	14	industry will willingly commit to making these proposals
15	I wanted to make. I'm very mindful of the time and	15	work. This is the best starting point for a new system
16	I apologise for having gone over my limit.	16	of regulation. No regulation through a mechanism about
17	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Don't worry, Mr Millar. This is very	17	which the industry, almost without exception, is
18	important and I'm keen to hear it. I think we asked	18	sceptical, has the same sort of chance of success.
19	people how long they wanted so we could sort out the	19	Sir, those are my submissions.
20	right amount of time. Rather than tried to shut people	20	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Thank you very much indeed,
21	down, we wanted to make sure that people had time to	21	Mr Millar.
22	develop the points they wanted to make, so make the	22	Let's take a break now and then we'll carry on.
23	points you want to make.	23	(3.18 pm)
24	MR MILLAR: Thank you.	24	(A short break)
25	We were at the point where you picked me up on the	25	(3.27 pm)
	Page 45		Page 47
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1	observation, and it was simply that, that we haven't at	1 2	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes, Mr Dingemans.
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different matter.

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responsibility and rights and obligations. A free press

1	can itself be held to account by criminal, civil and	1	attractive to all those attempting to maintain the
2	regulatory law, and I will address further submissions	2	appropriate balance. And it might be thought that an
3	on those aspects.	3	important part of your recommendations, sir, should
4	May I turn first to the criminal law? There are	4	engage issues of accessibility for those complaining
5	various statutes which regulate the behaviour of	5	about newspaper conduct as well as cost for the
6	journalists, and it is not necessary or appropriate to	6	newspapers of those complaints.
7	say anything more about that now. But it is an	7	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: One of the things that I've
8	essential background against which considerations of	8	ventilated during the Inquiry is that a regulator should
9	regulation need to be considered.	9	have some arbitral arm which can do just that, and I'd
10	Secondly, civil law	10	be interested to hear whether you have any submissions
11	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Before you pass from crime, would you	11	on that, and in particular on the possibility that one
12	agree that for good and understandable reasons, it is	12	could recommend and I'm not there yet, but I'm
13	much, much more difficult to pursue a criminal	13	thinking about every possibility that if a newspaper
14	investigation against a newspaper or a journalist	14	organ was not in the regulatory system that had the
15	because of the respect that is a consequence of	15	arbitral arm, so that a complainant had to go to court
16	Article 10(2)?	16	and incur costs, then cost shifting should operate in
17	MR DINGEMANS: Article 10(2) engages both civil, criminal	17	a way that protected the victim, on the basis the
18	and regulatory law.	18	newspaper could sign up to a regime which would free it
19	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes. But, for example, not naming	19	of those costs.
20	sources, the way in which the search powers are framed,	20	MR DINGEMANS: Can I just address both of those?
21	all make it much more difficult. That's the first	21	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes.
22	point.	22	MR DINGEMANS: We had put in written submissions, which we
23	The second point is that it requires a victim to be	23	didn't repeat, in relation to a tribunal system.
24	not merely identified and identifiable, but to make	24	Obviously a system of arbitration depends on the consent
25	a complaint. And of course, as we've seen in the	25	of both parties to be effective. And effectively it
23	Page 49		Page 51
	Tuge 17	_	1 450 51
1	context of a number of different aspects of the Inquiry,	1	seems that people, when they're talking about arbitral
1 2	context of a number of different aspects of the Inquiry, that doesn't happen very often, because they don't know.	1 2	seems that people, when they're talking about arbitral systems, are talking really about a tribunal system.
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1 might have thought before. 1 have formed the backdrop to some of the cases before 2 2 MR DINGEMANS: Yes. 3 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: But I agree with your proposition if 3 Can I then turn to regulation and start with the 4 4 you put it this way: it's very unhelpful only to be able principled aim of regulation. In our submission, the 5 to go to court. 5 most effective statement about regulatory intent was MR DINGEMANS: Yes. We do respectfully make that 6 said in relation to the regulation of lawyers, who are 7 7 submission, sir, and we do make the principal submission also known to sin and fail, in Bolton v The Law Society, 8 that costs become a barrier not only to those that need 8 and that is in 1994, 1 Weekly Law Reports, and that was 9 to complain but also to the newspapers that are dealing 9 Lord Bingham in the Court of Appeal effectively setting 10 with the complaints that are made against them. 10 out the principled aim of regulation, and it is not to 11 May I mention briefly one other area of civil law, 11 punish, that can be an effect of regulation, and it is 12 12 and that's the law of privacy. I don't propose to not to compensate, that can be an effect of regulation; 13 13 develop the very detailed submissions that have been put it is to ensure that maintenance and indeed the 14 14 in on the law of privacy and its development, but I hope enhancement of standards in the regulated area. 15 I can make this submission. Back in 1990, when 15 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I think that's tremendously 16 David Calcutt QC, to whom there's already been 16 important, because it's quite different. It isn't 17 17 reference, was appointed to head the departmental sufficient to say, well, there's the criminal law or committee into measures necessary to give protection to 18 18 there's the civil law. 19 individual privacy and whether statute was required, 19 MR DINGEMANS: Yes. 20 that led to the 1991 establishment of the Press 20 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: There is something different. 21 21 Complaints Commission, but the failure to develop any MR DINGEMANS: They can overlap, and it would be an absurd 22 statutory law on privacy was then overtaken by, of 22 advocate who made the submission that they don't 23 23 course, the jurisprudence incorporated by the Human overlap, but the principled aim of regulation is 24 Rights Act in 1998, and it might be thought that when 24 different from both the criminal law and civil law, but 25 you analysed the vast majority of the complaints before 25 it has flip sides because people talk in terms of Page 53 Page 55 1 you and consider the general nature of the culture, 1 regulators having substantial powers to fine, as if that 2 ethics and practices of the press, that many of these 2 was in some ways a shortened form of the criminal law 3 3 take place against a law of privacy which -- and it is a and this was a more effective way of punishing 4 4 wrongdoing, that is again to miss the substantial point failure of the law and has been acknowledged as such --5 has been less than certain. Perhaps it is now beginning 5 of regulation. 6 to develop in a way that responsible journalists and 6 Can I then turn to some bright lines we submit in 7 7 relation to regulation? First, there should be no those advising consumers and those making complaints can 8 have some better idea of what the outcome is going to 8 current editors on the regulatory body. This is an 9 9 be, but uncertainty in the law, particularly in this industry which is still too small to enable persons to 10 10 area, has been a particular vice. be seen to be independent; whether they are or not is in 11 11 some respects not the thing, but to be seen to be In that respect, of course, sir, you have to deal 12 with the fact of the different categories of people and 12 independent of the bodies which they are regulating. So 13 13 their approaches to privacy. I've set that out in far as individual titles are concerned, and it's no 14 14 paragraph 9 of your written submissions, but in our secret that those that I represent are not current 15 submission there are people who provide details of their 15 members of the PCC, it is again too small that 16 private life which others consider to be far too much 16 animosities or perceived animosities and loyalties or 17 information, and that you can see from some of the 17 perceived loyalties could undermine what could otherwise 18 magazines and social media, and there are some people 18 be a proper functioning body. 19 who are happy and content with good press coverage, even 19 Secondly, it is necessary to consider the scope of 20 where it is intrusive, but are then very unhappy with 20 regulation. Is it to govern printed media alone, 21 negative press coverage, particularly where it is 21 because we know that there are systems for regulation of 22 22 intrusive, and there are others who are very protective television and radio, and importantly, and my learned 23 about their privacy full stop and end of story, but 23 friend Mr Millar has already dealt with this, is it to 24 people don't always stay in those same categories, and 24 extend to the Internet? 25 25 of course the difficulties of trying to identify that In News International's closing overview at Page 54 Page 56

1	paragraph 35, they set out the Reuters report into	1	MR DINGEMANS: We respectfully submit that the regulatory
2	digital news and give the reference for that, and they	2	body must have the power to act on complaints, but also
3	note that estimated 77 per cent of the UK population	3	the power to act on clients of its own notion. It might
4	uses the Internet so of course it's self-selecting in	4	be thought that a historic failing of the body was its
5	that respect accesses the following news sources in	5	inability to act in response to other than formal
6	a week: online, 82 per cent; television, 76 per cent;	6	complaints.
7	print, 54 per cent; and radio, 45 per cent. We do	7	We do also submit that the body should have the
8	respectfully submit that any system of regulation of the	8	power to deal with the relevant applicable standards,
9	printed media which excludes the Internet media is one	9	for this principled reason, is that it draws a further
10	that is not going to be comprehensive.	10	dividing line between any system of appointment of that
11	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: All right, let me just understand	11	body, which may or may not, depending on your
12	what that means. Do you there mean to submit that there	12	recommendations and depending on legislative take-up,
13	ought to be a system devised that requires, mandates,	13	take statutory involvement, and therefore, for example,
14	those that operate on the Internet to join, or do you	14	the Editors' Code, which has by and large seemed in the
15	mean to suggest that you should devise a system that	15	evidence to have withstood much analysis, can be set by
16	encourages but does not compel, in other words, those to	16	that body.
17	join, because all you've said is that the system should	17	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Is your bright line about editors
18	not exclude.	18	sufficiently broad as to extend to objecting to their
19	MR DINGEMANS: I do propose to develop that submission, but	19	involvement in the creation or at least the advice as to
20	to tell you where I go in that, and it's part predicated	20	the creation of a code?
21	in our written submissions, is this: we do respectfully	21	MR DINGEMANS: No. Not in that sense. At the moment you
22	submit that given the comparative decline of print media	22	have a code which will continue, no doubt, to be
23	and what will be the increasing prominence of Internet	23	refined, but so far as the regulatory acting on
24	media, that any system of future regulation must be	24	complaints and dealing with other matters, as you know,
25	comprehensive of all news media. Therefore, one is	25	the evidence why we're not current members of the PCC is
23	Page 57	23	Page 59
	1 age 37		1 age 37
1	likely to be in a situation where perhaps little points	1	before you. And, sir, you may have summarised it
2	apart, and we'll come to those, you are in a system of	2	accurately when you pointed to personalities and
3	voluntary regulation, and therefore you're in a system	3	animosities, but that plainly wouldn't extend to the
4	whereby economic and real factors, being as important as	4	aspect of drawing up the applicable standards, and there
5	they are to decision-making, one is in a system whereby	5	are maybe advantages in that respect.
6	you are encouraging persons to join a proper regulatory	6	We also respectfully submit that there may be times
7	body that has so many advantages to all that they will	7	when an editor has had sufficient time away from the
8	become members of it.	8	industry so that there are no current loyalties or
9	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: You'll have to tell me what the	9	animosities or indeed historic loyalties and
10	advantages are going to be for the Internet providers.	10	animosities, they might then become suitable, but that
11	MR DINGEMANS: I'll	11	would inevitably be a matter for the body appointing
12	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Please.	12	those to be members of the new regulatory body.
13	MR DINGEMANS: come to those.	13	Can I in that respect turn to our final bright line
14	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: In your own time, Mr Dingemans.	14	for submission, and it is this: we do respectfully
15	MR DINGEMANS: Yes. But in our submission, there are real	15	submit that the constitutional significance of the free
16	difficulties, and part of the difficulties in compelling	16	
17	Internet providers those have been developed in other		press is such that the body appointing the persons to
18	submissions and I'm not going to repeat those, but the	17	the regulatory body should have protections equivalent
19		18	to those governing the appointment of Judicial
	real difficulties with compelling Internet providers of news show that the need to ensure that there is not as	19	Appointments Commissioners. The judiciary has its own
20		20	constitutional importance in our society, and we do
21	it were an imbalance of regulation become more	21	respectfully submit that the press has a vital role to
22	important.	22	play and that it is essential to put clear blue water
23	Can I then just continue to address some other	23	between Parliamentary bodies and the regulators. There
24	bright lines for the regulatory body?	24	have been suggestions in the evidence that a headhunter
25	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes.	25	might be appointed to find the next people, and we do
	Page 58		Page 60

to doubt do a consciention job, huyan in fast find the best person for the appointment, there's none of the transparency and systemic quantizes against interference that are required in these areas. In that respect, if you are in the slightest bit interestory and systemic quantizes against In that respect, if you are in the slightest bit interestory and respect and the submission of the system for bed about the glavenest passing and the about the current failings in the system for the office for appointment of your submissions, but durit provide a meterness. MR DINGEMANS: Ah, I did provide it in my carlier To provide a meterness of the provide a meterness. MR DINGEMANS: Ah, I did provide it in my carlier To provide a meterness of the provide a meterness. MR DINGEMANS: Ah, I did provide it in my carlier To provine submissions, which is why I didn't provide another to reference. MR DINGEMANS: Ah, I did provide it in my carlier To provide a meterness of the provide a metern	1						
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1	MR DINGEMANS: Yes.	1	aspects, but when one looks at the example of
2	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: All right.	2	Mr Jefferies, to the extent that it even engaged the
3	MR DINGEMANS: Because plainly the relationships between	3	criminal law of contempt, or civil criminal law of
4	press and politicians are relevant, but if you are	4	contempt, that there was a stunning lack of judgment in
5	looking for one to fear the other, given the power that	5	some of the newspaper coverage.
6	is held the legislative power that is held by	6	We have respectfully submitted that the Attorney's
7	politicians and the executive power that is held by	7	current use of the laws of contempt, which have existed
8	politicians, we do respectfully submit that it is a much	8	and continue to exist, is something to be commended.
9	better society that has the press fearless of	9	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes.
10	politicians than the press fearful of politicians.	10	MR DINGEMANS: The sixth proposition was this, that the
11	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I would like them neither to be	11	evidence shows that those proprietors and senior members
12	fearful of the other, but each to recognise that the	12	of the profession have a strong continuing desire to
13	other is doing an important job in our democracy. Or is	13	exist by making a profit.
14	that too much to hope for?	14	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes.
15	MR DINGEMANS: I suspect, sir, you would find that in the	15	MR DINGEMANS: And seventhly, and it may explain some of the
16	evidence before you.	16	stories where people have thought that a factual
17	Can I turn to the second proposition?	17	background exists and gone to print too early, there is
18	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes.	18	a desire to be a step ahead of other publications.
19	MR DINGEMANS: This comes from the evidence of some of the	19	Those were seven general propositions. I'm sorry
20	editors and journalists that gave evidence before you,	20	they're not fact-specific, but I hope you'll forgive me
21	which was that they do genuinely have a relentless	21	for not making them fact-specific, for your
22	desire to communicate the news as they see it.	22	consideration.
23	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes.	23	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Well, that's a very interesting
24	MR DINGEMANS: Thirdly, they do have a sensitivity to their	24	analysis. I think I can think of lots of examples of
25	own readers' opinions, but it might be thought a general	25	almost every single one.
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1	insensitivity to public opinion. That may be a good or	1	MR DINGEMANS: I'm very grateful. Those are my submissions.
2	a bad thing, but we respectfully submit it's established	2	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Thank you.
3	on the evidence.	3	Right. Well, we have a rather longer day tomorrow
4	Fourthly, the evidence shows that they have	4	than we would have had, but so be it. Thank you very
5	a tendency to see news as divorced from the individuals	5	much. Tomorrow morning, 10 o'clock.
6	involved.	6	(4.00 pm)
7	Fifthly, in some areas, there has been shown	7	(The hearing adjourned until 10 o'clock the following day)
8	a stunning lack of judgment to the extent that it might	8	(The nothing adjourned than To o violation and Tono Hing day)
9	engage the criminal law, and I say no more about that;	9	
10	about where lines can properly be drawn between the	10	
11	public interest in acquiring news and privacy.	11	
12	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Would it be fair and I don't	12	
13	require you to answer this question, Mr Dingemans, if	13	
14	you don't want to, but just thinking about your last two	14	
15	points, and putting them together to say that it's	15	
16	possible that that combination explains what happened in	16	
17	relation to Mr Jefferies.	17	
18	MR DINGEMANS: Indeed, sir. Inevitably, because they are	18	
19	skilled, they've been trained to deal with news, but	19	
20	aspects of the training, you might have thought that	20	
21	some aspects of the academic aspects of the training	21	
22	still don't necessarily deal with the fact that there	22	
23	are individuals at the end of a news story and in some	23	
24	respects you have to understand that the journalist	24	
25	can't stop printing the news because of those personal	25	
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