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Press Complaints Commission

From the Director

10 May 2004

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Tim Toulmin

Dear Mr Tyrell

Thank you for your letter of 7th May.

It is difficult to comment in any detail about the cases that you mentioned as I am not of course aware of the circumstances. The Commission set out its approach to dealing with photographs of the children of well known people in its adjudication on the complaint from JK Rowling a few years ago. There is clearly considerable protection for such children in the Code, although it is true that complaints about photographs taken in public places – where publication does not negatively impact on the child's welfare – have traditionally not prospered.

I will certainly forward your letter to the Code Committee. They have just completed a review of the Code and will be publishing a new version of it this week. Your suggestions will therefore have to be examined at the next meeting of the Committee.

Yours sincerely



Tim Toulmin

cc. Ian Beales Esq., Secretary, Code of Practice Committee.

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