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Press Complaints Commission

From the Deputy Director

18 December 2003

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Letters Editor
The Herald
200 Renfield Street
Glasgow
G2 3PR

Chairman
Sir Christopher Meyer

Members of the Commission
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Vivien Hepworth
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The Right Rev. John Waine

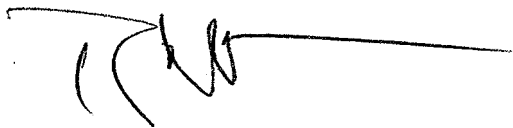
Director
Guy Black

FOR CONSIDERATION FOR PUBLICATION

Dear Sir

In Ruth Wishart's interesting piece on the media's coverage of the Soham tragedy (*The Herald*, 15th December) she criticises the Press Complaints Commission for being a reactive body that only rarely – as in the protection of Princes William and Harry – takes the initiative by giving guidance to editors in the absence of a complaint. This is not the case. A lot of our work is proactive and we are usually involved behind the scenes in tragic cases like Soham. Our guidance notes are not geared simply to helping the Royal Family – they are on a number of unglamorous subjects such as asylum seekers, treatment of the mentally ill and the media and the judiciary.

Yours faithfully



Tim Toulmin

